



North York
Women's Shelter

Mother's Day Gala Celebrates Extraordinary Women

TORONTO, ONTARIO (April 29, 2010) – North York Women's Shelter (NYWS) will host its fifth annual Mother's Day fundraising event, Hope Gala, on Thursday May 6, 2010 from 6pm- 9pm at the Estates of Sunnybrook in Toronto. The Gala is a celebration of the extraordinary women and children that are survivors of domestic abuse.

NYWS will be presenting the annual Hope Award to the Honourable Margaret Norrie McCain, former Lieutenant Governor of New Brunswick. The award recognizes individuals who have demonstrated an outstanding commitment and record of contribution to improving the lives of women and children. For more than four decades, Margaret McCain has offered the depth of her vision, the gift of her time, the power of her persuasiveness and the benefit of her financial resources to improve the lives of women and their families.

"I am a proud supporter of North York Women's Shelter. It is a place where, with the help of competent and caring professionals, women from all walks of life are able to realize their hopes and dreams," said Margaret McCain.

The Hon. Margaret McCain will present an award to Olga Vasina, a former resident of NYWS. Commenting on her experience at NYWS, Vasina said, "North York Women's Shelter taught me how to set new goals in my life and gave me the tools to reach them."

"Mrs. McCain has dedicated her career to promote women's rights and social equality. Countless women and girls have benefitted from her efforts. It is only fitting that Mrs. McCain present an award to Olga to celebrate her courage," said Charlene Catchpole, Executive Director of North York Women's Shelter.

All proceeds from Hope Gala will go towards continuing the crucial work that NYWS does to end violence and abuse against women and children.

North York Women's Shelter is an emergency shelter for abused women and children. For 26 years the shelter has been a place of safety, support and hope and for survivors of abuse.