



NEWS RELEASE

Windermere House to Mark Re-launch with Extensive Celebrations on Victoria Day Weekend

Hon. Tony Clement to Participate in Celebration

Windermere, Ontario May 15, 2008 – Extensive celebrations are planned for the Victoria Day holiday weekend to mark the launch of the new Windermere House.

The historic Muskoka landmark has undergone a multi-million-dollar top-to-bottom renovation in time for the 2008 season. The renovations combine the resort's tradition and charm with state-of-the-art accommodations and facilities. Everything – food and beverage facilities, guest rooms, meeting rooms and public areas – has been improved and upgraded to entice the most discriminating guests.

“We’re having a three-day celebration to launch the new Windermere House and everyone’s invited,” said new owner Paul Jeffery. We are particularly delighted that **Hon. Tony Clement, M.P. for Parry Sound - Muskoka**, will be participating in this celebration on **Saturday May 17**, over the noon hour.

Minister Clement, who serves as Minister of Health and Minister for the Federal Economic Development Initiative for Northern Ontario, said:

“I am very happy to congratulate the new Windermere House on its extensive renovation. I, along with everyone in our riding, look forward to many more seasons of preserving this precious heritage while looking towards the future. I welcome all those who come to visit the new Windermere House on beautiful Lake Rousseau; you are in for a glorious stay”.

Fun family events planned for the Victoria Day weekend include:

- **Official Ribbon Cutting (and photo opportunity for the media)**
Township of Muskoka Lakes Mayor Susan Pryke will officially open the new Windermere House with a commemorative ribbon cutting at **5:00 p.m. on Saturday May 17**.
- **Book signing**
Mayor Pryke will also be available before and after the ribbon cutting to autograph copies of her fascinating book *“Windermere House: The Tradition Continues”* on sale in the lobby.
- **Raffle for a weekend for two at Windermere House**
Raffle tickets will be on sale on Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Proceeds

will be donated to the Windermere Lions Club. Mayor Susan Pryke will draw the name of the winner at 5:15 p.m. on Saturday.

- **Hot air balloon rides**
See Windermere House and Lake Rosseau from the air in the RE/MAX tethered hot air balloon. What a blast! – Sunday 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- **Resort tours with a difference**
Go behind-the-scenes at Windermere House with "Thomas Aitken", founder of the resort in 1870, as your guide. Learn about this famous Windermere House ghost! Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Sunday 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- **The amazing Allan Lakas**
Thrill to roving magician Allan Lakas as he amazes guests with "Close-Up Magic" – sophisticated sleight of hand creating the illusion of "Impossibility." He may even make a MereBuck coupon appear out of thin air and give it to lucky guests for \$10 OFF at Windermere House. Saturday: 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- **Face painting**
The kids will love their free artistic makeover from talented artist Scott Sears. Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. & Sunday 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- **Great music**
The brand new PJ's Lobby Bar will features great jazz played by The Maze. Guests are also invited to join Muskoka favourite, Stealing Time, in the Windermere Pub 'n Patio.
- **Fabulous food**
Guests won't want to miss the brand new Rosseau Grill with its succulent steak and seafood menu... the entertaining Windermere Pub 'n Patio... PJ's Lobby Bar for canapés and soft jazz... and, coming May 23rd, the Wabora Sushi Café, a Lake Rosseau first!
- **Sunday brunch**
This Windermere House tradition expands with new entrees. Windermere's amazing Chef Shawn Robins will introduce a fabulous brunch menu to please every taste.

About the new Windermere House

Windermere House is a landmark Victorian-style resort located in the village of Windermere on the shores of Lake Rosseau in Muskoka. It has enjoyed a reputation for timeless elegance since it first started welcoming guests in 1870. It has been extensively renovated by new owner Paul Jeffery in time for the 2008 season. The web address for Windermere House is: www.windermerehouse.com.

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Windermere House

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