

December 8, 2006

**RED BARN THEATRE RECEIVES DRAMATIC \$98,000 BOOST**  
**MPP Julia Munro Congratulates Group on their OTF Grant**

**Jackson's Point** – Canada's longest-running professional summer theatre has been busy this fall as a result of receiving a two-year \$98,000 grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation in June. On Friday, MPP Julia Munro and Loreta Pavese, the Chair of the Foundation's Simcoe-York Grant Review Team met with members of the Lake Simcoe Arts Foundation (L.S.A.F.), governing board for the Red Barn Theatre, to hear more about their plans for developing their organizational capacity.

"I'm pleased that the Ontario Trillium Foundation has again invested money in our local arts," said Ms. Munro. "The Red Barn is Canada's oldest summer theatre and provides an excellent cultural and learning experience for local residents as well as visitors to the area."

The grant will be used to build the capacity and sustainability of the theatre. This funding has enabled L.S.A.F to hire a Corporate Events Planner to interest businesses region-wide to bringing groups to the Red Barn Theatre. The grant will also help install new online ticketing software which will make the purchasing of tickets easier for those living outside the area. L.S.A.F's pro-active steps will help them achieve their goal of increasing their audience base and enabling future marketing to be self-supporting.

The Red Barn has been offering professional, live entertainment since 1949, attracting many visitors to Georgina, which is an aid to the local economy. The popular local theatre stages four shows each summer as well as some specialty shows with featuring celebrities, like Don Harron. For more information on Red Barn's 2007 season or just to become involved, visit the website at: [www.redbarntheatre.ca](http://www.redbarntheatre.ca)

"I have already bought my tickets for this coming summer season," Ms. Munro added. "I encourage everyone to support the Red Barn."

The Ontario Trillium Foundation, an agency of the Ministry of Culture, receives \$100 million annually from Ontario's charity casino initiative. It allocates grants to eligible charitable and not-for-profit organizations in the arts and culture, sports and recreation, environment and human and social service sectors.

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