



Bridge - The Game That Gives Back

Toronto YWCA Receives ACBL Charity Foundation NABC \$5000 Donation

The NABC committee for Toronto has selected the YWCA Toronto as the recipient of a \$5000 donation provided by the ACBL Charity Foundation. The foundation permits the host committee at each NABC to designate a local charity to receive the funds.

Local Charity Chair Jennifer Verdram of Listowel, ON helped guide the selection of the YWCA for its role in hosting women's shelters, especially those who assist women who experience violence.

"This has been a longtime interest of mine. My mother was the founder of a women's shelter in London, ON many years ago."

On hand to receive the donation was YWCA's Director of Philanthropy Firoozeh Radjai.

"The YWCA hosts four women's shelters in the Toronto area. Two are for women who experience domestic violence and two are for homeless women. There is a bit of overlap between these groups, as women who flee domestic abuse can sometimes find themselves homeless," she said.

Radjai noted that the local YWCA women's centers serve about 1800 women.

In addition to the physical facilities at the centers, the YWCA offers counselors and a variety of programs to provide assistance with affordable housing and employment training. The YWCA is also involved in legislative advocacy for their clients.

"The YWCA is appreciative of the generosity of the ACBL Charity Committee and the local bridge community here in Toronto," said Radjai.



Firoozeh Radjai (center), director of philanthropy for YWCA Toronto, accepts a check for \$5000 from the local NABC committee. From left are ACBL Executive Director Bronia Jenkins, ACBL Charity Foundation Chair Rebecca Brown, Toronto Tournament Chair Darlene Scott and Toronto NABC Charity Chair Jennifer Verdram.