



December 22, 2010

**MLSE TEAM UP FOUNDATION, RONA AND CITY OF TORONTO
UNVEIL GIFT TO THE COMMUNITY JUST IN TIME FOR THE HOLIDAYS**
Maple Leafs hold outdoor practice to celebrate rink refurbishment

The Toronto Maple Leafs, the Maple Leaf Sports & Entertainment (MLSE) Team Up Foundation and RONA, in collaboration with the City of Toronto, unveiled a newly refurbished Trinity Bellwoods Rink and Field House Wednesday. The refurbished facility marks the 22nd completed project as part of the MLSE Team Up Foundation Legacy Program.

To recognize the event, the Toronto Maple Leafs held their practice at the Trinity Bellwoods Rink. Joining them were hundreds of Leafs fans from the community.

Maple Leafs players and Head Coach Ron Wilson were joined by RONA's Executives Luc Rodier, Vice President, Big-Box Stores, Ontario, Benoit Leduc, Vice President, Proximity Stores, Ontario and Doug Newstead, Regional Director of Operations, Ontario, City Councillor Mike Layton (Ward 19 Trinity-Spadina), Tom Anselmi, MLSE's Executive Vice-President and Chief Operating Officer and MLSE Team Up Foundation Board Members for a special on-ice ceremony prior to the start of practice.

"The Trinity Bellwoods Rink Refurbishment is an example of how the Maple Leafs and MLSE Team Up Foundation work with our partners to give back to the community to create opportunities for young people to play sports and be active," said Anselmi. "We want to thank the Leafs fans and members of our community for welcoming us to their neighbourhood and attending today."

Anselmi, who participated in refurbishing the rink, along with MLSE President and CEO Richard Peddie, and Executives Bob Hunter and David Hopkinson, added, "Holding an outdoor practice brings back memories for the entire team. It takes us back to our roots and childhood when we played hockey on an outdoor rink."

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“As a truly Canadian company, RONA’s sports sponsorships not only consist in supporting major Canadian sports teams, but also in investing in local communities to promote the values we hold dear, like fair play, social responsibility and perseverance” says Luc Rodier, RONA’s Vice President, Big-Box Stores, Ontario. “Our involvement in this rink refurbishment has allowed us to make a contribution to the well-being of this community and to encourage the youth who are growing up here to be active, to pursue their dreams and to achieve their goals.”

The MLSE Team Up Foundation with the support of MLSE’s Corporate Partner RONA invested more than \$125,000 in significant upgrades and improvements to the Trinity Bellwoods Park Rink including: replacing dashboards, the addition of new doors, windows, storage, matting, benches and landscaping.

Employees and Executives from Maple Leaf Sports & Entertainment and RONA contributed 500 volunteer hours towards the refurbishment.

"This project is a great example of how funding organizations and the private sector can work with the City to improve programs and services for young people," said City Councillor Mike Layton (Ward 19 Trinity-Spadina). "The youth have a better facility where they can have fun and improve their skills, and everyone gets a chance to watch their favourite hockey team practice right in the community."

In four years, Maple Leaf Sports & Entertainment and the Team Up Foundation have invested and contributed to 22 city-owned facility refurbishments including Ramsden Park Rink, Oriole Community Centre, High Park’s Outdoor Rink, Rennie Park in Swansea, The West Mall Rink in Etobicoke, and five parks in Riverdale: Withrow Park, Riverdale Park East, Greenwood Park, Jimmie Simpson and Monarch Park are the others.

RONA’s partnership with MLSE is a continuation of its long-standing commitment to Canadian sports, both professional and amateur. RONA was a National Partner of the Vancouver 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Games, as well it will be a National Partner of the Canadian Olympic and Paralympic Teams through the London 2012 Summer Games.

The Leafs next home game is Tuesday, December 28 versus the Carolina Hurricanes at Air Canada Centre. Game time is 7 p.m. For more information, visit www.mapleleafs.com.

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About the Organizations

MLSE Team Up Foundation is the charitable arm of Maple Leaf Sports & Entertainment (MLSE), combining the philanthropic efforts of all four MLSE-owned teams – the Toronto Maple Leafs, Toronto Raptors, Toronto FC and Toronto Marlies. Launched in December 2009 and building on the past successes of the Raptors Foundation for Kids and the Leafs Fund for Kids, the MLSE Team Up Foundation is committed to making an even bigger difference for youth across Ontario. The MLSE Team Up Foundation strives to improve the lives of youth by building facilities, giving to sustainable programs and empowering youth through sports and recreation. Changing lives through the spirit and the power of sports. For information visit www.mlseteamupfoundation.org or www.mlse.com

RONA is the largest Canadian distributor and retailer of hardware, home renovation and gardening products. RONA operates a network of nearly 700 corporate, franchise and affiliate stores of various sizes and formats. With close to 30,000 employees working under its family of banners in every region of Canada and more than 15 million square feet of retail space, the RONA store network generates over \$6 billion in annual retail sales.

Toronto is Canada's largest city and sixth largest government, home to a diverse population of 2.6 million people. It is the economic engine of Canada and one of the greenest and most creative cities in North America. Toronto has won numerous awards for quality, innovation and efficiency in delivering public services. 2009 marks the 175th anniversary of Toronto's incorporation as a city. Toronto's government is dedicated to prosperity, opportunity and liveability for all its residents. For more information, visit: www.toronto.ca

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