

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Essilor provides funding to help upgrade University of Montreal’s School of Optometry

Montreal, Quebec, February 21, 2018—As part of its partnership with the University of Montreal’s School of Optometry, Essilor Canada has donated \$50,000 to help upgrade the school. The amphitheatre has already been renovated, and work will continue until fall.

*“Training future optometrists is essential to continuing to provide Quebecers with the best vision care, and Essilor Canada is proud to support this effort, which will ensure students have a modern learning environment to continue their education,”* said Barbara Heffez-Piper, President of Essilor Canada.

Dr. Christian Casanova, the director of the University of Montreal’s School of Optometry, stressed that the collaboration with Essilor Canada, which began in 1991, helped to train a new generation who can provide primary vision care. *“We are delighted to be able to count on the support of a partner like Essilor Canada, a leader of innovation in vision care. This donation will be invaluable in continuing our school’s upgrade project.”*

The University of Montreal’s School of Optometry, which combines theory and practice, continuously improves its training and facilities to meet the demands of the profession. Founded in 1910, it has been established for over a century and welcomes 46 students each year. It is the only French-speaking school in the world offering a PhD in optometry and the only school in Quebec offering a PhD in vision science.

Essilor Canada is proud to support this global leader in education and training in the fields of optometry and vision science in Quebec. This donation reflects how much Essilor Canada values being involved in the community, always with the goal of improving lives by improving sight.

### About Essilor Canada

Canadians have visual needs that impact their lives, their ability to learn and perform, their health and safety. We believe that everyone has the right to good vision. This is why our mission of *improving lives by improving sight* is the driving force behind everything we do at Essilor Canada: our products, services, technologies, trainings, philanthropic initiatives, as well as our involvement in environment, health and safety.

We are committed to be the partner of choice for eyecare professionals by offering innovative solutions that empower them to succeed and create value for them and for consumers, so that together we can make a difference and help Canadians see better and live better, every day.

Present in Canada since 1972, Essilor is proud to contribute to the growth of our country's economy with over 1,000 employees, 3 digital surfacing laboratories and close to 30 regional and partner laboratories. Essilor Canada is a subsidiary of Essilor International, the world leader in ophthalmic optical products that invests heavily in research and development to create new products always better adapted to the needs of wearers. Essilor creates, manufactures and personalizes a wide range of corrective lenses and coatings that are distributed through eyecare professionals, to correct and protect vision, as well as prevent visual health issues. Canadians can entrust their vision to Essilor brands such as Varilux®, Eyezen™, Crizal®, Xperio® and Transitions®.

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*On the picture : Barbara Piper, President of Essilor Canada and Dr Christian Casanova, Director of the University of Montreal's School of Optometry.*