

December 7, 2010

Downtown Brampton rings in the New Year Mardi Gras style

Featuring the SAM ROBERTS BAND

BRAMPTON, ON: Residents visiting Downtown Brampton on New Year's Eve will find themselves in the middle of a Mardi Gras village complete with colorful beads, festive décor, holiday music and two fireworks displays. Mardi Gras is the theme for New Year's, and it promises to be a busy evening of activities for young and old alike. The celebrations begin at 7:00 pm at the City's Four Corners (Intersections of Queen/Hwy 7 and Main St/Hwy 10).

"Mardi Gras is known for being a colorful and festive event, says Special Events Supervisor, Jennie De Medicis. "This is what residents can expect this New Year's and we look forward to welcoming the community downtown."

Gage Park

Glittering Gage Park will be the site for ice skating, marshmallow roasting, crafts, stilt walkers, magicians, and visits from Shrek and Crimson Chin. In keeping with the festive theme, the Northwest Lexus Ice Park will feature Mardi Gras designs. Also, the Kids' Stage will host family entertainment from 7:00 pm until 9:30 pm including Shrek, Stompin' the Swamp, Ventriloquist Tim Holland, and Magician Jeff Hill.

To help keep everyone warm, the Café in the Atrium at City Hall will provide warm drinks as well as a cozy area for seniors to enjoy a game of cards or a round of dominos.

Fireworks will take place at 9:00 pm from City Hall and 12:00 am from The Rose Theatre.

The Main Stage at the Rose

The Main Stage entertainment, sponsored by the Brampton Downtown Development Corporation, at Garden Square, kicks off at 7:30 pm with local Brampton Artists, followed by Faber Drive at 9 pm, a live world-record break attempt at 10:20 pm (by Suresh Joachim for 110 consecutive hours of dancing) and headliner Sam Roberts Band at 11 pm.

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BE A VIP THIS YEAR!

One of Brampton's hottest New Year's Eve Parties is at the Rose. Tucked into The Rose Theatre lobby you'll find the **VIP Club** where ticket holders will enjoy a Creole-inspired hors d'oeuvres buffet, access to the only licensed area within the event, dancing with a live DJ and front row viewing for the Main Stage performances. Tickets for the VIP Club are just \$50 per person (plus tax) and can be purchased by calling the Rose Theatre Box Office at 905-874-2800 or visiting www.rosetheatre.ca.

Brampton Transit will provide free service on all routes beginning at 7:00 pm with extended service on select routes. For information, visit www.transit.com or call 905-874-2999.

About the New Year's Eve in Downtown Brampton

The downtown Brampton New Year's Eve event is being hosted by the City of Brampton and the Rose Theatre with the help of community sponsors: Brampton Downtown Development Corporation, Metro, Northwest Lexus, FreshCo, Enterprise Rent-a-Car, Jackson Triggs Niagara Estates, Exit Realty Hare.

About Brampton: The 11th largest city in Canada, Brampton has a successful, well-diversified economy and is home to more than 8,000 businesses. The City continues to retain a Triple 'A' credit rating by Standard & Poor's, reflecting its successful economy and debt-free position. Brampton celebrates its diverse population that represents people from more than 175 distinct ethnic backgrounds who speak more than 70 different languages. Offering more than 6,000 acres of parkland, Brampton takes pride in being known as the Flower City of Canada. Brampton has been designated as an International Safe Community by the World Health Organization. For more information visit www.brampton.ca

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