



Joint Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Warden's Gala Dinner Raises \$118,000 for United Way Funds will support individuals and families across Simcoe County

Midhurst/ October 27, 2008 – The second annual Simcoe County Warden's Gala Dinner held at the Nottawasaga Inn in Alliston on October 23 was a tremendous success, raising \$118,000 for the United Way of Greater Simcoe County.

"The United Way provides critical support to many Simcoe County residents and their work is invaluable especially as growth in our region continues," stated Warden Tony Guergis. "This event has been a huge success because of partnerships that the County of Simcoe has been able to build.

"Partnerships that include the many supporters of the event are vital to our success and we continue to build on these successes throughout our region. I would like to express our heartfelt thanks to these dedicated community leaders who generously give back to those in need in our communities."

Highlights of the evening included the auction of a 2009 Honda Civic DX-G and a limited edition 12-inch bronze work of John Graves Simcoe created by renowned sculptor Marlene Hilton Moore. Honda of Canada MFG. significantly contributed to the evening's success. Gemini Award winning comic Sean Cullen was the evening's entertainment amusing the crowd with his observations on life in Simcoe County.

The gala brought together elected officials of Simcoe County, community leaders and key members of Ontario's building and land development communities.

"We are so grateful to the County of Simcoe and all event sponsors for supporting the United Way through the annual gala dinner. These funds will be invested locally and will help individuals and families in our communities who need our collective support and assistance," said Seija Suutari, Chief Executive Officer for United Way of Greater Simcoe County.

The County of Simcoe manages social services programs for residents throughout the region including the cities of Barrie and Orillia. Programs for youth, seniors, families, people with special needs and the homeless are currently operating at capacity level and with extensive wait lists. United Way of Greater Simcoe County, a volunteer-based organization, distributes funds to support local non-profit agencies. The services these agencies provide build a brighter future for children, enrich the lives of the elderly, give hope to those in need and strengthen families.

The County of Simcoe is composed of sixteen member municipalities and provides crucial public services to County residents in addition to providing paramedic and social services to the separated cities of Barrie and Orillia. Visit our website at simcoe.ca.

- 30 -

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