



The Road to the Games - Release 3 of 5

The Glengarry Highland Games Have Many Supporters

Putting on the Glengarry Highland Games each year not only requires hundreds of volunteers and committees and countless hours of work, but it also requires the support of the community around it. With tens of thousands of people attending each year, the Games provide many benefits to the local economy with the impact of so many visitors on restaurants, gas stations, shops and accommodations.

At a presentation at the Games site in Maxville, on Tuesday, July 8, 2008, the Glengarry Highland Games received two contributions in support of promotion and programming for their renowned Celtic festival.

Canadian Heritage awarded twenty thousand (\$20,000) to support the performances of local artists at the 2008 Games. Glengarry's entertainers are some of the finest in the Celtic world. They travel across North America entertaining and bringing their own special brand of Celtic music to thousands of people in places far away. This funding ensures that the fans here in Glengarry continue to enjoy the talent of these homegrown performers. Many of these groups received their first successes and encouragement playing at the Games. Pierre Lemieux, MP for Glengarry Prescott Russell presented the cheque on



At a presentation ceremony in Maxville on Tuesday, July 8th, Glengarry Highland Games President Dona Cruickshank and Director Betty McCormick accept funding grants from Pierre Lemieux, MP for Glengarry Prescott Russell (L) on behalf of Canadian Heritage, and James de Pater (R) Executive Director of the SD&G Community Futures Development Corporation. Terry Besner (second from right) of the SD&G CFDC was also in attendance to present a plaque to recognize the EODP participation to the Games. The Canadian Heritage Grant will assist in the support of local entertainers appearing at this year's Games, while the EODP contribution will be used to rebuild the Games billboard on the 417.

behalf of Canadian Heritage to Games President Dona Cruickshank.

Glengarry artists performing at this year's Games include Gerry O'Neil, Paddy Kelly, Neil Emberg and Hadrian's Wall, Fridge Full of Empties and the Brigadoons.

In addition, James de Pater, Executive Director, SD&G Community Futures Development Corporation presented the Games with \$16,020 that will be used to upgrade the landmark Highland Games billboard located along Highway 417. The Eastern Ontario Development Program (EODP) is a \$10-million Government of Canada initiative which promotes socio-economic development in rural Eastern Ontario, encourages a competitive and diversified regional economy, and contributes to the successful development of business and job opportunities and sustainable, self-reliant communities.



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People traveling up and down Highway 417 cannot help but notice the towering piper announcing the annual Games. To many, it's a familiar road mark that they wait to see on their journey. With severe weather and years of aging, the piper was in a sorry state and the general billboard needed upgrading – a cost that was challenging to the Games.

This funding from the SDG Community Futures Development Corporation ensures that once more the Games piper stands proudly beside the highway beckoning travelers to come to the Games. This icon of Glengarry will be in its full glory for this year's Glengarry Highland Games.

Maxville's Bank of Nova Scotia Surpasses Funding Goal

For the past several years, the Bank of Nova Scotia has set a program offering to match Patron's donations to the Glengarry Highland Games up to a total amount of \$5000. From June 30th to July 11th, anyone who became a Patron of the Games had that amount matched by the bank. Bank Manager, Cindy Sommers, is proud to announce that again the Bank's goal has been surpassed. Congratulations to the Bank of Nova Scotia for an excellent fundraising campaign this year and for being such a fine supporter of the Games. Many thanks to all of those who participated by donating to the Games Patrons' Program which

ensures the Games site and facilities are some of the finest in the area.

The Glengarry Highland Games is many things to many people, but one thing most would agree, it is truly a family and community event. Whether working as part of the Games, working to support the Games or by attending the Games, it is a something that all of Glengarry and Eastern Ontario can be proud to boast of as their own.