



**The Chris Dawson
Foundation**

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**MEDIA RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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The Chris Dawson Foundation Announces New Centre for Charitable Not-for-profit Organizations

Sarnia, Ontario (April 8, 2009)—The Chris Dawson Foundation proudly announced plans today for the new Chris Dawson Centre, a home for charitable not-for-profit organizations at 420 East Street North in Sarnia.

This new concept in community partnership will give local groups access to technological office improvements and shared services including boardrooms, a kitchen, mailroom, printers, fax and photocopier, receptionist and free parking, resulting in a reduction of overhead costs.

Today's media event, held onsite at the future home of The Chris Dawson Centre, included a tour of a newly renovated suite at the 15,353-square-foot facility, which is centrally located near Northgate Shopping Centre, is on a bus route and is wheelchair accessible. In the coming months, a 2,000-square-foot addition will be created to house the Centre's shared services.

Attendees of the grand opening celebration included The Chris Dawson Foundation's Executive Director, Anita Minielly; Board of Directors members Rob Dawson, Wendy Walker, Glenn Dawson, Scott Dawson, Darren Dawson and Cathy Haldenby; and representatives from the Centre's first two tenants: Judy Doan, Executive Director for the Alzheimer Society of Sarnia-Lambton, Claudette Leduc, Board President for the Alzheimer Society of Sarnia-Lambton, and Dave Brown, Executive Director for the United Way of Sarnia-Lambton.

"This partnership fits perfectly in line with what our organization represents," said Dave Brown of the United Way. "To contribute more to the community through a reduction in expenses allows the United Way to help more people. It's a great thing to be a part of!"

"We're standing on the threshold of a new concept in collaboration," added Board of Director Wendy Walker. "This is where charitable not-for-profit organizations will save donor dollars on overhead costs and instead reallocate them to community programs—changing lives in Sarnia. Chris would be proud."

The Foundation honours the life of Chris Dawson—an energetic and positive young gentleman. He lived life to the fullest every day, loved his family and regularly gave of his time to help others. Although not all of his dreams could be fulfilled before a tragic accident in 2006, his desire to improve lives will forever live on in this legacy project.

Along with the development of this Centre, The Chris Dawson Foundation will contribute to educational opportunities and charitable events.

For more information on the Foundation call 519-333-6864 or visit www.thechrisdawsonfoundation.com



About The Chris Dawson Foundation

The goal of The Chris Dawson Foundation is to be the authoritative leader in furthering community partnership.

The purpose of the Foundation is to celebrate the legacy of Chris Dawson in three ways: developing and managing centres for not-for-profit organizations; participating in educational opportunities; and supporting charitable events, which will further community development.

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