

## **Canada-China Friendship Society of Ottawa welcomes the Chinese New Year, February 11, 2007**

One hundred and sixty friends of China marked the start of the Chinese New Year with a 10-course banquet at the Mandarin Ogilvie Restaurant. Speakers and guests included Chinese Ambassador Lu Shumin and Madame Lu, Senator Mac Harb, Gatineau Councillor Joseph da Sylva and Mme. Boisvert, Mr. David Gibbons representing Mayor Larry O'Brien, and Dr. Huang Xing Zhong, President of the Ottawa Chinese Community Association. Others attending included representatives of the Ottawa Police Department, the National Gallery, CHEO, the Canadian Institute of International Affairs, the Ottawa Carleton District School Board and ten doctors and their spouses from Pembroke. Door prizes were generously donated by the Chinese Embassy, Canada Post Corporation, the Mandarin Ogilvie and Shanghai Restaurants, and by members of the Society. Music was provided by Ziqi Ye and Wendy Dai on the *gu-zhen* and well-known Ottawa musicians Dominic D'Arcy and George Sapounidis. The Chair of the banquet was Lolan Wang Merklinger.