

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 21, 2009**

White Spot (Richmond Centre location) Christmas Day Fundraiser most successful to date

This year's White Spot Christmas Day fundraiser for the Richmond Hospital Foundation was special in more ways than one. Not only did loyal customers and dedicated staff brave extreme weather conditions to attend the annual holiday lunch, held on December 25<sup>th</sup>, but this year, the seventh year the event has run, was the most successful event to date, raising a record breaking \$7,888 for the Richmond Hospital Foundation's MRI campaign.

Forty-one White Spot staff members came in on the very snowy Christmas day to lend a hand, and this year so many patrons arrived that there was a line up outside and the restaurant opened twenty minutes early.

"This year was incredibly successful, despite the snow and weather conditions," said manager Charile Tsang. "Our staff and our regulars all made it in to the restaurant one way or another and I think it says a lot about everyone. The support was fantastic."

One hundred percent of proceeds from the day, including gratuities, were donated to the Richmond Hospital Foundation at a cheque presentation on Wednesday, January 21, 2009.

"We couldn't do this without my staff and managers," says Richmond Centre, White Spot owner Prakash Ganatra. "They do everything from setup to cleanup, and they do it all from their hearts."

Executive Director of the Richmond Hospital Foundation Lisa Westermarck said she was grateful for the support of groups like the White Spot. "It's a heart warming story – to have people give their time and money on Christmas Day – in support of our hospital. We are lucky to have such wonderful community support."

