

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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2006 MAYOR'S GALA RAISES \$1 MILLION FOR THE VAUGHAN HEALTH CARE FOUNDATION

VAUGHAN, ON – The 2006 Mayor's Gala presented by *CIBC* raised \$1 million in support of the Vaughan Health Care Foundation, a registered charity established to take the lead role in fundraising efforts for a new health care facility in the City of Vaughan.

"The amount raised represents the strong commitment of our residents and business community to establishing a first-rate health care facility in the City of Vaughan," said Mayor Michael Di Biase. "These community partnerships are essential to our efforts to meet the needs of our residents and establish a new model for health care delivery in Vaughan."

The Gala was held yesterday at the Terrace Banquet Centre, located at 1680 Creditstone Road in Vaughan and was emceed by Carla Collins, an award-winning comedian and one of Canada's premier radio and television personalities. It featured a Russian-inspired theme with a performance by the Ukrainian School of Arts and other live entertainment. Also included was a live charity auction.

Vaughan Council created the Health Care Facility Study Task Force to produce a needs assessment, vision and implementation plan for a new health care facility. Approved by Council and submitted for review to the province, *The Vaughan Health Care Facility Planning and Implementation Study* calls for establishing a "Campus of Care" which would include a wellness centre, a long-term care facility and specialty clinics. The task force has now been superseded by the Vaughan Health Care Foundation.

Mayor Di Biase thanked *CIBC* for participating as the evening's Presenting Sponsor and acknowledged the many corporate sponsors and media partners for their outstanding support.

For more information, visit the City's website at www.vaughan.ca under Major Projects.

Attachment: List of Event Sponsors

-30-

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