

Diwali lights way for seniors

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Diwali. Trillium Health Centre held its 8th Annual Diwali Gala Fundraiser in support of Seniors Health and Wellness at the Pearson Convention Centre last night. From left are Kim Warburton, Board Chair, Trillium Health Centre Foundation; Steve Hoscheit, President & CEO, Trillium Health Centre Foundation; Dr. Gopal Bhatnagar, Chief of Staff, Trillium Health Centre and Anil Shah, President, Ni-Met Metals & Minerals Inc., Co-Chairs of the event; Anne Sado, Board Chair, Trillium Health Centre. Staff photo by Rob Beintema

More than 850 people gathered to celebrate Diwali and shine a light on seniors' health and wellness at Trillium Health Centre.

Fireworks, and entertainment including RDB featuring Nindy Kaur rounded out an exotic evening of South Asian flair last night at Pearson Convention Centre in Brampton. The Diwali 'Festival of Lights' fundraiser for Trillium helps the hospital achieve its vision of a seniors' friendly organization.

Musicians Rhythm Dhol Bass (RDB) from the United Kingdom, featuring Nindy Kaur performed at the 8th annual event, along with eight Bollywood dancers.

Anne Sado, chair of Trillium's Board of Directors said fundraisers like the Diwali festival are important to meet a demand from an ever-increasing senior population.

"We want to be ready to meet this increasing level of need so we're very excited that the Diwali fundraiser will play a key role in supporting our plans to enhance and expand our capacity." The number of seniors here is expected to double by 2026, Sado said.

In previous years, Diwali, the largest celebration of its kind in Canada, supported the development of a state-of-the-art OM Fracture Clinic, raising over \$2.3 million in the first seven years.

Diwali celebration raises funds

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Trillium Health Centre Foundation's annual Diwali Fundraiser will take place Oct. 2.

The event, to be held at Pearson Convention Centre in Brampton, will raise money to support programs for the health and wellness of seniors in the community.

Some \$2.3 million raised at past Diwali fundraisers helped fund expansion of the OM Fracture Clinic at THC, so named to recognize the support of the South Asian community.

The Diwali Fundraiser was started in 2002 by Dr. Vir Sennik in partnership with the THC Foundation. In its first year, there were 600 dinner guests, who contributed \$77,000.

To become a sponsor or for tickets, call 905-848-7575, ext. 2930 or e-mail drach@thc.on.ca. For more information, visit www.trilliumhealthcentrefoundation.org.