

# **Forzani offers multi-million-dollar support to Colon Cancer Screening Centre**

By Communications staff  
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The Forzani Group Foundation has announced a \$2.7 million gift to the Colon Cancer Screening Centre in Calgary. The centre, set to open in fall 2007, is currently under construction at the U of C's Teaching, Research and Wellness building adjacent to the Calgary Health Region's Foothills Medical Centre.

"John Forzani's incredible conviction to supporting the fight against colon cancer, the second leading cause of cancer deaths in Alberta, is truly overwhelming," said Dr. Ron Bridges, medical director, Colon Cancer Screening Centre, and head, Faculty of Medicine's Division of Gastroenterology.

"The Forzani Group Foundation is very proud to be part of Canada's first dedicated colon cancer screening centre," said John Forzani, president of the Forzani Group Foundation. "Colon cancer is one of the leading killers in Canada and yet it can be prevented with early detection. We are very proud to be involved in this unique project that will save lives."

The Colon Cancer Screening Centre is Canada's first dedicated centre for colon cancer screening, combining comprehensive screening, therapeutics and diagnostics to offer southern Albertans better prevention, detection, education and treatment of colon cancer. The Calgary Health Region and U of C announced finalizing the agreement for the Centre in January.

The Colon Cancer Screening Centre is expected to perform a minimum of 10,000 colonoscopies in its first year, a 50 percent increase from the Calgary Health Region's current capacity. The Centre will be independently owned and operated by the U of C's Faculty of Medicine, under the leadership of its Division of Gastroenterology.

The Forzani Group Foundation is a non-profit corporation incorporated under the Canada Corporation Act. It provides financial support to other registered charities, Canadian amateur athletics associations and other qualified donees whose activities involve the promotion of physical fitness, health and wellness, the prevention and relief of sickness and disability, or the participation and education in sports across Canada. The U of C's Faculty of Medicine is a national leader in health research with an international reputation for excellence and innovation in health care research, education and delivery. Through its educational programs, the Faculty of Medicine trains the physicians and scientists who will lead the next generation of health practitioners. Through its clinical work, continuing medical education programs, and close relationship with the Calgary Health Region, the Faculty of Medicine moves new treatments and diagnostic techniques from the laboratory bench to the hospital bedside efficiently and effectively, improving patient care.