

MARKHAM STOUFFVILLE HOSPITAL FOUNDATION PRESENTS  
**LE CIRQUE BALL**  
HILTON SUITES MARKHAM APRIL 1, 2011

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Le Cirque Ball raises \$550,000 towards the expansion of Markham Stouffville Hospital.**

Markham, ONTARIO - (April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2011) - Over 850 guests showed their support for the hospital through their generosity in the silent and live auctions and the raffle. The annual Markham Stouffville Hospital Gala, Le Cirque Ball was held on Friday, April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011 at the Hilton Suites in Markham. The event raised over \$550,000 to support the expansion of the hospital.

Our local community and business leaders once again stepped up to support their hospital. "By raising over half a million dollars they are showing us that they believe in their hospital and our expansion," says Janet Beed, President and CEO, Markham Stouffville Hospital.

The Gala, hosted by Erin Davis of CHFI radio, secured a record number of corporate and community sponsors - the most in its more than 20 year history.

"The team was thrilled to welcome 'HealthwithCare' as the presenting sponsor of the event," says Suzette Strong, CEO of the Markham Stouffville Hospital Foundation. "Their commitment and leadership shows that they are dedicated to this community."

The lucky Gala Raffle winner, Anna Misciagna of Markham was presented with the keys to a brand new Hyundai Elantra GL generously donated by Don Valley North Hyundai. The raffle alone raised close to \$40,000 from tickets sold only on this night.

This event would not be possible without the large team of dedicated volunteers who lend their time and talents, led by Gala Chair, Carol Wildgoose.

All proceeds from Le Cirque Ball will benefit the "*We're Growing Together*" campaign. This 50 million dollar campaign is the largest in the Foundation's history, raising funds for the much needed expansion of Markham Stouffville Hospital. The expansion will double the existing space, increase the number of inpatient beds and operating rooms, expand the emergency department and outpatient clinics, and increase capacity for diagnostic screening and testing.

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**Markham Stouffville Hospital Foundation Overview**

Markham Stouffville Hospital Foundation exists to support the Hospital's mandate providing compassionate, patient-centered care. Building a hospital is a partnership between the hospital, government and the community – each playing a significant role. All medical equipment, such as MRIs and new patient beds, is funded through donations from the community. Markham Stouffville Hospital Foundation has to raise \$50 million in the next few years to support the expansion of the hospital as they continue to provide excellent quality care to the community.

For more information on how to give, please visit us at <http://www.msh.on.ca/foundations/msh>

**Photo Capture:**

Suzette Strong, CEO Markham Stouffville Hospital Foundation and Judson Whiteside, Chair of Markham Stouffville Hospital Foundation honour Carol Wildgoose at this year's Gala event for her outstanding work as Gala Chair.

**Left to right:** Suzette Strong (CEO Markham Stouffville Hospital Foundation), Carol Wildgoose (Gala Chair), Judson Whiteside (Chair of Markham Stouffville Hospital Foundation)

**For further information or to arrange an interview please contact:**

Contact information:

Joachim Ravoth  
Director, Marketing & Communications  
Markham Stouffville Hospital Foundation  
Office: 905 .472. 7373 ext 6903  
Cell: 416. 356. 8173  
Email: [jravoth@msh.on.ca](mailto:jravoth@msh.on.ca)