



Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest Honours its Own at President's Invitational Luncheon

(Kitchener-Waterloo, Canada – October 17, 2013) – A full house of prominent members of the Kitchener-Waterloo business and political community attended the Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest President's Invitational Luncheon at the K-W Hotel and Conference Centre this afternoon. The annual event, hosted by President Harry Vogt and the various past presidents of the festival, welcomed Alex Mustakas, CEO and Artistic Director of the hugely successful Drayton Entertainment theatre company, as the guest speaker.

As well, two outstanding volunteers were presented with the prestigious Volunteer of the Year Award; as they have demonstrated a long-standing commitment to the Festival.

Brenda Fisher

For more than 30 years, Brenda Fisher has been an active volunteer with Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest. Although she has held many important roles in the organization, including serving on the Board of Directors, Brenda has never been one to seek recognition for herself. Always willing to lend a hand, even for menial or messy tasks, Brenda has consistently gone above and beyond her committee duties. Her willingness to do whatever is necessary to get the job done and her encouragement of others to do the same has made Brenda an invaluable member of the Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest team.

Chris Seehawer

A signature part of many Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest events is the larger-than-life inflatable version of Onkel Hans. Rain or shine, Chris Seehawer is the volunteer responsible for setting up this inflatable, often early in the morning, and then taking it down long after guests have departed. In the 20 plus years Chris has been a volunteer, he has worked behind the scenes to support all aspects of the Festival. Fellow volunteers have learned that if Chris commits to a task, it will be completed. Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest thanks Chris for his unwavering dedication and countless hours of service to the Festival.

About Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest

Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest is a not-for-profit Bavarian festival founded in 1969 by a group of volunteers committed to contributing to the social and economic vitality of Kitchener-Waterloo, Canada twin cities with German heritage. Canada's Greatest Bavarian Festival celebrates German heritage, food, music and festivities and is supported by more than 50 not-for-profit organizations. The festival is operated by eight year-round full-time staff, over 480 volunteers and 1,300 community and service club volunteers that stage the nine-day festival each October promoting a unique German cultural experience. As well as the



economic boost the festival gives the local economy during the international festival, over \$1.5 million is raised each year by the not-for-profit organizations associated with Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest, one of the top three most recognized event brands in Canada.

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