



Annual Report 2007



Report from the Chair of the Board

Ken Shaw

Over the past 12 months the Abilities Centre has continued to evolve and proceed closer to a date for the construction of the facility to begin.

A number of significant events have taken place during this time:

- ★ Bregman & Hamann were engaged as the Architects for the Abilities Centre project. The final stage of the building design has begun. Extensive research and detail have gone into the design, which includes the feedback and priorities from the User Advisory Committee, focus groups sessions and surveys from over 85 organizations which included over 400 individuals.
- ★ Capital Campaign was launched at our Inaugural Dream Gala held October 12, 2006. The Gala event raised in excess of \$550,000.
- ★ Various third party fundraising events have been, and continue to be, held in support of the Abilities Centre – please see a full list of events on pages 4 & 5.
- ★ Marketing and promotion of the Abilities Centre in the community, particularly the launch of our website, for purposes of promoting the Gala events and the Abilities Centre generally have taken place over the past 1 ½ years.
- ★ Full time Administrative Director position commenced March 1, 2007.
- ★ The Abilities Centre has commenced the planning for some programming for its future clients. Initially, community facilities will be used to house these programs until the time when our site is ready for occupancy. Scotiabank funding (\$200,000 over 5 years) will provide the funds for a program in the Spring/Summer of 2008.
- ★ Second Annual Dream Gala held November 1, 2007 which raised in excess of \$375,000.
- ★ Schematic Design Development Architectural Renderings have been released to the public.

A significant amount of work has taken place over the past year. The target date to begin construction is Spring, 2008 with completion in 2009. Current supporters of the Abilities Centre include federal, provincial, regional and municipal governments as well as private sector support from corporations, community organizations and private donors.

I want to personally thank all of our volunteers, supporters, sponsors and donors for your continued commitment to aid us in building this much needed facility. Without your contributions of time, money and in-kind donations, we would not be on the cusp of breaking ground. We pride ourselves on being a volunteer based organization and are very grateful to all of those people who have donated in some way to this outstanding facility. On behalf of our Board of Directors and the community we serve, thank you!!

Abilities Centre Board of Directors

Ken Shaw, Chair

Leo Plue, Vice-Chair

Christine Elliott, Secretary

Willona Blanche

Mike Ewles

Ron Halliday

Rod Piukkala

Nancy Shaw

Jennifer Ayotte, Administrative Director

Project Status

The Abilities Centre officially launched its capital campaign at the Inaugural Dream Gala held October 12, 2006.

Our focus continues to be to raise the necessary funds to commence construction. The target date for construction is Spring 2008 with completion in 2009.

In addition to raising funds, we are currently in the design process based on feedback from our user groups. We are incorporating suggestions and recommendations which will enable us to create a centre of excellence and to deliver programs to meet their needs.

Below are the first conceptual drawings of the building. The design work is continuing and updated renderings will be posted on our website as they become available.



Front Entry



Lobby



Field House



Field House

Funding

Current supporters include federal, provincial, regional and municipal governments as well as private sector support from corporations, community organizations and private donors.

The 2007 Dream Gala was the perfect opportunity to highlight those corporate donors who have made an outstanding contribution to the Abilities Centre. Special presentations were made to the following companies:

Ontario Power Generation for their donation of \$110,000 to the Abilities Centre capital campaign.

Scotiabank Group for their donation of \$200,000 to establish an Abilities Centre program.

The Sernas Group for their in-kind donation of professional services.

Totten Sims Hubicki Associates for their in-kind donation of professional services.

