



**December 12, 2011**  
**For immediate release**  
**All Manitoba media**

## **Sun Rising at Seven Oaks Hospital**

The latest and largest indoor public art piece in the North End was unveiled today in the new atrium of Seven Oaks General Hospital. The original mosaic art wall was commissioned by Seven Oaks Hospital Foundation for the Access to Care development recently completed at the hospital.

The 12 foot by 37 foot mosaic, ***Seven Oaks Sunrise*** by Winnipeg artist Simon Hughes covers most of one wall in the two-storey atrium. The art wall was generously donated by the Jessiman Foundation in honour of Judith O. Jessiman.



Hughes created the original maquette for the mosaic using a technique known as drip painting. The tiles were manufactured from vitreous glass by Artaic Innovative Mosaic in Boston and installed by Guido Bondi.

The work was commissioned by Seven Oaks Hospital Foundation after a competition of local artists and selected by a committee drawn from Seven Oaks, the arts community and the Jessiman Foundation.

Hughes holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the University of Manitoba and a Masters of Fine Arts from the University of California. His art practice includes drawing, painting, film and video.

The mosaic is the finishing touch on a \$7.8 million Access to Care project funded with a capital campaign by the Seven Oaks Hospital Foundation. The project added a 6,000 square foot two-storey atrium to the front of the hospital and completely renovated another 14,000 feet internally to create a new Information Desk, a new food court, gift shop, pharmacy and an integrated medical clinic.

At a small unveiling ceremony today, Seven Oaks Hospital President and COO, Carrie Solmundson, thanked both the Seven Oaks Hospital Foundation and the Jessiman Foundation for making the mosaic and the Access to Care Project a success.

“The sun rise in Simon Hughes’ mosaic reflects the optimism at this hospital which is making great strides forward in putting patients first by connecting them with other health services and programs to get well and stay well,” she said.

Peter Jessiman spoke on behalf of the Jessiman Foundation saying that while the artwork itself is spectacular “this is bigger than a piece of art, this (project) is about improving health for the people of Winnipeg.”

Visitors are welcome to view ***Seven Oaks Sunrise*** in the main entrance between 5:30 am and 12 midnight daily.

**For more information, or to arrange to interview the artist please contact:**

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