

Starlight Children's Foundation™ Canada Raises Over \$500,000 At 19th Annual Gala

Organization hosts record-breaking fundraising event at Toronto's Fairmont Royal York

TORONTO, ON (April 8, 2014) - On the evening of April 5, 2014, over 700 Starlight Children's Foundation Canada supporters gathered at Toronto's Fairmont Royal York to attend the organization's 19th Annual Gala, sponsored by Toys"R"Us and Babies"R"Us Canada. Hosted by comedian Carla Collins, over \$500,000 was raised for the foundation through generous donations from sponsors, supporters and attendees.

This year, the London, Calling! theme brought the event to new heights with decor inclusive of Buckingham Palace gates, a recreated Covent Garden Market, London-style pubs and a swinging sixties room. Throughout the evening, guests were able to mingle with tribute artists emulating the Queen, Palace Guards, Austin Powers and the Spice Girls.



The Queen (Photo: George Pimentel)



Gala Host Carla Collins introducing a Starlight family on stage. (Photo: George Pimentel)

Celebrity guests included MTV Canada's Aliya-Jasmine Sovani; Gala host, Carla Collins; Love It Or List It's Hilary Farr; members of the Canadian rock band The Trews, Jack Syperek, Sean Dalton and John-Angus MacDonald; Toronto Argonauts players John Chiles and Jonathan Hood; 2014 JUNO nominated musician Melanie Durrant; television personality Paul Venoit; ET Canada's Sangita Patel; supermodel Stacey McKenzie; actress Tara Spencer-Nairn, and many other notable Canadians.

"The Starlight Canada Gala continues to be one of our largest sources for fundraising throughout the year. We could not continue the important work we do for families across the nation without the generous support from all of our sponsors, supporters and attendees." said Starlight Canada executive director, Brian Bringolf.



A dining room full of Starlight supporters.
(Photo: George Pimentel)



WANNABE: The Spice Girls Tribute Band perform for the crowd.
(Photo: George Pimentel)

The money raised from the Gala will go towards funding Starlight's in and out-of-hospital programming, which includes fun kits (essentials for unexpected hospital stays), hospital grants (funds for hospitals across the country to use on what kids need most), Fun Centres (portable stations equipped with a dvd player, Nintendo Wii, games and movies) and Day Brighteners (tickets to sports games, concerts and more).

For more information, photos or interview requests, please contact:

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About Starlight Children's Foundation Canada:

Starlight Children's Foundation™ Canada is part of Starlight's global network, serving kids and families through partnerships with more than 130 healthcare facilities. Over the past 30 years, Starlight has become a leading global charity that partners with experts to improve the life and health of kids and families around the world. Collaborating with innovators in pediatric healthcare, entertainment and technology, Starlight provides a unique blend of family-centered programs and services from hospital to home. Starlight partners with more than 1,750 healthcare facilities and pediatric hospitals in Australia, Canada, Israel, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and the United States, serving millions of children every year.

Website: <http://starlightcanada.org>
Twitter: [@StarlightCanada](https://twitter.com/StarlightCanada) #StarlightMatters
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About Toys“R”Us, Canada:

Toys“R”Us (Canada) Ltd., is part of Toys“R”Us, Inc., the world's leading dedicated toy and juvenile products retailer. Toys“R”Us, Canada operates over 80 stores across the country. For store locations and convenient online shopping visit www.toysrus.ca or www.babiesrus.ca.