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**PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Ottawa, October 20 2015

**SEVEN HUNDRED TO GATHER FOR THE ARCHBISHOP'S
EIGHTH ANNUAL CHARITY DINNER FUNDRAISING EVENT**

On Wednesday, October 21, 2015, at 7 pm, the Most Reverend Terrence Prendergast, SJ, Archbishop of Ottawa, will host the eighth annual Archbishop's Charity Dinner at the Ottawa Conference and Event Centre (formerly known as Hampton Inn Ottawa and Conference Centre), 200 Coventry Road, in Ottawa. He expects to welcome more than 700 guests for this event.

The following charitable organizations have been designated as the beneficiaries for this year's dinner:

Chez Mère Bruyère

'Chez Mère Bruyère' is a charitable organization operated by the Sisters of Charity of Ottawa. Located in the heart of Vanier, 'Chez Mère Bruyère' continues, since 1992, to actualize the charism of compassion of Mother Élizabeth Bruyère by providing relief to impoverished children from 0 to 12 years of age. Appropriate clothing is provided free of charge for each season. 'Chez Mère Bruyère' is managed by Sisters assisted by a team of dedicated volunteers. A non-profit organisation, 'Chez Mère Bruyère' can count on a number of generous benefactors: members of the community, merchants, Religious congregations and various other organizations.

St. Joe's Supper Table

At St. Joe's Supper table, we welcome those who are hungry and invite them to come share a meal or use the food bank when they need extra help. We provide a place for people to contribute as volunteers to cook and serve meals, assist at the food bank and work in the community garden. Our goal is to nourish our community, not just our bodies. We strive to be a ministry of hospitality and solidarity with those who are hungry and find themselves in the margins. We are a community that serves an average of 120 meals an evening, 40 people a week in our food bank and over 80 volunteers who want to serve. On October 3rd, we opened a second food bank to serve the needs of those with mobility issues and who live in the disadvantaged area of Sandy Hill. This fall we began a Community Kitchen Pilot program with one of the high schools. Our vision to serve the needs of our guests continues to grow and evolve as we listen and discern.

Hawkesbury Central Food Bank

The mission of the Hawkesbury Central Food Bank is to be a service center for its citizens, a place where food and other necessities are made available to relieve problems of hunger in the short-term and poverty in the longer-term. A clear and precise policy has been set. The first objective is to provide temporary help to persons in need of food, and to develop ways that will empower them to take control and make positive and lasting changes in their lives.

Kateri Native Ministry of Ottawa

The Kateri Native Ministry of Ottawa is a Christian Native Ministry with a Catholic orientation, committed to the healing and reconciliation of aboriginal people and all peoples. Kateri provides the spiritual and corporal works of mercy to aboriginal people through the blending of their culture and traditions with Christian spirituality and values. The central core of the Ministry is located in Ottawa where it serves the needs of aboriginals within the Archdiocese of Ottawa. However, its operation extends throughout Canada and elsewhere.

The Catholic Centre for Immigrants

The Catholic Centre for Immigrants (CCI) is a community-based charity which facilitates the reception of newcomers into Canadian life; makes the community aware of newcomers' needs, and invites it to respond in a welcoming way. CCI Ottawa helps newcomers achieve their full potential in society. CCI has served immigrants and refugees for over 60 years.

Our services and programs include: settlement services, refugee sponsorship and pastoral services, temporary accommodations and housing assistance, referrals to other services (education, employment, health), networking and helping newcomers make friends, special programs for youth and other groups, The Bruyère Centre for Immigrants – a one-stop service centre for newcomers and Maison Sophia Reception House – a temporary residence for newcomers.

The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul

The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul is a lay charitable organization whose mission is to live the message of the gospel by serving Christ through the poor with love, respect, justice and joy; making no distinctions of creed, ethnic background, social condition, and respecting their dignity and privacy. Home visits are unique and distinctive of the way we help out. We meet the poor face to face, we listen, we assess the needs and seek solutions. The Society collaborates with other organizations in the parish, community centres and food banks. Vincentians *serve in hope*, the hope that comes from Our Lord Jesus Christ.

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