

## *Media Release*

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### *Niagara Community Foundation announces 2007 grants program*

Registered charities from across Niagara have until July 27<sup>th</sup> to apply to the Niagara Community Foundation's annual Community Grants program. This year the foundation has **\$80,000 available to distribute**.

The foundation uses earnings on its various permanent endowment funds to support its granting program. The **Casino Niagara Cares Fund** will be providing more than 50% of the funds available to grant this year. "Since 2004, as the Casino endowment fund grew, so to did its impact," said Liz Palmieri, Executive Director of the foundation. "We've seen the **annual allocation from their fund grow from \$10,000 to \$41,000 this year, totaling to more than \$100,000**. These dollars were then directed to groups across Niagara during the past four years through our community grants program."

Charities interested in submitting a grant must call the foundation offices, at (905) 684-8688, prior to completing the application. This provides an opportunity for the foundation to work with the applicant in order to determine if the project meets the granting criteria. A complete copy of the application is available to download in the Grants section of the foundation's website at [www.niagaracommunityfoundation.org](http://www.niagaracommunityfoundation.org)

The Niagara Community Foundation supports projects in many sectors including the environment, arts, heritage, education, social services, recreation, health and education.

Established in 2000, the Niagara Community Foundation is a collection of endowed funds and resources given by caring citizens who have chosen to make their community a better place to live and work. Over **\$5,000,000 has been raised in permanently endowed funds**. The foundation has **granted \$1,600,000 since 2001**, either through its various grant programs or as donors specify when each endowment fund is created.

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**For release:**

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