Abilities Centre Durham Statement of Operations			Abilities Centre Durham Balance Sheet		
For the year ended December 31	2006	2005	December 31	2006	2005
		(Unaudited)			(Unaudited)
Revenue			Assets		
Auction	\$ 74,150	\$ -	Current		
Donations	90,871	25,000	Cash	\$ 89,702	\$ 30,686
Gala event	535,281	-	Temporary investments (Note 1)	530,000	-
Grant - Ontario Trillium Foundation (Note 2)	71,159	26,341	Donations receivable	-	4,000
Interest income	3,668	-	Accrued interest receivable	3,668	-
Scotia McLeod - Deerhurst Event	-	400	GST receivable	4,427	3,964
Universal Heart Gala Event	-	31,357		627,797	38,650
	775,129	83,098	Capital asset (Note 4)	52,244	16,082
				\$ 680,041	\$ 54,732
Expenditures			Liabilities		
Accounting fees	11,200	2,800	Current		
Advertising	333	7,970	Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 37,245	\$ 6,402
Bank charges	356	1,446	Deferred revenue (Note 2)	-	22,459
Consulting fees	-	54,881		37,245	28,861
Gala expenses	76,227	-	Net Assets		
Insurance	2,295	1,080	Invested in capital assets	52,244	16,082
Miscellaneous	1,877	-	Unrestricted	590,552	9,789
Office supplies	381	210		642,796	25,871
Paymentech fee	3,802	-		\$ 680,041	\$ 54,732
Printing	338	-			
TAOC consulting fees (Note 3)	36,736	26,131			
Trail costs (Note 3)	24,000	-			
Telephone	659	-			
	158,204	94,518			
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditures	\$ 616,925	\$ (11,420)			

A complete set of audited financial statements prepared by BDO Dunwoody LLP, is available upon request.

Events

Leahy Concert – April 12, 2007



It was our great pleasure to host the Leahy family for a friend-raising event in support of the Abilities Centre held at the Deer Creek Golf and Banquet Facility April 12, 2007. Guests were treated to an up close and personal performance by Leahy in an intimate setting. We would like to thank all members of the Leahy family and their crew for their outstanding support of the Abilities Centre. It was our pleasure to spend the evening with such a wonderful family. Thanks also to our sponsors – Apex Sound & Lighting Corporation, Deer Creek Golf and Banquet Facility, Golding Graphics, Hilton Garden Inn, KX96, Mackie Moving Systems and Minuteman Press. Our heartfelt thanks to our special volunteers! Thank you all for assisting us in raising awareness about the need for the Abilities Centre!

Scotiabank Star Campaign – April - June, 2007



The Durham, Richmond Hill and Markham branches of Scotiabank ran a very successful Star Campaign in support of the Abilities Centre during the months of April, May and June, 2007. Stars were sold in the branches and posted on the walls to show support for the Abilities Centre. Fundraising efforts for the event raised over \$7,000.00. We would like to thank all of the managers, staff and customers of the branches who assisted in raising these monies for the Abilities Centre. We greatly appreciate all of your support and efforts. Thank you!

McHappy Day – May 9, 2007



The Forman Family owned and operated McDonald's Restaurants in Whitby chose the Abilities Centre as their charity of choice to benefit from the proceeds of McHappy Day which was held on May 9th. Many volunteers assisted at the three local restaurants which helped raise \$5,000 for the Abilities Centre. We would like to thank the Formans for all of their generosity and support, as well as all of their staff, volunteers and patrons who assisted in raising these monies for our organization. Thank you!

Ormiston Public School – Get Active for Abilities – May 17, 2007



Get Active for Abilities fundraiser in support of the Abilities Centre held May 17, 2007. We would like to extend our thanks to the staff, students and school community of Ormiston Public School who supported and participated in this fundraiser. The Abilities Centre depends greatly on the support of the local community and we are so grateful that the Ormiston Public School family chose our Centre as their charity of choice for this activity day. Fundraising efforts for the event raised \$3,015.00. Thank you!

Events (cont.)

Durham Region Chairman's Charity Classic – June 7, 2007



The Abilities Centre was once again one of four recipient organizations to benefit from the Annual Durham Region Chairman's Charity Classic golf tournament held at Deer Creek on June 8th. The weather was spectacular for this annual event and the golfers were treated to many on course activities, reception, silent auction and dinner. The event raised \$452,000 to benefit Durham College, UOIT, Junior Achievement Eastern Ontario and the Abilities Centre. Special thanks to Roger Anderson, the Region of Durham, sponsors, golfers and organizers for another successful tournament. We also greatly appreciate the on-going commitment and support from Roger Anderson and the Region of Durham. Thank you!

