

## Trillium celebrates Diwali

Radhika Panjwani  
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**Celebrating in style.** Trillium Health Centre Foundation Diwali 2009 Co-chair Anil Shah escorts Mississauga Mayor Hazel McCallion, resplendent in a fuchsia and peacock blue saree, to the stage at Pearson Convention Center recently at a Festival of Lights fundraising gala. The event raised \$500,000. *Supplied*

This year, the Trillium Health Centre's annual Diwali gala raised more than \$500,000. The event, held at the Pearson Convention Centre recently, saw some 850 people celebrating the South Asian festival with music, food and dancing.

Proceeds will go towards programs and services to support seniors.

Local dignitaries who participated in the 8th Annual Diwali Fundraiser included local, provincial and federal politicians and business leaders. Mayor Hazel McCallion came dressed in a colourful saree.

"To the child with cancer, the middle-aged man in cardiac arrest, or the senior felled by a broken hip, it doesn't matter whether the TSX has gone up or down," said gala co-chair Dr. Gopal Bhatnagar. "What matters is getting the quality health care they need and deserve."

Organizers said one anonymous donor donated \$20,000 on the spot.

The Rhythm Dhol Bass entertained guests with a riveting performance blending Punjabi and Bollywood sounds with American hip-hop.

To make a donation, contact 905-848-7575, ext. 2930 or email [drach@thc.on.ca](mailto:drach@thc.on.ca).