

For immediate release

Vancouver resident first Canadian in several years to receive prestigious international volunteerism award

Hard-working volunteer brings good fortune to Chinese New Year fundraiser

Vancouver, Feb. 13, 2013 – The unwavering dedication of a Tapestry Foundation for Health Care volunteer has caught the attention of an international organization, the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP), which will be presenting her with a prestigious award this spring. Anita Law will be the first Canadian in several years to receive the AFP's 2013 Outstanding Volunteer Fundraiser award at its 50th International Conference in San Diego in April.

Over the past decade, Law has donated her time, energy and leadership skills as volunteer, focusing on health care-related organizations and, for the past four years, serving as chair and co-chair of Tapestry Foundation's 2013 Scotiabank Feast of Fortune dinner which raises funds to purchase vital medical equipment for Mount Saint Joseph Hospital (MSJ). She devotes up to 120 hours a month leading preparations for the fundraiser, acquiring donations, sponsorships, advertising support and auction items, as well as selling tickets, chairing meetings and working with Tapestry Foundation staff and supporters. Since her involvement, the dinner and fundraising committee have generated more than \$1 million.

"Tapestry Foundation for Health Care has the good fortune to have the support of an extraordinary volunteer like Anita Law. Year after year, the annual Feast of Fortune fundraiser is an enormous success due in large part to her efforts. It's no surprise that this year's dinner is already sold out and Tapestry Foundation is well on its way to raising the funds to purchase a state of the art, 3D ultrasound breast scanner for the Rapid Access Breast Clinic (RABC) at MSJ," said Ann Adams, Tapestry Foundation CEO.

Law's charitable spirit goes back to her childhood and her mother's positive influence. She remembers that her mother would set aside a portion of the food they had on the dinner table and put it on the altar for their ancestors and, somehow, the food would always disappear and a fresh lot of food would be placed in the same spot the next day. She later learned that the food was actually given to a mother and her two young children who would come to the back door of her home.

"My mother taught me about sharing and caring for those in need and her gifts have enriched my life. She passed away last year after celebrating her 100th birthday and I will be thinking of, and honouring her when I accept the AFP award this spring," said Law.

Law has been instrumental in the fundraising work of other health care organizations such as St. Paul's Hospital Foundation's (SPHF) Gift of Hope Fundraising Dinner for which she helped to raise \$2 million over four years. She supported the growth of participation in the event from 280 in 2005 to 800 in her final year of leadership in 2008. She personally initiated a fundraising campaign with T&T Supermarket chain by inviting customers to donate while T&T provided matching funds. She also organized a Mah-Jong competition, a Mother's Day Diamond Draw event, and a Dim Sum Luncheon with Vancouver Police Chief Jim Chu.

Law has and continues to support a wide variety of other charities as well. She donates seafood on a monthly basis through her business, Blundell Seafoods, to S.U.C.C.E.S.S. Senior Homes, and has given almost \$50,000 to the BC Children's Hospital Foundation, in addition to many years of service on its For Children We Care Fundraising Dinner Committee. She championed St. George's School, supporting different fundraising efforts and generating more than \$100,000, including a \$10,000 scholarship fund she set up to benefit top students.

2013 Scotiabank Feast of Fortune tickets have sold out but there is still an opportunity to support this cause by making a donation online. For more information about the fundraising campaign for a 3D ultrasound breast scanner, please visit www.tapestryfoundation.ca or call 604.877.8336.

Association of Fundraising Professionals

Since 1960, the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) has inspired global change—helping nonprofits and charities and supporting fundraising efforts that have generated more than \$1 trillion. AFP advances effective and ethical philanthropy by providing advocacy, research, education, mentoring, collaboration and technology opportunities for the world's largest network of professional fundraisers. AFP's nearly 30,000 members raise more than \$100 billion annually, equivalent to more than one-third of charitable giving in North America, with millions more generated around the world. For more information, go to www.afpnet.org.

Tapestry Foundation for Health Care

Tapestry Foundation for Health Care raises funds for eight hospitals and residences in Metro Vancouver operated by Providence Health Care. Sites supported include Mount Saint Joseph Hospital, Holy Family Hospital, Marion Hospice, St. Michael's Centre, St. Vincent's: Brock Fahrni, Honoria Conway-Heather, Langara, and Youville Residence. Donations support purchases of medical equipment, funding to support quality of life programs for the elderly, education programs, and geriatric research projects.

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