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## Media Release

For immediate release

### The Sisters of Charity of Ottawa – An Ongoing Legacy of Compassion

**Ottawa, February 15, 2017** – At a special celebration held at Saint Paul University (SPU), the Sisters of Charity of Ottawa (SCO) were formally recognized and thanked for their generous transformational gift, which will enable the establishment of the new Élisabeth-Bruyère School of Social Innovation.



"Today, we celebrate the work and compassion of Mother Bruyère, who addressed the critical needs of the time during the Bytown era of our region. The Congregation continues its mission to this day and we wish to pay tribute to all these extraordinary women who have advanced many impactful social projects. We are very grateful for their generous contribution towards the establishment of the new Élisabeth-Bruyère School of Social Innovation" said SPU Rector, Dr. Chantal Beauvais.

The relationship between the SCO and SPU dates back to their founding days, and from the beginning, it has been a history of collaboration and partnership. Sister Watier, SCO's General Superior, said that it was the philosophy of the new Élisabeth-Bruyère School of Social Innovation that attracted them. Like Mother Bruyère who: "... found happiness in relieving the suffering of humanity, helping the child who wanted to learn, listening to those who felt alone", the School will train interveners to help the less fortunate out of their difficult situations.

In addition to the celebration of their transformational gift, this event highlighted the outstanding achievements of the Sisters of Charity of Ottawa and their founder, Mother Bruyère. It was also announced that a special exhibition will be held at the Saint Paul University Library over the next six weeks to showcase the remarkable work of the SCO.

Saint Paul University is the founding college of the University of Ottawa (1848), with which it has maintained a federation since 1965. Bilingual and on a human scale, it offers programs in Social



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Communication, Counseling and Psychotherapy , Canon Law, Public Ethics, Conflict Studies, Social Innovation, Philosophy, Human Relations and Theology.

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## **INFORMATION**

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