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NEWS RELEASE

"Auspicious Beginnings " and "Rising Luck" at the 2007 Dragon Ball Preview --Food and Wordplay offers a taste of what's to come at the Chinese New Year Ball

(TORONTO)--The 2007 Dragon Ball Preview hosted at Metropolitan Hotel Toronto today kicked off the countdown to the Year of the Pig next month. Also known as the Spring Festival, Chinese New Year is a time of feasting, friendship and honouring seniors. Many of Toronto's finest chefs, entertainers and corporations gathered today to provide a taste of what is to come at the 18th Annual Dragon Ball to be held next month at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre.

An array of delectable dishes was presented by: Chef Pan of Blowfish Restaurant & Sake Bar; Dufflet Rosenberg of Dufflet Pastries; Chef Billy Yip of Grand Island Seafood and Steakhouse; Chefs Anthony Lee, Raymond Lam and Ken Cheung of Thee Asian Kitchen. (Please see full list of catering sponsors enclosed.)

The 2007 Dragon Ball Preview was hosted by Lai Wah Heen, the acclaimed Chinese restaurant at the Metropolitan Hotel Toronto.

Chinese love fun and wordplay almost as much as food and family and have brought it altogether for the Chinese New Year when they name, and eat, auspicious dishes to bring blessings in the New Year. Because certain words for food sound similar to Chinese well-wishes -- fish, for example, is "Yu", a homonym of the word abundance -- there is a belief that having one will lead to the other. At Dragon Ball 2007, in the spirit of Chinese tradition, all the dishes are thus named and have very special meaning. For example, on the traditional Chinese New Year menu there may be: "Hao She," dried oyster, sounds like "to bring good fortune". "Mian" are long noodles and bring longevity. Lettuce, "Sang Chia" in Chinese sounds like "to bring about wealth and riches". "Nian Gao," or Chinese New Year's cake, sounds like the Chinese word for tall or high, and brings promotion and progress. "Tang Yuan" is a sweet desert dumpling and means reunion and togetherness. "Fa Chia," dried seaweed, sounds like and brings "wealth and prosperity".

Entertainment is always another huge part of Dragon Ball and today at the preview, feature performer Michael Burgess said he was very pleased to be back to support a worthy cause. In the entertainment line-up for 2007, in addition to traditional performances by the Chinese Dance Workshop that recently celebrated their 30th anniversary, are the Lester McLean Trio featuring guitarist Michael Occhipinti and Grooveyard Dance Band.

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The Live Auction is sure to stir a lot of excitement at the gala with six amazing items which include: a retail condo unit valued at \$250,000 donated by The Landmark (Canada) Inc. The Landmark, located on Steeles Ave East near Markham, will be Toronto's newest and largest commercial retail condominium in the GTA; a luxurious vacation in Rio De Janeiro, Brazil valued at \$16,000 (courtesy of Tour East Holidays); Royal Caribbean 7 Night Classic Mediterranean Cruise valued at \$10,000 (courtesy of Cruise Holidays of Bayview Hill, Unionville and Richmond); Two-night weekend stay in the SoHo Penthouse at the Soho Metropolitan Hotel, plus breakfast for two at Senses Bakery and dinner for two at Lai Toh Heen valued at \$10,250 (courtesy of Metropolitan Hotels); a Two-night weekend stay in the Tai Pan suite at the Metropolitan Hotel Vancouver, plus dinner for two at Diva at the Met valued at \$6,200 (courtesy of Metropolitan Hotels); and A Night Out with Hazel (Mayor McCallion), value is Priceless.

In this spirit of generosity and goodwill, Rogers Wireless Vice President Susan Gordon also announced today the donation of 200 Blackberry Pearls to raise funds at Dragon Ball for much needed seniors services and care.

"It is because of our generous and loyal partners in the food, entertainment and corporate world, such as those you have met today, that Dragon Ball has become the biggest Chinese New Year charity gala in North America raising more than \$1 million in one night," said Dr. Joseph Wong, Chair and Founder, Yee Hong Community Wellness Foundation.

"It is very important to honour our parents and grandparents. Holidays such as the Lunar New Year remind us of this," said Pauline Tong, President, Yee Hong Community Wellness Foundation. "Dragon Ball brings friends and family together for a wonderful feast, great entertainment and to remember those who have gone before us and now need our support."

Among today's announcements were: the Golden Achievement Award recipient, Mr. Purdy Crawford, a long time Yee Hong supporter; and, HSBC Bank Canada, the Corporate Community Champion for their contribution to local communities, especially Yee Hong.

The Lunar New Year is the biggest festival for ethnic Chinese around the world. Last year, two billion people migrated during the 15-day holiday to reunite with family and friends. Toronto's Dragon Ball, now in its 18th year, will be held on February 17, 2007 at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre. The 2007 Dragon Ball, a charity gala, will be among the biggest and most lavish North American celebrations to kick-off the Year of the Pig. For more information about the Yee Hong Centre for Geriatric Care or the Yee Hong Community Wellness Foundation, please see www.yeehong.com.

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