



## Anglican churches donate \$25,000 to hospice

From The Stittsville News

By John Curry

Rev. Michel Dubord, left, of St. John's Anglican Church in Richmond and Rev. Jane McCaig, right, of St. Thomas Anglican Church in Stittsville stand in front of a sign at the Ruddy-Shenkman Hospice in Kanata where a new residential hospice facility is planned. West end Anglican Churches are donating \$100,000 to provide a reflection room in this new residential hospice, with the first \$25,000 being presented in a ceremony at the Ruddy-Shenkman Hospice on Wednesday, Oct. 8.

St Thomas Anglican Church in Stittsville and St. John the Baptist Anglican Church in Richmond are two of 22 Anglican churches in the west end of the Ottawa Diocese which have committed to providing \$100,000 for the capital campaign for a residential hospice addition at the Ruddy-Shenkman Hospice in Kanata.

This new residential hospice will serve the residents of the west Ottawa area, providing end-of-life care in a hospice setting. These funds from the Anglican churches will fund a reflection room in the new residential hospice, providing a place where end-of-life hospice residents and their families can enjoy calm, quiet and prayerful thought.

The presentation of the initial \$25,000 installment towards this \$100,000 contribution took place on Wednesday morning, Oct. 8 when Rt. Rev. John Chapman, Bishop of the Anglican Diocese of Ottawa, presented a giant cheque representing the donation to Rabbi Reuven Bulka who is chair of the Hospice Ottawa West capital fundraising campaign.

This involvement by west end Anglican churches in the Ottawa Diocese to funding a reflection room at the new residential hospice began with the St. John's Anglican Parish of March and the celebration of its 175th anniversary.

This parish pledged to raise \$50,000 for the project, with other parishes coming on board to help with the project through contributions through the Anglican Diocese's G.I.F.T. (Growing In Faith Together) program.

In presenting the \$25,000 donation, Bishop Chapman said that the Anglican parishes involved are committed to the hospice ministry, noting that there is nothing more important than an end-of-life experience that allows for a fullness of love in faith.

Rabbi Bulka, in accepting the donation on behalf of Hospice Care Ottawa and the Hospice Ottawa West captain campaign, said that end-of-life care in such an important service. He admitted to being totally

overwhelmed at this donation which will allow a reflection room to be included in the new residential hospice facility.

The Ruddy-Shenkman Hospice is located in the former Trinity Presbyterian Church facility on McCurdy Drive just off Terry Fox Drive in Kanata.