



MEDIA RELEASE

Oct. 13, 2005

Inaugural Pickering Mayor's Gala will celebrate 'Year of the Veteran'

[PICKERING] – The community is invited to join Mayor Dave Ryan and guests on Saturday, Nov. 19 for a very special evening of dining, dancing and celebration of community at the inaugural Pickering Mayor's Gala.

The 2005 Gala, to be held at the Pickering Recreation Complex, is being held in honour of the Year of the Veteran with all proceeds going to veteran projects including a donation to the Rouge Valley Ajax and Pickering hospital physiotherapy department. The donation will be made on behalf of Pickering veterans.

“This year's gala will be a celebration of Pickering veterans and the contribution they've made to Canada and the world,” said Mayor Ryan. “I see this as an ongoing showcase of Pickering, its accomplishments and the quality of life in our city. At the same time, it's an opportunity to reinvest in this community and its future through important projects like our local hospital.”

An integral part of the Gala's success is the participation of key community corporations who make both the event, and a gift to the hospital, possible.

Scotiabank has generously put its support behind the project as the lead sponsor of this year's gala. Other key sponsors include Tribute and Runnymede, Siemens, Ontario Power Generation, TACC Construction and Miller Waste. Many other companies have also generously purchased \$5,000 corporate tables and Metroland Durham Media Group has joined as the Gala's media sponsor.

“Pickering is fortunate to have such strong corporate citizens. As we work toward creating a place where residents can both work and live, these corporate citizens are pivotal to our success as a community,” said the mayor.

The strength of Pickering is also seen in its residents and this year's honorary chairman of the Gala is Pickering's own Jan DeVries, a member of the First Canadian Parachute Battalion and part of the historic D-Day invasion. Mr. DeVries has been instrumental in

many projects of historical value including the 2003 opening of the Juno Beach Centre, a memorial centre for Canada's war efforts.

As well, 2004 Pickering Teen Idol Nicole Ponte will perform for those in attendance the night of the event.

Individual tickets at \$150. each, are still available for the black tie event. Corporate tables and sponsorship packages are also available.

For more information and ticket purchases visit the Gala Web site at www.mayorsgala.com.

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