

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Annual Gala Most Successful in Event's History

Richmond Hill, ON, November 10, 2010 – York Central Hospital Foundation's 23rd annual gala has raised more than \$530,000 for the hospital.

"The event was our most successful yet and we're incredibly pleased with the results," said Margo Sage-Arnold, Manager of Special Events at the Foundation. "Our goal was to raise \$500,000 and we were able to surpass that, so we're thrilled."

More than 900 guests attended the "Images of Hollywood" themed event held on November 5 at Le Parc in Markham. Guests bid on 400 silent auction items, participated in raffle draws and were entertained by pianist Anthony Russo and the George St. Kitts Band.

York Central Hospital Foundation has been selling raffle tickets over the past several months to help raise funds for the Gala and one of the highlights of the evening was the draw of the winning ticket for a 2011 GMC Terrain donated by Wilson Niblett Motors.

The evening was emceed by CTV's Christine Bentley. As a surprise, Robert Pilon, who played the roles of Jean Valjean in Les Miserables and The Phantom in The Phantom of the Opera, entertained guests with a vocal performance.

"None of this would have been possible without the support of the community, donors and of course, all of our generous sponsors, including this year's presenting sponsor Bell," said Ms. Sage-Arnold. "Their generosity helped to make this event the best in our 23 year history."

The funds raised will go towards the purchase of a state-of-the-art Nuclear Medicine Camera with enhanced CT scanning abilities for the Medical Imaging Department at York Central Hospital.

The first Gala was held in 1988 and, since that time, the annual event has raised over \$5 million for capital improvements and life-saving medical equipment in virtually every area of the Hospital. This includes a new Digital Mammography Unit for Breast Health, cutting-edge surgical equipment, construction to triple the size of our Emergency Department and a state-of-the-art surgical sterilization unit for York Central Hospital.

- 30 -

Contact: Margo Sage-Arnold
Manager, Special Events
York Central Hospital Foundation
(905) 883-2032
msagearnold@yorkcentral.on.ca