



DRAGON BALL 2016

Saturday, February 6, 2016

Presented By:   全心為您

News Release

For Immediate Release

Yee Hong launches 27th Dragon Ball

TORONTO, ON, Dec. 4, 2015 – [Yee Hong Community Wellness Foundation](#) today (Friday) kicked off its 27th Dragon Ball at the Media Launch at the BMO Institute for Learning.

Dragon Ball is one of the most anticipated and high-profile Chinese New Year celebrations in Canada. The 27th Dragon Ball, presented by BMO Financial Group, will be held next year on Saturday, February 6, at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre, North Building.

This signature gala of Yee Hong is expected to be attended by over 1,000 guests, including political, business and community leaders. At the Launch this morning, Dr Joseph Wong, Yee Hong Founder and Foundation Chair, said, “Entering into its 27th year, I am still very excited about the Dragon Ball that brought our donors, volunteers and supporters all together every year to help Yee Hong raise the much needed funds so that we could continue to provide the best care to our seniors.”

The funds raised will support Yee Hong’s high quality, culturally-appropriate care for seniors of different ethnic backgrounds in the Greater Toronto Area. Yee Hong helps seniors lead dignified, independent and fulfilling lives through the four long-term care homes in Scarborough, Markham and Mississauga, senior housing and a range of community programs and services, fulfilling 200,000 service requests every year.

Ed Legzdins, Senior Vice President and Managing Director, International, at BMO said in his welcoming speech at the Media Launch, “BMO is committed to supporting Canada’s Chinese communities across the country and is thrilled to sponsor the 27th Dragon Ball, and continue its long-standing relationship with Dr. Wong and Yee Hong.”

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As a Chinese New Year celebration ushering in the Year of the Monkey, the gala will feature one of the most popular classical Chinese legends, "Journey to the West" (Monkey King), on stage. The performance showcases a spectacular collaboration of dance and martial arts with colourful choreography, costumes, and music composition, performed by the talented artists from the Chinese Collective Arts Association.

Stephen Siu, President of Yee Hong Community Wellness Foundation, described the gala highlights at the Launch Ceremony. "Dragon Ball is more than just a fundraising gala, our guests will be fully immersed in Chinese culture and New Year festivities."

Apart from the traditional Dragon and Lion Dance, the opening performance of Dragon Ball 2016 will feature a Chinese folk dance, entitled "Qing Hua Ci" (*Blue-and-White Porcelain*). In addition, a mini Chinese shadow puppet show will be held during the reception.

Dragon Ball will also offer their guests a wide variety of food and drink choices at the pre-dinner reception. Macallan Whiskey, which was well received at the last Dragon Ball, will be setting up a tasting bar at Dragon Ball 2016. The new food items will include the popular Japanese cheesecakes from Uncle Tetsu, seared scallops and Tartar beef from Carmen's Steakhouse, pastries from Bake Code, and specialty tea from Chatime and more. To tie in with the story that the Monkey King "Stealing the Peaches of Immortality", Crown Jewel will produce a huge peach with many small dim sum peaches inside.

Dr Wong expressed his sincere thanks to sponsors and supporters. "It is your unwavering support to the Dragon Ball that allows us to continue our mission to provide high quality and culturally appropriate care to our seniors."

Yee Hong offers a continuum of care meeting not only the health, social and cultural needs of Chinese seniors, but also those from the South Asian, Filipino, Korean and Japanese communities.

Wendy Zheng, a young and talented Canadian singer-songwriter based in Hong Kong, will also perform at the upcoming Dragon Ball. Wendy wrote "Water Of Love" for the Macau "House of Dancing Water" show for artist Sammi Cheng. She released her first solo album "W", a mix of

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original Cantonese songs and theme songs she had written for TV and film in 2012. In 2015, an album of all original English songs, "I Don't Give A . . .", was released for the international market.

The Dragon Ball raises approximately \$1 million for Yee Hong each year through corporate sponsorships, gala and raffle ticket sales, and auctions.

In addition to the presenting sponsor, BMO Financial Group, other major sponsors include Manulife, MediSystem Pharmacy Ltd., Tour East Holidays, and RBC, etc.

Dragon Ball benefactor tickets are priced at \$600 each; supporter tickets are priced at \$480. Please visit www.yeehongdragonball.org for further information.



From left: Vivien Yung, Regional VP Personal Banking at BMO; Ed Legzdins, Senior Vice President and Managing Director, International, at BMO; Susan Bundy, Director of Corporate Sponsorships, Strategic Partnerships and Planning, at BMO Financial Group; Dr Joseph Wong, Yee Hong Founder and Foundation Chair; Eric Hong, CEO of Yee Hong Centre for Geriatric Care; Stephen Siu, President of Yee Hong Community Wellness Foundation and Peter Chung, CFO of Yee Hong Centre for Geriatric Care.

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Ed Legzdins, Senior Vice President and Managing Director, International, at BMO (Centre); Vivien Yung, Regional VP Personal Banking at BMO (8th from left); Dr Joseph Wong, Yee Hong Founder and Foundation Chair (front row left); Stephen Siu, President of Yee Hong Community Wellness Foundation (front row right); Eric Hong, CEO of Yee Hong Centre for Geriatric Care (10th from left) and some of the Dragon Ball 2016 sponsors.

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