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**MEDIA RELEASE**  
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## **Elora Festival Sitting in Style Thanks to \$36,000 OTF Grant**

Elora, Ontario – Audiences in the Gambrel Barn at this year's Elora Festival will be much more comfortable thanks to a \$36,000 grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF). Ted Arnott, MPP for Wellington-Halton Hills joined OTF representative Martin Bosch in congratulating the Festival at the Opening Night of the 29<sup>th</sup> Elora Festival.

"The volunteers and staff of the Elora Festival deserve congratulations on their successful OTF application," said MPP Arnott. "This is exactly the kind of community project that OTF should be supporting. Without question, the Elora Festival is one of the finest annual music celebrations in Ontario."

The OTF grant was used to supplement the \$55,000 purchase of 750 theatre-style stacking chairs that will be used in the Gambrel Barn. A salt and sand storage shed in the winter, the barn is magically transformed into an acoustically perfect performance venue in the summer. "Anyone who has ever attended a concert at the barn knows that the rented chairs used for over 15 years were extremely uncomfortable," said General Manager Joanne Grodzinski, "and we are thankful for the Ontario Trillium Foundation's support, its commitment to the arts and to our many other generous donors who contributed to the Festival's 'Take a Seat' campaign. Our patrons will now enjoy a truly comfortable concert experience."

Launched as the Three Centuries Festival in 1979, the Elora Festival has evolved into an internationally acclaimed annual music event. From choral to chamber music, from jazz and blues to contemporary, this celebration of song attracts capacity audiences to the Village of Elora each summer. From its humble origins, the Festival has grown to span four weeks with over 40 concerts and events in July and August. The 2008 Festival runs from July 11 until August 3, and will include artists such as André Laplante, the Choir of Trinity College Cambridge, England, and world-renowned soprano Kiri Te Kanawa.

The Ontario Trillium Foundation is an agency of the Government of Ontario. For over 25 years, the Foundation has supported the growth and vitality of communities across the province. It continues to strengthen the capacity of the volunteer sector through investments in community-based initiatives. For more information, please visit [www.trilliumfoundation.org](http://www.trilliumfoundation.org).

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