Press Release

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Mon Sheong Foundation Cathay Ball 2025

A Thousand and One Nights – Dreams Come True, Celebrating a New Milestone

Mon Sheong Foundation's annual fundraising event, the Cathay Ball will be held on Saturday, November 1 at Hilton Toronto/Markham Suites Conference Centre & Spa, with over 600 guests expected to attend. This year's theme, "A Thousand and One Nights," celebrates a significant milestone as Mon Sheong now offers a total number of 1,001 long-term care beds, making it the largest non-profit operator of long-term care beds in Ontario. Proceeds from the gala will support the "Because We Care" capital campaign, which is dedicated to funding the construction of multiple new long-term care centres to benefit even more seniors in need.

"Last year, Mon Sheong celebrated its 60th anniversary. This year, we mark another major milestone. With the opening of Mon Sheong Dr. Paul Woo Long-Term Care Centre in Stouffville on October 14, we now operate five long-term care homes with a total of 1,001 beds, making us the largest non-profit provider of long-term care beds in Ontario.

Each bed represents a series of resident stories — stories of life experiences and personal journeys. Caring for them in their golden years is a true honour. These meaningful stories reflect our ongoing commitment and compassion. What began as a dream by our founder, Reverend Ronald Con, in the 1960s to care for the elderly has, over 60 years, grown into a lasting legacy — a dream that continues to come true," said Mr. Tim Kwan, Chairman of Mon Sheong Foundation.

"In line with this year's theme, the committee has carefully planned an enchanting and unforgettable evening for our guests," said Cathay Ball 2025 Co-chair David Cheng. "From elaborate venue décor that brings a magical and dreamlike atmosphere to life, to an exciting lineup of live performances, every detail has been thoughtfully arranged. Highlights include a breathtaking fire show by NorthFIRE Circus, an dynamic belly dance performance by Hips Don't Lie, and a live musical performance by the renowned Toronto band, Michael Vieira Band. We're confident that guests will be dazzled and fully immersed in a night of rhythm, energy, and wonder."





Co-Chair Mr. Jeffrey Mah added: "We are truly grateful for the generous support of our sponsors for this gala. In particular, we would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to our Presenting Sponsor TD Bank Group, Diamond Sponsor MediSystem Pharmacy, Platinum Sponsors Concord Adex and Scotiabank, along with many other valued sponsors whom we gratefully acknowledge.

This year, we continue with the popular, limited-edition special draw, with only 200 tickets available at \$100 each. One lucky winner will take home two Air Canada round-trip economy class tickets to any destination systemwide — a highlight that adds even more excitement to the evening. There will also be multiple photo spots throughout the venue for guests to capture memorable moments."

Presenting Sponsor TD Bank Group expressed their delight in supporting Mon Sheong. "Mon Sheong Foundation helps seniors build meaningful connections, feel a sense of belonging, and engage with their local communities," said Rachael Wong, Associate Vice President, TD Bank Group. "Through the TD Ready Commitment, TD Bank Group is proud to continue to support their work and the positive impact it has on people's lives."

The Silent Auction is a much-anticipated highlight each year, and we extend our sincere thanks to our sponsors and donors for their generous support. This year's auction features a diverse selection of over 200 curated items, including:

- Two business class round-trip tickets to any Air Canada global destination
- Cruise packages
- A 14K gold diamond bracelet
- Fine jewelry and accessories
- Premium ginseng, dried seafood, and delicacies
- Gourmet dining vouchers
- Fashion and lifestyle gifts
- Premium wines, and more

There are currently over 48,000* people in Ontario waiting for a long-term care bed. Among them, the combined waiting list for Mon Sheong's five long-term care homes has exceeded 10,000, accounting for one-fifth of the provincial total. This clearly demonstrates the public's strong trust and recognition of Mon Sheong's long-term care services. This pressing situation has motivated Mon Sheong to continue pushing forward to actively plan



and build more long-term care centres. One such project — a new Markham long-term care centre with 320 beds — is expected to be completed in spring 2026. Another new centre in Richmond Hill, offering 288 beds, is also ready to proceed pending government approval. Mon Sheong urgently needs the support of the community to help drive forward its "Because We Care" capital campaign, so that more people in need can benefit as soon as possible.

Tickets for Cathay Ball are \$700 per person, with a corporate table rate of \$8,000 for ten guests. For any inquiries on ticketing and other event details, please contact Mon Sheong Foundation at 905-883-9288 ext. 2022 or 1-866-708-0002 (toll-free number), or refer to the Cathay Ball official website www.cathayball.com. To learn more about the Foundation, please visit www.monsheong.org.

*Source: Ontario Long Term Care Association (OLTCA) <u>www.oltca.com/about-long-term-care/the-data/</u>

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