2007 Abilities Centre Dream Gala - November 1, 2007



The second annual Dream Gala was once again held at the beautiful Deer Creek Golf & Banquet Facility. Over 500 guests enjoyed a wonderful evening including a delicious selection of hors d'oeuvres, sumptuous dinner, wines, silent and live auctions. The Honourable David C. Onley, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario highlighted the evening with his inspirational speech about his life experiences both personally and professionally. Guests were also treated to three outstanding songs by featured performer, Justin Hines. Special thanks to the Honourable David C. Onley and his staff, as well as Justin Hines, Aubrey Winfield and the Orange Lounge Recording Company. The event was a huge success and raised in excess of \$375,000. The success of this Gala would not have been possible without the support of many individuals, groups, corporations and volunteers. Thanks to all of those who made this 2007 event so successful!

Upcoming Events

Durham Region Chairman's Charity Classic

June 5, 2008

Deer Creek Golf & Banquet Facility

2008 Dream Gala

October 30, 2008

Deer Creek Golf & Banquet Facility

Thanks to our Donors, Sponsors and Volunteers

*We would like to thank all of our donors, sponsors and volunteers
for your generous support of the Abilities Centre.*

2007 Dream Gala Sponsors / Donors / Supporters

Distinguished Guests:

The Honourable David C. Onley, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario
The Honourable Jim Flaherty, P.C., M.P., Minister of Finance

Special Guests:

Roger Anderson, Chair, Regional Municipality of Durham
Pat Perkins, Mayor, Town of Whitby

Patrons:

The Honourable George Vari, P.C., Dr. Helen Vari, Ron Halliday and Howard Sokolowski

Gold Star:

CTV, Coughlan Homes, Lebovic Enterprises, Tribute Communities, The Honourable George Vari & Dr. Helen Vari

Silver Star:

407 ETR, Flaherty, Dow, Elliott & McCarthy, RBC Royal Bank, Scotia Capital

Bronze Star:

Bell Canada, Metroland, Ontario Power Generation, Scotiabank Group, TD Canada Trust

Shooting Star:

Accurex Inc., BMO Financial Group, Bell Canada, Gus Brown Pontiac Buick GMC Limited, Burman & Fellows Group, Canadian Bankers Association, Cassidy & Co., City of Pickering, Corbel Management Corp., D.M. Wills Associates, Durham College, Fairmont Hotels, Four Valleys Excavating & Grading Ltd., General Motors of Canada, Gerdau Ameristeel, Investors Group Pickering, Kagan Shastri, Lastman's Bad Boy, McDonald's Restaurants of Canada, Melody Homes, Miller Group, Motorcity Saturn, Navigator, Nurse Chevrolet Cadillac, Oshawa Hospital Foundation, Regional Municipality of Durham, The Sernas Group, Siemens, TACC, Totten Sims Hubicki Associates, Town of Whitby, Universal Workers Union Local LUINA 183, University of Ontario Institute of Technology, Veridian Corporation, Whitby Mental Health Centre, Whitby-Oshawa Conservative Electoral District Association, Wilson Vukelich LLP

Special Recognition:

The success of this gala would not have been possible without the support of the many individuals, groups and corporations listed below. We thank you for your kindness and generosity.

Sponsors/Donors:

APEX Sound and Lighting, Deer Creek Golf & Banquet Facility, Mackie Harley Davidson/Vespa, Christina Baturensky, Jeremy Booker, Bregman & Hamann Architects, Douglas Clark (DKC Group), Casey Chuhaniuk Photography, Compu-Image Inc., Peter and Camilla Dalglish, Durham Web Services & Eagle Vision Designs, The Hon. Jim Flaherty, P.C., M.P., Gary and Joy Flowers, Susan Frize, The Gig Brothers, Justin Hines, Rick Johnson, Keys By Kim, Lasting Expressions Floral Designs with Flair, Kellie Leitch, Jim and Joanne Love, Adrian Luces, Deane and Kevin Luces, Rick Mercer Report, Jeff Morrison, Nutty Chocolatier, The Orange Lounge Recording Company, Phoenix Eastern Insurance, Gary and Lois Polonsky, RNG Fix Auto, Leanne Paty - Reflections Photography, Frank Snyder, Sheldon Sturrock (Allied Medical), Watters Marketing Inc. and all media.

