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January 26, 2018

The Honourable Kelvin Goertzen
Minister of Health
Province of Manitoba

Dear Mr. Goertzen,

RE: Dauphin Regional Health Centre MRI Unit

We were excited to learn of your announcement of December 21, 2017 that confirmed the MRI Unit at Dauphin Regional Health Centre would be proceeding to completion in the near future. In correspondence with you over the last year, you committed to providing an answer on the project's future by the end of December 2017, and your department kept its word in that regard—for which we thank you.

We certainly agree with comments within the media attributed to you and your provincial colleagues that this Unit, once operational, will help to further ensure that area residents have additional access to care at the right place and the right time. As we cited previously, it is very important logistically to have an accessible MRI machine north of the #1 Highway.

We appreciate the commitment both your department and Prairie Mountain Health (PMH) have shown in recognizing the important role the Dauphin Regional Health Centre (DRHC) plays in the provision of health-care services within the west-central Manitoba region. The DRHC Redevelopment Project, with its major upgrade to the Emergency Department well underway, is another example of this pivotal role.

As you know, the Dauphin Hospital Foundation—in collaboration with the Dauphin Ladies Auxiliary—remains committed to doing its part for health care here. In 2017, we contributed over \$74,000 towards various equipment and furnishing projects for the DRHC. Looking ahead, we will be working with various community partners to raise funds for a Palliative Care Unit refresh, which will be of great benefit to patients and families going forward.

At this time, we would also be willing to consider playing a role in the purchasing of a related piece of furnishing or other conceived need for the MRI Unit. We would work with PMH and DRHC representatives in that regard.

Thank you again for your dedication and commitment to the enhancement of health care services for rural Manitobans.

J. DOUGLAS DEANS

Chairman,
Dauphin Hospital Foundation

cc: Dauphin MLA Brad Michaleski
Mayor Al Dowhan, City of Dauphin; Reeve Dennis Forbes, RM of Dauphin
Jim Slater, CEO, Diagnostic Services Manitoba
PMH CEO Penny Gilson
