

For Immediate Release  
February 19, 2008

## OAKVILLE AWARDS FOR BUSINESS EXCELLENCE, NOMINEES RECEPTION

OAKVILLE, ON – The Oakville Chamber of Commerce in partnership with the Rotary Club of Oakville West will be hosting a reception for this year’s Oakville Awards for Business Excellence (OABE) Nominees. The Nominees Reception will be held at the Holiday Inn on Argus Road from **5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Thursday February 21<sup>st</sup>**.

“This is the 13<sup>th</sup> year we have partnered with the Rotary Club to present the Awards. The OABE’s are a great opportunity to recognise some outstanding Oakville businesses and the contribution they make to the quality of life we enjoy here in Oakville. ” stated Chamber President Gerry Popp. Greg Duffy, a Rotarian and Chair of the OABE Committee added “In addition to recognising excellence in the Oakville business community the Awards fund scholarships and bursaries for local students. To date we have raised over a quarter of a million dollars to support local students.”

Award winners will be announced at a gala dinner that will be attended by over 350 business and community leaders on April 3<sup>rd</sup>. Well over 100 nominations for this year’s Awards. Winners will be named in 6 categories; Entrepreneur of the Year, Restaurateur of the Year, Small Business of the Year, Large Business of the Year, Service Provider of the Year, Environmental Leadership Business of the Year,

Thursday’s Nominees Reception is generously sponsored by the Hynek Financial Group and the Holiday Inn Oakville Centre.

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## **BACKGROUND:**

**The Oakville Chamber of Commerce** is the voice of the Oakville business community. We provide member benefits which include advocacy, corporate benefits, networking opportunities, business development and educational forums. Our mission is to foster a healthy economic environment for Oakville.

A not-for-profit organization, the Oakville Chamber of Commerce was established in 1949. The Chamber has grown to over 1000 member businesses representing over 37,000 employees. The Chamber is one of the largest associations of any kind in the Town of Oakville.

The Chamber has hosted events with a number of high profile elected officials and business leaders. Including; Prime Minister Stephen Harper, Premier Dalton McGuinty, NDP Leader Jack Layton, Green Party Leader Elizabeth May, Opposition Leader John Tory, Minister Michael Chong, Minister Steve Peters, Minister David Caplan, Minister Marie Bountrogianni, Attorney General Chris Bentley, Kevin Flynn, MPP, and Ted Chudleigh, MPP, and Halton Regional Chairman Gary Carr.

**The Rotary Club of Oakville West** is a diverse group of individuals that pull together to make a difference to the community and the world. Established in 1947 the club has accomplished much, including participation in such projects as;

- Water for Humanity.
- Oakville Awards for Business Excellence.
- Camp Enterprise.
- Scholarships' and Bursaries for Oakville Students.
- Oakville Youth Development Centre.