

CCFS-Ottawa WELCOMES THE YEAR OF THE OX

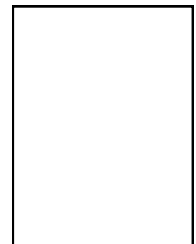
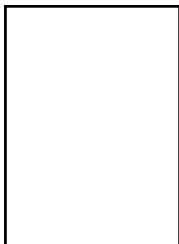


Over 145 people gathered for a sumptuous banquet at the Ogilvie Mandarin Restaurant

Over 145 people took part in the lively CCFS annual New Year's banquet on February 8th at the Mandarin Ogilvie Restaurant. The evening was enlivened by music, door prizes and a quiz testing our knowledge of China and Canada-China relations.

CCFS executive member **Yong-Zhi Wang** explained to the audience that those

born in the Year of the Ox are characterised by dependability, fortitude and perseverance. He mentioned some of the famous people born in the year, including Napoleon Bonaparte, Walt Disney, and Barack Obama. Musical entertainment, on the gu-zhen (Chinese zither) was provided by **Zhiqi Ye**.



tween our two countries, noting - on the basis of his experience as a faculty member at Queen's University - that there was much to be gained from student exchanges.

In his remarks to the group, **Chinese Ambassador Lan Lijun**, recalled his own experience as a student in Canada shortly after the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries. He also remembered the support that he had received from members of the Society at that time.

Senator Hugh Segal built on the same theme stressing the value of exchanging people and ideas be-

Deputy Mayor Marianne Wilkinson spoke of her two recent visits to China and of Ottawa's twinning relationship with Beijing. She has been impressed by the pace of development in China, and hoped that there would be increased cooperation between the business communities in both countries, for example in the development of business parks.

In her concluding remarks, society Vice Presi-

dent **Gilliane Lapointe** expressed the hope that the Year of the Ox 2009 would bring positive developments in Sino-Canadian relations.

The Society is grateful to the many members and friends who contributed to the success of the event: Lorraine Farkas (chair of the banquet sub-committee), Mary Lee (banquet coordinator), Lolan Merklinger, Gilliane Lapointe, Jordan Birenbaum, Andrée Chenard, Dominic Darcy (for the sound system), John Hilliker, Shiyu Li, Ramona MacFarlane, Jim Steele, Yong-Zhi Wang, Huixin Yang, and Zhiqi Ye. ♦



Left to right: Gillian Lapointe, Chinese Ambassador Lan Lijun, founding members Tsin Van and Jacqueline Major, Lorraine Farkas and Senator Hugh Segal. Deputy Mayor Marianne Wilkinson also attended along with many officials from the Chinese embassy.