CNE Foundation to Grant 25 Make-A-Wish Canada Beneficiaries and Displaced Families with Children from Ukraine with All-Expense-Paid EX-perience at the CNE

Foundation is making a positive impact in the community by 'putting smiles on faces'

Toronto, ON – (August 25, 2022) – The Canadian National Exhibition (CNE) Foundation is proving that the 'FUN' of the Fair can also empower communities and make a lasting impact. The CNE Foundation, a registered charity and philanthropic arm of the Canadian National Exhibition Association has launched its **2022 Grand CNE 50/50 Draw** that supports community and underserved youth programs in the Greater Toronto Area.

In addition to the annual raffle fundraiser that takes place at the CNE, the Foundation is excited to announce that it will be granting **25** all-expense paid visits to the Fair through its **Smiles on Faces Program**, to children and families from its charitable partners, **Make-A-Wish Canada**, and **Toronto Ukrainian Foundation**. Families will be treated to rides, games, meals, and special meet-and-greets. The CNE will host granted families on various days throughout its 18-day run.

This past weekend, the CNE celebrated a historic re-opening of the Fair following a two-year closure due to the pandemic. The return of an in-person event means that the CNE can once again welcome more than 1.4 million visitors through its gates, and for the CNE Foundation, means that it can re-start its much-needed programs and initiatives that take place on-site. 50/50 tickets can be purchased throughout the grounds at the CNE, or online at CNEF5050.com.

This year's CNE 50/50 Draw Grand Prize winner will be announced on Monday, September 5 at 5pm ET at the CNE.

"Throughout the pandemic, the CNE Foundation has continued to work with its community partners and relied on online fundraising; however, there's nothing that can compare to the exponential impact that the 18-day fair has to our success," says Joanne Benerowski, CNE Foundation Director. "Visitors have always been incredibly generous in their support of the CNE Foundation through the 50/50 Draws on-site, in part because The EX holds such a special place in many Torontonians' hearts. We wanted to bring this unique joy to a very special group from Make-A-Wish Canada and Toronto Ukrainian Foundation – who have never experienced the CNE. We're incredibly honoured and excited to give these families a day of fun where they can create beautiful memories and take a break from some of the daily challenges they face."

2022 CNE FOUNDATION HIGHLIGHTS

Smiles on Faces Program

Working with its charity partners, including Make-A-Wish Canada and Toronto Ukrainian Foundation, the CNE Foundation will provide all-expense-paid visits for 25 children with critical illnesses from across Canada, and displaced children from Ukraine, along with their families. With the support of the CNE community, the CNE will help to put smiles on children's faces, to give them a much-needed break from their real-life challenges for a day.

Grand CNE 50/50 Fundraiser

The CNE 50/50 is back and it's bigger than ever! With their CNE Foundation Grand CNE 50/50 ticket purchase, CNE fans can win big and support a good cause. The cash Grand Prize, Hotel X Toronto Weekend Staycations and more are available to be won. Tickets are on sale now until September 5 at 4 p.m. CNE fans can buy now at CNEF5050.com and on-site during the Ex. The next Early Bird Draw deadline is August 25 at 11:59 p.m. Proceeds support the Foundation's community and youth programs.

Must be 18 years or older to participate. Please play responsibly. License number RAF1243220.
Free Health Services Information can be found at connexontario.ca or by calling 1-866-531-2600.

CNE Archives Project

The CNE Foundation is on a mission to help ensure the rich history of the CNE is preserved for future generations. Thousands of CNE archival negatives in the Alexandra Studio Collection are deteriorating due to Vinegar Syndrome and it's a race against time to digitize them before the images are lost forever. With the support of the CNE community, the CNE Foundation can continue to raise the funds needed to complete the digitization and save these priceless images.

To learn more about CNE Foundation programs, or to make a donation, please visit cnefoundation.com.

About the CNE Foundation:

The Canadian National Exhibition Foundation is a public foundation and registered charity. The philanthropic arm of the Canadian National Exhibition Association, the CNE Foundation funds programs year-round to make a positive impact on the lives of individuals and the community in support of its vision: "Empowering community. Improving lives." To learn more about CNE Foundation programs, please visit: **cnefoundation.com.** Charitable Business Number: 118834639 RR 0001

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