



Hart House at Deer Lake Croquet Tournament Breaks Fundraising Records in Support of Special Olympics BC

For Immediate Release

October 2, 2008 (Vancouver, BC) – Hart House at Deer Lake is pleased to report that its annual Hart to Heart Croquet Tournament was again a smashing success. On Friday, September 12, 2008, over 150 guests and volunteers turned out for a day of fun, food, and socializing. The 2008 Tournament broke the event's previous fundraising record, raising in excess of \$70,000 to support the excellent work done by Special Olympics BC.

This year was the Hart to Heart Tournament's twenty-first anniversary. When the proceeds of this year's record breaking event are included, the total funds raised by the Tournament to date will exceed \$1,000,000. Longtime participants know that the event is an excellent opportunity to have a good time for a good cause, as it combines great food with varied entertainments and opportunities to mingle on the picturesque Hart House estate grounds.

The day began with a continental breakfast at Hart House, which is known for its outstanding brunches. Guests then began the croquet tournament on the elegant estate grounds. The weather was fantastic and the guest enjoyed live music from Gary Comeau and the Voodoo Allstars, Kenny "Blues Boss" Wayne, and Angela Kelman and the Polyester Philharmonic. Play was interrupted for a fantastic buffet lunch created by Executive Chef Dennis Peckham and his team.

The final match took place at 4 pm with the RBC team coming out as the day's croquet champions. After the winners had been declared, guests retired to the Hart House luxurious garden tent, where they enjoyed a magnificent dinner and participated in live and silent auctions. The day was pronounced highly enjoyable by all involved, and many participants are already looking forward to doing it again next year!

Since 1980 Special Olympics BC has helped over 3,500 athletes in 55 British Columbia communities participate in high-quality sports programs and competitions for individuals with intellectual disabilities.

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