

# MEDIA RELEASE...

## Big Business - Big Hearts

*Local area company gives back to the community*

**Friday, April 9, 2010 - Courtice, ON.** Dom's Auto Parts Company Ltd., a local business and landmark on the north side of highway 401 just east of Oshawa demonstrated today that they are not just one of Ontario's most progressive auto recyclers, but they also incredibly generous. Through the Ontario Automotive Recyclers' Association (OARA), Dom's Auto Parts was able to give back to the local community by donating \$10,000 to Autism Ontario - Durham Region.

"Autism is a disorder that touches so many families here in Durham Region," said Dominic Vetere, owner and partner of Dom's Auto Parts Company Ltd. "When we were given the opportunity to give to a charity of our choice with proceeds from the Retire Your Ride program, we knew exactly what we wanted to do," continued Mr. Vetere a former president of OARA. Members of OARA that acquire vehicles from the Retire Your Ride program (a federal initiative), have contributed an extra \$20 from every vehicle purchased to donate to a charity of their choice. OARA has donated over \$325,000 in the past year. On Friday, Autism Ontario - Durham Region was invited to the local auto parts facility in Courtice to accept a cheque for \$10,000.

To a backdrop of hundreds of vehicles in various states of disassembly, both Mark Holland MP for Ajax-Pickering and his Worship, Jim Abernethy, mayor of Clarington congratulated Dom's Auto Parts and Autism Ontario - Durham Region for working together to help families in need. Mr. Holland explained that the Retire Your Ride program is an initiative of the Federal government, Summerhill Impact and its partners designed to enable people to get their high-polluting vehicles off the road and reward them for doing so. The program is committed to improving air quality by responsibly recycling vehicles and aims to retire at least 50,000 vehicles per year until March 31, 2011. With the recent announcement that GM Oshawa will be recalling 700 laid-off workers under a plan to boost production of its hot-selling Chevrolet Equinox and GMC Terrain crossover utility vehicles, programs such as Retire Your Ride are obviously having some effect on the struggling automotive sector and local economy.

Kathy Sima, President of Autism Ontario-Durham Region said, "We are incredibly fortunate to have Dom's Auto Parts think of us and the families affected by Autism in our area. Their generous donation will go a long way in our mission to provide information, friendship, and support to over 3500 individuals and their families in Durham Region who live with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) every day. On behalf of those people and families, we can't thank them enough."

OARA members process end-of-life vehicles in an environmentally responsible manner, ensuring the environment is protected from potentially harmful operating fluids and toxins such as mercury and lead. They also recover guaranteed Green Parts from vehicles and ensure they are reused - saving the energy and pollution from having to manufacture new parts.

Dom's Auto Parts Company Limited is a third-generation, family owned and operated business serving the automotive industry in Ontario for over 40 years.