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## **PARTY WITH A PURPOSE, ANNUAL MAYORS' GALA ANOTHER GREAT SUCCESS**

**January 31, 2017**– Stratford, ON – The [Stratford Perth Community Foundation](#) celebrated its 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Mayors' Gala this past Saturday with over 300 stylish guests at the [Stratford Country Club](#).

Hosted by Stratford's Mayor Dan Mathieson and supported by the Mayors of St. Marys and Perth County, this memorable evening draws together business leaders, philanthropists, community volunteers and guests from Stratford, St. Marys and Perth County in a celebration of community. "This event truly epitomizes who we are – a group of people who come together because we care deeply about the places we live, work and play," said Mayor Mathieson.

The dollars raised at the Gala help to further the Community Foundation's leadership and outreach activities – including support to charitable organizations made possible by responsible stewardship of endowed funds. Through the sale of tickets, a fantastic silent auction and with the help of corporate partners like Presenting Partner [BMO Financial](#), this year the Mayors' Gala yielded over \$115,000 for the Community Foundation. "Once again, we are completely thrilled by the support and grateful to all who attended," added Tracy Van Kalsbeek, Executive Director of the Community Foundation. "In just eight years of hosting the Gala we've raised \$615,000 – all thanks to the generosity of caring businesses and individuals in our communities."

During the event Board Chair John Wilkinson spoke about the Community Foundation's goal of growing endowment assets to \$12 Million by 2020, "This goal will help ensure that the operating costs of the Foundation are covered – after that we'll be able to make an even greater impact with our grant making every year."

Photos of the elegant evening can be found on the [Community Foundation's Facebook page](#).

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### **About the [Stratford Perth Community Foundation](#)**

The Stratford Perth Community Foundation (SPCF) is an organization for everyone; and unique because donations, large or small, are never spent but are combined and invested. The earned income is used to make grants to local charities year after year to build a vibrant not-for-profit sector in Stratford, St. Marys and Perth County. To make all this work, we share our unique understanding of community needs and help mobilize and guide donors to specific community initiatives. For more information about SPCF please visit [www.spccf.ca](http://www.spccf.ca)

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/StratfordPerthCommFdn>

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