

Cenovus donates \$1 million to Calgary Child Advocacy Centre Gift supports new facility to deliver collaborative approach

CALGARY, Alberta (March 16, 2012) – Cenovus Energy Inc. (TSX, NYSE: CVE) is pleased to announce a \$1 million donation to assist in the creation of the Calgary Child Advocacy Centre, which will bring a new and innovative approach to the treatment of children and youth who have experienced abuse.

The centre will be a one-stop, collaborative way of delivering front-line support to the estimated 10,000 children abused in Calgary each year. The Calgary Police Service, Calgary Child and Family Services, Alberta Health Services and Calgary Crown Prosecutors will work together at the facility to better coordinate the community's response to child abuse through treatment, prevention, education and investigation. Cenovus's gift represents a five-year partnership with the centre.

"We're extremely pleased to commit \$1 million to assist with this unique approach that will deliver help, hope and healing to children and their families," said Sheila McIntosh, Executive Vice-President, Communications & Stakeholder Relations. "We look forward to our partnership with the Child Advocacy Centre to help create a safer community and support children who have experienced abuse."

Safety and well-being is one of the focus areas for Cenovus's community investment activities. The new facility, which is expected to open later this year, is a great match with Cenovus's commitment to enhance the overall health and safety of the community. Beyond the donation, Cenovus is exploring other ways to assist the centre, including the opportunity for its employees to be actively involved with children and families as they work through the recovery process.

"We want the communities where we live and operate to be better off because Cenovus is there," McIntosh said.

Cenovus Energy Inc.

Cenovus Energy Inc. is a Canadian integrated oil company. It is committed to applying fresh, progressive thinking to safely and responsibly unlock energy resources the world needs. Operations include oil sands projects in northern Alberta, which use specialized methods to drill and pump the oil to the surface, and established natural gas and oil production in Alberta and Saskatchewan. The company also has 50% ownership in two U.S. refineries. For more information, visit www.cenovus.com

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