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Pomerleau \$1,000,000 Challenge Met in Time for 100th Birthday
Greater Burlington YMCA takes significant step toward new building

September 26, 2017 – Burlington, VT – A little more than 100 days after being challenged by Tony Pomerleau to raise \$1,000,000 for its new facility, and in time for Tony's 100th birthday, the Greater Burlington YMCA announced today that the challenge has been met.

At the Y's annual meeting in June, Pomerleau announced a \$1 million, dollar-for-dollar challenge gift to the Y's "Staying in the Heart" capital campaign. The gift comes from the Pomerleau Family Foundation. The challenge nature of the gift, Pomerleau said at the time, was to encourage support for the Y campaign, one that he believes, "will allow the YMCA to continue to put our community first."

"The Pomerleau family's generosity continues to create momentum in our community," said Kyle Dodson, President & CEO of the Greater Burlington YMCA. "As soon as the challenge was made, we knew we wanted to deliver good news to Tony by his 100th birthday – September 28th. The community rallied, the \$1 million has been raised, and I have been able to share with Tony the impact his gift will have on children and families for years to come."

The new Y facility, like the current one, will be named "The Pomerleau Family YMCA" in appreciation for the family's commitment to the community. The recent \$1 million Pomerleau gift is the family's second contribution to the Y's capital campaign, following their gift of the first \$1 million in the effort.

The Y's "Staying in the Heart" campaign is propelling the Y toward a new home, to be built on the site of the former Ethan Allen Club on College Street.

"Our 87 year old building has not aged nearly as well as Mr. Pomerleau," Dodson said. "The Y is at a decisive juncture in its 151 year history. The time is now for us to take the crucial step of building this new Y, ensuring our continued ability to support the people and communities we serve," he added.

The Y currently has raised nearly \$11.4 million in cash and signed pledges, which is 76% toward the campaign goal of \$15 million. If the campaign can surpass \$14 million by the end of 2017, the target date to begin work at the site of the new Y is the summer of 2018. Additional funding to support the project's estimated total cost of \$22 million – which includes acquisition of the Ethan Allen site – will come from the sale of the Y's current building and anticipated funds from a federal community development program.