



October 21, 2009

LEAFS, RAPTORS, TORONTO FC, MARLIES TEAM UP TO UNVEIL REFURBISHED NORTH YORK COMMUNITY CENTRE

Maple Leaf Sports & Entertainment (MLSE) and its teams' athletes, in partnership with Toronto's Parks, Forestry and Recreation department, teamed up to unveil and showcase the newly refurbished Oriole Community Centre in North York on Wednesday. The refurbishment, funded by the MLSE Team Up Foundation and Toronto's Parks, Forestry and Recreation department, represents the 15th sports facility to benefit from MLSE's hockey rink and basketball court legacy program.

"We're so excited to make a difference for the kids and families that use the Oriole Community Centre every day," said Tom Anselmi, MLSE executive vice-president and chief operating officer.

"Every athlete and coach here today will tell you that being a leader in the community is an important role that everyone is expected to play on all of our teams. That's what today's event is all about - being a leader in the community and giving back to the communities that support our teams."

Anselmi was joined by current and former players from the Maple Leafs, Raptors, Toronto FC and the Marlies as they put finishing touches on both the ice rink and basketball court at the event.

Among those in attendance were: Toronto Maple Leafs player Matt Stajan, Toronto Raptors player Jose Calderon, Toronto FC Head Coach Chris Cummins, Toronto Marlies Darryl Boyce, Leaf Alumni Darryl Sittler, Wendel Clark, Mike Pelyk, Mark Osborne, Gary Leeman, Stew Gavin, Greg Hotham and Pat Boutette, Toronto Maple Leafs Skating Coach Graeme Townshend, former Olympian and Lou Marsh Award recipient Bruce Kidd, and local kids from the community

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“The quality of life of all Torontonians is front and centre in everything we do,” said Brenda Patterson, General Manager, Toronto Parks, Forestry and Recreation. “Partnering with MLSE’s Team Up Foundation has enabled us to engage more community members in activities that lead to a sense of unity, encourage healthy development and promote active living.”

Over the past four years MLSE has invested approximately \$1.4 million in building and refurbishing 10 rinks and five courts through its legacy program. The program aims to illustrate the importance places such as the Oriole Community Centre play in shaping the lives of people in a community and creating the next generation of players and coaches.

In addition to the financial investment in Oriole, employees from MLSE and MLSE’s corporate partner, RONA, contributed more than 320 hours to install rink boards, renovate dressing rooms, build benches and paint many areas of the centre.

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