



## Banff Mineral Springs Hospital Unveils Three New Smilezones to Brighten Pediatric Care Spaces with Support from Smilezone Foundation and the Heersink Family

**Banff, AB** – August 20, 2024 – Banff Mineral Springs Hospital celebrated the grand opening of three new Smilezones in our pediatric procedure rooms/trauma room in our Emergency Department and in our ambulance, giving a new reason for kids receiving treatment to smile. Generously donated by Smilezone Foundation, with support from the Heersink family, the bright, fun Smilezones murals, will positively impact the children and families we serve by transforming these spaces into a welcoming kid-friendly environment.

"I want to extend my deepest gratitude to the Heersink family for their incredibly generous donation towards enhancing our pediatric spaces at Banff Mineral Springs Hospital," said Margie Smith, Site Administrator for Banff Mineral Springs Hospital. "Your wonderful support through the Smilezone Foundation has created a brighter and more comforting atmosphere for our young patients."

"We are thrilled to bring the magic of Smilezones to Banff Mineral Springs Hospital, transforming critical care areas into vibrant, welcoming spaces for children and their families," said Scott Bachly, Smilezone Foundation Chair. "Our goal is to create environments where young patients feel comforted and inspired, even during challenging times. Thanks to the generosity of the Heersink family, these new Smilezone spaces will have a lasting impact on the well-being of the children who receive care here."

Smilezone Foundation believes in creating happy, positive spaces for healing. Smilezones transform clinical settings like hospitals, rehab centers, mental health clinics, autism treatment centers, and Children's Aid Societies into warm, inviting spaces where children can freely express themselves, unwind, and receive support in a secure environment.

## **ABOUT SMILEZONE FOUNDATION:**

Smilezone Foundation is a registered charity in Oakville, Ontario committed to improving the lives of children receiving medical treatment at health facilities across Canada. In 2012 founders Adam Graves and Scott Bachly were approached to make a financial contribution to the construction of a local hospital. Through partnerships with hospitals, community centers, and other organizations, Smilezone creates accessible, fun, and therapeutic environments where children can heal and thrive. Smilezone has transformed 400 spaces into Smilezones across Canada, benefiting over 83 communities and reaching more than 340,000 children annually. For more information, visit www.smilezone.com.

## **ABOUT BANFF MINERAL SPRINGS HOSPITAL:**

The Banff Mineral Springs Hospital is an acute care facility as well as a continuing care centre. Founded by the Sisters of St. Martha of Antigonish in 1930, our current facility was built in 1987. We provide a wide range of health services to the local community, Albertans and visitors from around the world. Banff Mineral Springs Hospital is the only Covenant Health facility with its own Emergency Medical Services (EMS) team. For more information visit Banff Mineral Springs Hospital | Covenant Health

-30-

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