



Scleroderma Society of Ontario

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Mississauga Dinner and Dance for Scleroderma – A Grand Success

The Scleroderma Society's Mississauga Support Group deems Gala a Huge Success

Ontario, April 7th, 2008 – The Scleroderma Society of Ontario's Mississauga Support group did it again with their second annual Gala. With over \$37,000 raised and 350 tickets sold last year, the group far surpassed that goal on April 5th with \$60,000 raised and 600 tickets sold.

It was an excellent evening from the wonderful meal to the final dance song. Upon entering, there were tables full of items to bid on for the Silent Auction including a variety of "Spirits", BBQs, Paintings, Handmade Blankets, Blue Jays Tickets, Hotel Stays, Golfing Equipment, Sports Items, Numerous Gift Certificates and much, much more. The Silent Auction was very successful raising over \$14,000.00.

The evening was kicked off with an informative and touching speech by the Scleroderma Society of Ontario's President, Maureen Sauvé. During dinner guests were treated to background music by the DJ, who later kicked things up with music from Glen Miller to Avril Lavigne. Guests also heard from several interesting guest speakers. David Sweet, M.P. Ancaster, Dundas, Flamborough, West Hamilton, who has been most supportive and helpful to the SSO gave a speech from the heart as his mother is currently suffering from Scleroderma. Shirley Haslam brought greetings from the Scleroderma Society of Canada and Laura Ross, who has written and produced a play about Scleroderma also spoke. The play titled "Thick Skinned" which will be performed this summer in Toronto at the 2008 Fringe Festival.

Jennifer Rai from the Mississauga Group paid tribute to Carroll Vapsva, the driving force behind the Gala, and SSO Board Member who passed away in March.

The end of the evening was capped off with a live auction for a 32" television which sold for \$2,000.00. According to the organizers, the event raised approximately \$60,000.00!

The Scleroderma Society of Ontario generously Thanks all the sponsors and guests for their support and kindness. Together, a difference can be made and a cure for Scleroderma can be found.

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