



NEWS RELEASE

Hope Air salutes its Dedicated Volunteers

Toronto April 21, 2010 – Hope Air, the national charity that helps Canadians get to medical treatment when they cannot afford the flight costs, is pleased to announce recipients of *The Spirit of Hope Awards*. These awards recognize the key role Volunteers play in fulfilling Hope Air’s mission.

At the charity’s Annual General Meeting held on April 12, 2010, Hope Air presented the 2009 recipients.

Sam Dhebri received the Distinguished Volunteer of the Year Award, reflecting his more than 1,766 hours of service over 6 years. Sam’s cheerful attitude is always welcome at the Hope Air office as he takes flight requests from Clients.

Mike Schwar received the Distinguished Volunteer Pilot Award reflecting 14 missions flown resulting in his donation of 76 hours of airtime and 8,867 nautical miles flown. Mike has been a Hope Air Volunteer Pilot since November 2007 and is passionate about combining his love of flying his Piper Arrow III with his community giving spirit.

“We are very grateful for the dedication and commitment displayed by Sam and Mike” said Peter Jennings, Chair of the Board. “They are among the 125+ volunteers who annually donate more than 4,855 hours of service to Hope Air. Their leadership is inspiring.”

It was with great pride that Hope Air launched *The Spirit of Hope Awards* in 2008 to recognize the many hours that volunteers give. Time is a precious gift and Hope Air is fortunate to have so many people willing to be available on a regular basis to help with the mission of ***Getting Canadians to getting better!***

About Hope Air

Hope Air provides a beacon of Hope for Canadians in financial need who must travel to non-emergency medical care outside their home communities. Many of the charity’s flights are for children and their escorts with transportation donated by national and regional airline partners and a team of volunteer private pilots who contribute their time and aircraft.

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