



SOPHIE KIWALA, MPP

Kingston and the Islands

November 15, 2016
KINGSTON, Ontario

Dear Friends,

As the Member of Provincial Parliament for Kingston and the Islands, it my great pleasure to welcome you to the 2016 Philanthropy from the Heart Awards Gala.

I'd like to take this opportunity to extend my thanks to the organizers who have worked tirelessly to put together this event. I would also like to send my congratulations to all the nominees, as well as all the individuals and organizations here this evening. The work you do truly makes a difference in your communities.

One of the most valuable gifts we can give in this life is our time, and I know how challenging it can be to find those extra moments to give! But I also know that philanthropy – the desire to promote the welfare of others – is time well spent. For some of you, this time is invested in direct service to organizations, while for others, this time is invested in fundraising and charitable activity. Either way, you are making a tangible impact by improving lives in your communities. Tonight is all about recognizing local champions from across South Eastern Ontario. My heartfelt thank you to you all for your generosity!

As you celebrate tonight's award recipients and their acts of philanthropy, I offer you the words of Margaret Meade for reflection: *"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."*

My best wishes to you all for an engaging and heartwarming evening. Events like these truly inspire us all to give back to our communities.

Sincerely,

Sophie Kiwala, MPP
Kingston and the Islands

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