Thanks to our Donors, Sponsors and Volunteers

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2007 Dream Gala Sponsors / Donors / Supporters (continued)

Auction Donors:

Doris Adams, Albis Family, Joan Attersley, Andy & Jennifer Ayotte, Gaye Ayotte, Rachel Ayotte, Bank of Nova Scotia, Kim Boily, Best Buy, Black Creek Pioneer Village, Gus Brown Pontiac Buick GMC Limited, CTV, Canadian Museum of Civilization/Canadian War Museum, Canadian Tire (Cobourg), Canadian Vintners Association, David Carmichael, Carpet Towne, Casa Loma, Cedar Brae Golf & Country Club, Columbus Golf & Country Club, Compute, Deer Creek Golf & Country Club, Ron and Kathy Dornan, Silvio DiGasperis, Drayton Entertainment, Kathy Drury, Durham Regional Police Services, Christine Elliott, M.P.P., Laura Elliott & Leo Plue, Extreme Fitness, Fairmont Royal York, Famous People Players, Flaherty, Dow, Elliott & McCarthy, The Hon. Jim Flaherty, P.C., M.P., Four Seasons Toronto, Hanley's Shoes, Harpo's, John Henry, Henry's Camera Store, Herongate Barn Theatre, Hot Rocks Diner, International Pool & Spa, Lloyd Komori, Michael Kluthe Salon & Beauty Spa, Lakeridge Links & Whispering Ridge Golf Courses, Lastman's Bad Boy, MAC Cosmetics, Milestones Grill & Bar, Jeff Morrison, Motel 6 Whitby, Oh Canada Eh!, Oshawa Ski Club, Gerard Paraghamian, Pepperberries Bistro, Pimentos Restaurant, The Regional Municipality of Durham, Vivian Reiss, Residence Inn Marriott (Whitby), Rousseau's, Royal Ashburn Golf Club, Roy's Enterprise, Santa Fe Salon, Shrimp Cocktail, Speedy Business Centre, Starr Ave. Burger, Sunshade Blinds & Drapery, Swish Maintenance, Jim Szeman, David & Karen Taylor, Telus Business Solutions, Toronto Argonauts, Vasile Tsinokas (Valentino's), Rocky Varcoe (Class Act Dinner Theatre), Veridian Connections, VIA Rail Canada, Williams Chocolate Ltd.

Corporate and Community Sponsors

The Abilities Centre project would not be possible without the generous support of all four levels of government and individual corporations/businesses. Thank You!

The Town of Whitby, Regional Municipality of Durham, Government of Ontario and the Government of Canada.

407 ETR, Bregman & Hamann Architects, BDO Dunwoody LLP, BMO Bank of Montreal, Compu-Image Inc., Deer Creek Golf & Banquet Facility, Durham Region Chairman's Charity Classic, Durham Web Services, Eagle Vision Design, Ontario Power Generation, Scotiabank, The Sernas Group, The George and Helen Vari Foundation, Totten Sims Hubicki Associates, Voicepath, Weston Foundation and Wilson Vukelich LLP.

Corporate, Community and Individual Donors

Association of Universities and Colleges, Baagwating Community Association, BDO Dunwoody LLP, The Benedetto Family, Vivian Bercovici, Bourse de Montreal, The Brown Family, Canadian Association of Accredited Mortgage Professionals, Canadian Foundation for Physically Disabled Persons, Canadian Professional Police Association, Casey Chuhaniuk Photopgraphy, Myles Currie, Cliff Curtis, Durham Region Real Estate Board, Durham Regional Police Appreciation Night, Nicky and Thor Eaton, Golding Graphics Limited, Greater Oshawa Chamber of Commerce, Bryan and Sue Green, Hilton Garden Inn Ajax, KX96, John Kelly, Grace Klaassen, Steve Meek, Mackie Moving Systems, Minuteman Press, Northstar Promotions, O'Neill Collegiate, Ormiston Public School and Community, Jane Payne, Kristin Plue, Polish Engineers Convention, Harry Rosen Inc., Scarborough Southwest Conservative Association, Scotiabank, Totten Sims Hubicki Associates (Board and Staff), Tribute Communities, United Way of Greater Toronto, Whitby Chamber of Commerce, Wilson Family McDonald's, Ron Young, Zwicker Slavens Family

