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ANNUAL GALA MOST SUCCESSFUL IN FOUNDATION'S HISTORY

Richmond Hill, ON – York Central Hospital Foundation's 24th annual gala has set two records: one for the most guests in attendance and one for the highest revenue. The sold-out Moonlight & Magic themed-event was attended by more than 1,000 guests and raised in excess of \$570,000.

"The event was our most successful yet and we're so pleased with the results," said Julie Fuda, Chair of the Moonlight & Magic Gala. "None of this would have been possible without the support of the community, donors, sponsors and our gala volunteers. Their gifts of time, talent and donations helped to make this event the best in our 24-year history."

The event was held at Le Parc Markham and emceed by Ken Shaw, one of Canada's most recognized news anchors. Violinist Greenville Pinto and singer Christopher Dallo entertained guests during the cocktail hour and over dinner, followed by the George St. Kitts Band. The gala featured a live and silent auction and raffle with a top prize of a diamond necklace and earring set, appraised at \$22,750. For the second consecutive year, the event's Presenting Sponsor was Bell.

"We are sincerely appreciative to each and every person who helped make this gala our most successful in the Foundation's history," said Fraser Nelson, Chair of York Central Hospital Foundation. "This year, the Foundation has been challenged to raise \$5 million to help fund medical equipment and technology at York Central Hospital. The generosity and support we received from our community for the Moonlight & Magic Gala has helped us come closer to realizing this goal."

All proceeds from this year's event will help fund a standardized, state-of-the-art infusion pump system for York Central Hospital. The new pump system will increase patient safety by auto-programming medications, which in turn ensures the accurate dispensing of the right medications. Since the pumps are programmed to dispense the correct dosages, nurses and other staff caregivers will have more time to spend with their patients allowing for increased bedside attention and education. This extra one on-one time will help improve the overall care and patient experience at York Central Hospital.

"On behalf of everyone at York Central Hospital, I would like to extend our appreciation to the community for their generous support. This exciting event has increased awareness in the community and enabled the hospital to purchase urgently needed medical equipment," said Altaf Stationwala, President and CEO, York Central Hospital.

The first Gala was held in 1988 and, since that time, the annual event has raised over \$6 million for capital improvements and life-saving medical equipment in virtually every area of York Central Hospital. This includes a new Digital Mammography Unit for Breast Health, leading-edge surgical equipment, construction to triple the size of our Emergency Department, a state-

of-the-art surgical sterilization unit and a Nuclear Medicine Camera with enhanced CT scanning abilities for York Central Hospital.

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