

NEWS RELEASE

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Miriam Foundation 41st Annual H&S Golf Tournament Raises \$500,000 to Benefit People with Intellectual Disabilities

Hillsdale Golf and Country Club, St.-Therese, QC - August 9, 2004 . . . More than 250 golfers and sponsors helped raise a record-breaking \$500,000 at one event of the Miriam Foundation - a non-profit organization providing financial support for residential, rehabilitative and vocational programs to people with intellectual disabilities who are serviced by Miriam Home & Services. Mr. Ben Schwam, a dedicated Miriam Foundation founder and board member, was honoured for over 40 years of service.

After a lavish buffet breakfast complete with traditional herring and schnapps, golfers headed out on the course on a perfect sunny day for a friendly and competitive game of golf. They enjoyed a variety of delicacies on the course from the barbecue lunch to Godiva chocolates, Ben & Jerry's ice cream, drinks and cigars. Players also took time out to read the messages at each hole that participants had submitted in honour of Mr. Schwam.

Co-chairs Mr. David Black and Mr. Steven Goldberg worked hard with the help of their committee throughout the year to secure sponsors who helped make the tournament so successful. Steven Goldberg emphasized that \$500,000 cannot be raised without significant corporate support. "This tournament has a rich history enhanced by corporate donors doing their part to help a worthy cause." Major sponsors included HSBC and Dorel. An additional 80 other sponsors, including American Iron & Metal, Stelpro Heating, Sajo Construction, Sheila and Irving Maklan, Alexis Nihon Group and Power Corporation, contributed to the event.

The cocktail that capped off the event allowed participants to relax with friends and colleagues. Morty Lighter, a client of Miriam Home and Services, received a standing ovation for his speech about the ways in which the organization has changed and enhanced his life. Co-Chair David Black paid tribute to honoree Ben Schwam, stating: "Ben has been a driving force whose appreciation and understanding of our clientele's needs permeated our thinking. He has played an active role in our organization as it has made dynamic changes in the field of families living with intellectually handicapped persons."

The tournament closed with the awarding of ten fabulous prize packages including fine dining and jewellery to deluxe mountain bikes and a 50" Plasma flat screen TV, from a raffle draw featuring over \$30,000 in prizes.

Hold the date for the 42nd Annual H&S Golf Tournament, scheduled for Monday, August 8, 2005 at Hillsdale Golf & Country Club.

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Established in 1970, the Miriam Foundation raises much-needed funds for Miriam Home and Services. Often cited as a model agency, Miriam Home and Services offers innovative and effective initiatives that foster increased socialization and community integration for children, adults and seniors living with intellectual disabilities. Over 500 people receive vocational, rehabilitative and residential services from Miriam Home and Services.

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