



**ACTION HOUSING'S 5th ANNUAL BENEFIT COCKTAIL
A 20th anniversary well celebrated**

For immediate distribution

Ottawa, 1 October 2009: Nearly 160 people attended Action Housing's **5th Annual Benefit Cocktail** including many politicians, business people and community members. The Honourary President, Janet Yale, Executive Vice-President and National Chair of TELUS' Community Boards, set the tone for the evening by expressing the benefits of Action Housing's work in the community and highlighting the 20th anniversary of Action Housing.

The words of Janet Yale clearly reflect the goals of the organization: *For 20 years, Action Housing has been helping people find a place to live – find it and keep it. Their workers and volunteers have made a practical, lasting and demonstrable difference to the problem of homelessness in our community.* As part of the 20th anniversary recognition of Action Housing, Rosine Kaley, Executive Director, took the opportunity to highlight the work of Anne Smith, who has been working at Action Housing since its beginning. Anne Smith has been responsible for assisting more than 2000 households.



Rosine Kaley, Executive Director of Action Housing, Janet Yale, Honourary President, Julie Van Dusen, CBC News, MC and Denis Losier, President of Action Housing

Lorraine Turton, a person who received the services of Action Housing, gave a very moving testimony which demonstrated the relevance and effectiveness of the services offered to her and her family by Action Housing. Ms. Turton was able to illustrate how the services of Action Housing can transform the lives of many members of our community by assisting them to find suitable accommodation or by preventing loss of housing.

New this year was ... a Silent auction of works of art provided by artists from the street or having lived in precarious housing situations. They appreciated the exposure for their works of art.

The benefit evening ended with the announcement by Jim Zamprelli, a member of the Board of Action Housing and Member of the Selection Committee, of the winner of the *2009 Award of Recognition in Housing*: the Centretown Citizens Ottawa Corporation. Bill Rooney, Vice-President of CCOC and Jane Dickensen, a member of the Board of CCOC, accepted the certificate of recognition with pride and appreciation.

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