



The Cowan Foundation ‘Cues’ Up For Stratford Youth Stratford-Perth YMCA Youth Centre Receives Major Gift For Revitalization

Stratford, ON, November 20, 2014 - The Cowan Foundation and the Stratford-Perth Family YMCA, a charity and active part of this community since 1869, are joining forces to better serve Stratford and area youth. The Cowan Foundation has made a significant, \$37,500 gift to the YMCA to revitalize its Stratford Youth Centre. The cheque was presented by Ian Lee, Commercial Account Manager, Cowan Insurance Group (Stratford office), across the Centre's ever popular pool table to Mimi Price, CEO of the Y and Stratford YMCA Youth Centre Supervisor, Rebecca Price. They were joined for the presentation by Heather McLachlin, President, Cowan Insurance Group; His Worship Mayor Dan Mathieson, City of Stratford and Brian Geffros, Region Manager, Cowan Insurance Group.

"In Cowan, we have a caring corporation realizing that they have to give back to the communities where they do business," said Mimi Price. "Economic health is contingent on community health and by helping our youth, philanthropic enterprises like Cowan contribute to ensuring a healthy community. This gift to the Stratford Youth Centre signals to youth that, not only does their community care about them, but wants to give them that hand up in their development."

"The over one-hundred 12-18 year-olds who rely on our Youth Centre and our staff are really 'pumped' about the dramatic change The Cowan Foundation is enabling," said Rebecca Price. "We are all extremely grateful and excited about this positive transformation of our dark, worn, adapted restaurant, into a fresh and inviting new Youth Centre! The rejuvenation will include bright new paint, new flooring, new lighting and a new ceiling throughout, plus use-appropriate furnishings including tables and chairs suitable for doing homework and couches. As well, we hope to update our electronics, computers, television and storage equipment and purchase program supplies."

"As an employee of Cowan's Stratford office, and a member of the Rotaract Club of Stratford, I have the benefit of knowing the impact the Stratford Youth Centre has on our community", explains Ian Lee, Commercial Account Manager, Cowan Insurance Group (Stratford office). "So, I am extremely pleased that Cowan is supporting this revitalization project to ensure local youth have a fun, safe and inviting place to congregate."

Mayor Dan Mathieson, of the City of Stratford added, "Through the generosity of The Cowan Foundation, coupled with the leadership of the Stratford YMCA, young adults of the City of Stratford Youth Centre will enjoy a refurbished facility where they can comfortably learn, explore, talk, listen and be among friends."

[About The Cowan Foundation](#)

The Cowan Foundation was started in 1995 in honour of Frank Cowan, the founder of Cowan Insurance Group and Frank Cowan Company. The Foundation is sustained by the ongoing success of the Princeton Holdings group of companies including Cowan Insurance Group, Frank Cowan Company, The Guarantee Company of North America, Millennium Credit Risk Management and Cowan Asset Management. Together they provide insurance and risk management products and services for individuals, businesses, organizations and public entities as well as assist employers with their group benefits, retirement and health and disability management plans. The goal of The Cowan Foundation is to make a positive difference in the lives of Canadians and the broader well-being of our communities. www.cowanfoundation.ca

About the Stratford-Perth Family YMCA

The Stratford-Perth Family YMCA annually serves over 7000 individuals including one in four youth and young adults 16-29 years across the community. In 2013 it offered assistance to 1,600 people in Stratford-Perth representing a \$460,000 investment in individuals in its neighbourhood. The majority of this assistance goes to children, youth and young adults in the form of memberships including swimming lessons at its health and fitness sites in Stratford and St Marys; participation in summer day camps in Stratford, St. Marys, Mitchell and Shakespeare; meals, support & counselling through its youth centres in Stratford and Mitchell and support for families in times of challenge through an early learning centre in Stratford and school-age programs in Stratford and Shakespeare. www.stratfordperthymca.com



Photo Caption: From left to right: Ian Lee, Commercial Account Manager, Cowan Insurance Group (Stratford office); Brian Geffros, Region Manager, Cowan Insurance Group; Heather McLachlin, President, Cowan Insurance Group; His Worship Mayor Dan Mathieson, City of

Stratford; Mimi Price, CEO Stratford-Perth Family YMCA; Rebecca Price, Stratford YMCA Youth Centre Supervisor.

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