Thanks to our Donors, Sponsors and Volunteers

*We would like to thank all of our donors, sponsors and volunteers
for your generous support of the Abilities Centre.*

Our Volunteers

The Abilities Centre prides itself on being a volunteer based organization. We are grateful to the many people who have donated countless hours to our committees and events to assist us in making the Abilities Centre facility dream a reality. Thank You!!!

Volunteers Extraordinaire:

Christine Gallagher, Doug Byers, Silvia Grdovic, Wayne Horrill, Karen Taylor and Carolyn Treadgold

Volunteers:

Marie Alphonso, Janis Antram, Peggy Arges, Tania Atwood, Andy Ayotte, Mike Ayotte, Fahmida Banu, Ron Blakey, Judy Brown, Roger Clarke, Rhonda Christian, Andrea Clement-Christie, Jordan Christie, Judy Clement, Mari-Lynn Cordahi, Noel Cordahi, Laura Creavalle, Jacqueline Curl, Maria DiCarlo, Elena DiMartile, Kwasi Douglas, Kathy Dornan, Ron Dornan, Lynda Doumani, Karen Downer, Jack Edmond, Jane Edmond, Laura Elliott, Lee Elliott, Lauren Epema, Louise Farr-Chambers, Tanya Fellows, Galen Flaherty, John Flaherty, Quinn Flaherty, Susan Frize, Phil Gaynor, Graham Gifford, Kim Glover, Josh Goldberg, Sonia Grdovic, Peter Grummett, Sandra Grummett, Phil Guillet, Gail Lamb, Faizah Ilyas, Lauren Langille, Tor Lariviere, Tye Lariviere, Paula Laycock, Vanessa Lewerentz, Sherry Lee-Cockburn, Deane Luces, Steven Luces, Bruce McDiarmid, Laurie Melanson, Hisham Mohammad, Julie Murray, Robin Parysniak, Cathy Pitcher, Kristin Plue, Donna Raetsen-Kemp, Lorna Ravary, Tom Reed, Julie Rennie, Melissa Rennie, Natasha Rennie, R.J. Rowland, Nancy Sandercock, Karen Searle, Kyle Simpson, Carol Smitton, Deb Thwaites, Robert Traill, Catherine Tunney, Vera Walker, Donna Wanless, Ron Watson, Leann Wilder, Michelle Wilder

Ambassadors:

Stephanie Ayotte, Mari-Lynn Cordahi, Michael Ferraz, Phil Guillet, Peter Grummett, Hisham Mohammad, Vanessa Mulready, Patrick Murphy, Chloe Scott and Bob Traill.

A special thank you to all donors, sponsors, ambassadors, volunteers, Gala distinguished guests, Gala guests and Gala entertainers who have assisted the Abilities Centre prior to 2007 – we are grateful for your support.



The Right Honourable Stephen Harper, P.C., M.P.,
Prime Minister of Canada
Inaugural Dream Gala, 2006

About the Abilities Centre

The Abilities Centre will be a world class recreation, athletic and performing arts facility fully accessible to all persons with a varying degree of abilities and challenges. Situated in the heart of the Central Eastern Lake Ontario Region, the Abilities Centre will be an international leader in helping people of all ages focus on their abilities and enhance their confidence and independence through state-of-the art opportunities.

The Abilities Centre will facilitate total barrier free access to active living in the nation's largest municipal sports complex. Unlike other rehabilitation focused facilities, the Abilities Centre will create a unique learning, training, rehabilitation and recreation centre in the heart of the country. The Abilities Centre will represent a paradigm shift, leading to enhanced dignity for children, youth and adults who will be stakeholders in a facility that welcomes and indeed hosts everyone. Social barriers will give way to inclusion because of the integral focus on developing "abilities".

Abilities Centre

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