

# Film Festival returns to Vaughan in April

By Celia Comisso

The Vaughan Film Festival (VFF) is returning to the city in April.

The official event launch took place on Nov. 25 at the Promenade Shopping Centre and was hosted by Rick Campanelli of Enter-

tainment Tonight Canada.

At the launch, guests were given the details about the upcoming event and how to enter a film in the festival.

The festival is a non-profit organization that highlights international talent of filmmakers

with a Vaughan foundation.

The goal of the festival is to give aspiring filmmakers an opportunity to expose their talent. It also serves to showcase up and coming talent in the community.

Last year's award-winning film *Curfew* was made into an official motion picture movie.

The festival 2014 festival is expected to be even bigger and better than ever before.

Antonio Ienco, co-founder of the Vaughan Film Festival, spoke about how he is planning to build a recognizable festival known around the world.

"After last year's event we struck a chord with the arts community," said Ienco, adding this is what inspired organizers to start the school initiative.

The school initiative invites students in high school to create a 10-minute film and have their peers vote on which is the best representative of the high school. The film chosen from each school will be played at the festivals screen on April 2. All

submissions must be received by January 31 and will be judged for originality, creativity, acting, cinematography, etc. The winner of the short film submission will be presented with an award of excellence, as well as, being put in contact with industry professionals.

The submission of artwork has also been included as part of the 2014 festival as well as short films. Another addition to the 2014 Vaughan Film Festival is the building of a six-foot structure. Each high school in Vaughan is invited compete in this contest and the winner will have their structure displayed at the Colossus Vaughan Cinema.

The screening of the artwork and films will take place on April 2 and 3. The VFF awards will be held on April 4, hosted by Rick Campanelli with guest appearances by Carla Collins, Andrew Jackson and



The official launch for the Vaughan Film Festival was held Nov. 25 at Promenade Shopping Centre. Antonio Ienco, co-founder of the Vaughan Film Festival, informed the crowd about the upcoming festival at the launch.

Photo by Jeff Doner



The Vaughan Film Festival launch was hosted by Rick Campanelli, host of Entertainment Tonight Canada.

Photo by Jeff Doner

Fatima Placek.

The competition and talent is extremely high and the 2014 Vaughan

Film Festival is expected to have an even better turn out.

## Chanukah celebrated at Chabad@Flamingo

By Gila Martow

There was a lot to celebrate at the Chanukah party at Chabad@Flamingo on the evening of Saturday, Nov. 30.

A lively kids carnival with jumping castles, arts and crafts, music and cotton candy entertained the children. Across the hall from the carnival was the main event, where members of the community celebrated another expansion of the popular synagogue in Thornhill.

The Honorable Julian Fantino, Minister of Veterans Affairs, was the guest of honour at the well-attended event. The Member of Parliament for the Vaughan riding in the western part of the City of Vaughan was in attendance to present Rabbi Mendel Kaplan with the Queen Diamond Jubilee Medal for community service.

In addition to his outreach as Rabbi of a large congregation, Kaplan also serves as one of eight volunteer chaplains with the York Region Police (YRP) department. In his capacity as chaplain, Kaplan helps train YRP officers to better serve the needs



Jennifer Stark brought her children Jacob, 6 (middle), Benny, 4 (right) and their friend Natan Rotman, 6 (left) to the Chabad@Flamingo Chanukah celebration.

Photos by Gila Martow

of the Jewish community while also providing religious and spiritual support.

Thornhill resident Andre Setton was one of many proud synagogue members to see the rabbi receive such an honour.

"Mazel tov to our beloved Rabbi Mendel Kaplan on receiving the Queen's Diamond Jubilee medal," said an excited Setton. "We are all so proud of you and know it is extremely well deserved."

### Hogan's Inn at Four Corners

Live Bands:

Friday, Dec. 6th – Souled Out

Saturday, Dec. 7th – Groove Marmalade

Friday, Dec. 13th – Something Extra

Saturday, Dec. 14th – High Rollers

Come join us over the Christmas season, to enjoy the music of David Pilkey on Piano!

Please call for Reservations

Thursday - Ladies Night is Back! \$5.00 Martinis • Appetizer Specials

Book Your Christmas Parties and Special Functions

Sunday Brunch \$28

EVERY SUNDAY FROM 11AM TO 3PM

Call 905.833.5311

to book your table at York Region's Most Historic Restaurant

Follow us on Twitter @HogansInn



HOGAN'S INN • 12998 KEELE ST. KING CITY • THE HUNT PUB