

CRIC, Tottenham's 'spring fling'

33 years ago a small village witnessed the completion of the Tottenham and District Community Centre, not just a recreation centre, but an example of what happens when a village commits to improving their community. A committee was appointed by the Village of Tottenham with the mandate of raising enough funds to build a community centre without raising taxes. The committee successfully raised funds through Wintario grants and local

municipality donations; but perhaps the most impressive fundraising effort was the voluntary contribution of \$100 from almost every family in the community.

Driven by the inspiration of the village people's dedication to their community, a group of nine young men undertook to keep that community spirit alive. In 1977 the Community Recreation Improvement Committee (CRIC) was born and founding members Ron Coulson, Brian Duggan, Jay Feehely,

Paul Feehely, Jim Golden, Ian Mollett, Tom Perry, John Stiver and Kerry Worrod pulled off the first ever CRIC Car Draw & Dance in April, 1979. It was instantly the "Spring Fling", "Gotta Be There" event of the community. Since then, the CRIC event has been held every year with immeasurable success — in all, CRIC has contributed almost half a million

dollars to local recreational and cultural projects including the tennis courts and lights at Keogh Park, the soccer fields and lights at the community centre, Coventry Park ball diamonds, the Skateboard Park, the new Royal Canadian Legion building, Tottenham Library, and almost \$200,000 in donations to local sports teams, schools and commu-

nity groups including the Girl Guides and Boy Scouts.

The Tottenham & District Car Draw and Dance was the first of its kind in this area and this year promises to be one of the best events in CRIC history. "Local businesses have set the tone with the highest number of local merchant sponsorship ever," said CRIC member Mary Nordstrom.

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CRIC; a history

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"It shows that community spirit is still very much alive...I have my ticket - do you?" Nordstrom continues.

The event will be held in the newly renovated Tottenham Community Centre on May 1st from 7pm to 1am. The evening promises to be a rocking good time with live music, DJ, food, and a nail-biting elimination draw offering over \$35,000 in prizes, including a 2010 Honda Civic DX-G. And no one walks away empty-handed, all the proceeds from the event is injected back into the community!

Tickets are \$60 and admit 4 people. They are available now at Foodland, Pharmasave, McGoey Brothers Insurance, Feehely Gastaldi Switzer, Tottenham Home Hardware, Tottenham Cleaners, Abrams Funeral Home, Mary Catherine's Hair Salon, Affordable Optical, Smith & Associates, Tottenham Feed, Queen Street Dental, Balance Yoga, Prudential Roman Realty, Tottenham Garage, Camp & Sew, Susands & Associates, CDz Hair Design, Season's Floral Studio, Doggone Wonderful Pet Spa & Photo Studio, The Whistle Stop, Tottenham Legion, Man of

Yorke and Village Pizza. Get your tickets in time for the Early Bird Draw on April 3, 2010 for your chance to win a \$500 cash prize donated by McGoey Insurance and Feehely Gastaldi Switzer. Checkout www.tottenham-cric.ca