

**For immediate release:  
Monday, November 5, 2007**



## **Media Advisory/ Photo Opportunity**

### **York Central Hospital Hosts First Festival of Lights Celebration**

York Central Hospital (YCH) is hosting its first ever Diwali celebration on Thursday, November 8<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 p.m. organized by staff, physicians and volunteers of Indian heritage and their colleagues. The hospital continues to create a warm, welcoming environment for all through this extremely popular festival. Known as the Festival of Lights, it is observed as a religious celebration around the world by Hindus, Sikhs and Jains, while many Indians welcome it as a cultural event.

**Who:**

- *Mayor Dave Barrow, Town of Richmond Hill*, brings greetings from the Town and Council and shares some insights on the Town's diversity initiatives, specifically its support of Diwali and its citizens who celebrate this annual event.
- *Dr. Nalin Ahluwalia, Chief, Emergency Medicine Program* opens the ceremony with a welcome and explanation of Diwali and its significance for Hindus around the world, as well as a brief introduction of the various displays and refreshments offered.
- *Jo-anne Marr, Vice-President, Programs and Chair of the YCH Diversity Council* brings greetings on behalf of the Strategy Team and extends appreciation and recognition to the members of the organizing committee for generously sharing their culture with their colleagues, patients and our community.

**What:** The festivities feature traditional Indian dance, complimentary Indian cuisine, music, fashion and cultural displays.

**Where:** York Central Hospital Centre for Continuing Care and Rehabilitation  
10 Trench Street (Main Hospital Site), Richmond Hill

**When:** The ceremony begins at 2:30 p.m.

Photo opportunity available

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