

For Immediate Release:

April 17, 2020

General Dynamics Land Systems-Canada donates ventilators and PPE to hospital's battle against COVID-19

LONDON, Ont. – Local defence company General Dynamics Land Systems-Canada (GDLS-Canada) has gifted 14 ventilators and 860 N95 masks to London Health Sciences Centre (LHSC) as the hospital prepares for a surge of patients requiring critical care services due to COVID-19. The life-sustaining equipment, originally intended for use in the company's Light Armoured Vehicle (LAV) ambulance variant, is now being directed to LHSC.

In light of the magnitude of the COVID-19 pandemic, GDLS-Canada employees were keen to help in any way they could. An idea, brought forward by the company's manager of Quality Assurance, to donate the ventilators (AEV 731 model) and masks was readily supported by the company.

Doug Wilson-Hodge, GDLS-Canada's Manager of Communications, Community and Government Relations, says that helping the hospital in this capacity is a natural fit for the company, where health and safety are always top-of-mind.

"Our focus is on protecting soldiers by manufacturing the equipment that protects them on the front lines," he says. "So, as you translate that into this particular fight against COVID-19, it's a logical extension for our employees to say 'Okay, how can we help these frontline workers and make this connection with this industry?'"

"What we're doing here in London is really part of a broader company effort across General Dynamics worldwide to make sure that we're focusing on bringing our resources to fight the problem, and giving back to our communities," Wilson-Hodge adds.

General Dynamics Land Systems-Canada is a longstanding donor to London Health Sciences Foundation (LHSF), supporting a wide variety of high-priority areas in the past, including mental health care, critical care trauma research and diagnostic radiology.

"We're so grateful to be able to facilitate this vital donation from General Dynamics Land Systems," says John MacFarlane, LHSF's President and CEO. "Donations like this one, paired with the outpouring of support from our community, really bring to light how we can rally behind our frontline healthcare heroes during this time of crisis."

For more information on London Health Sciences Foundation's campaign for donations and PPE, please visit lhsf.ca

About General Dynamics Land Systems: A subsidiary of General Dynamics, General Dynamics Land Systems-Canada is a global defence industry leader in providing land and amphibious combat vehicle solutions. Based in London, Ontario, the Canadian operations employ approximately 1,650 people who design, manufacture and support light and medium armoured vehicles. Our specialists are among Canada's finest in the defence industry who excel in the areas of machining, materials, electronics, software development, prototyping, logistic support and systems integration. General Dynamics Land Systems-Canada is a company with a proud London heritage and takes its role in the community very seriously, placing a high priority on safety and security. To learn more, visit <https://www.gdlscanada.com/>

About London Health Sciences Foundation (LHSF) is a [Canada Revenue Agency](#) registered charity accredited by both [Imagine Canada](#) and the , linking our community and health care experts - including physicians, allied professionals, researchers, staff and educators - together in pursuit of medical excellence at [London Health Sciences Centre](#) (LHSC) and [Lawson Health Research Institute](#) (Lawson). Established to strengthen LHSC's ability to provide the highest quality health care for patients in Southwestern Ontario and beyond, LHSF offers opportunities to support discovery and innovation in research, education and patient care at our hospital. To see how donations enable extraordinary care, visit www.lhsf.ca.

For more information about LHSF, please contact:

Heidi Janzen
Senior Marketing Officer
London Health Sciences Foundation
Cell: 416.949.2171 | heidi.janzen@lhsc.on.ca

For the latest news from LHSF, visit lhsf.ca/news/in-the-news

For more information about General Dynamics Land Systems, please contact:

Doug Wilson-Hodge
Manager, Communications, Community & Government Relations
General Dynamics Land Systems-Canada
Email: wilsonho@gdls.com | Mobile: +1-519-871-4140

Images of the life-sustaining equipment inside a Light Armoured Vehicle (LAV) ambulance

