



## **International Taoist Tai Chi Society members donate \$100,000 to Fondation Paul Gérin-Lajoie to rebuild schools in Haiti**

*MONTREAL, March 8* – The International Taoist Tai Chi Society has donated \$100,000 to the Fondation Paul Gérin-Lajoie to rebuild schools in Haiti. The Society’s Canadian president, Dave Frame, turned over the funds this weekend to the NGO’s founder, the Honorable Paul Gérin-Lajoie, at a banquet celebrating the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Society with several federal MPs, members of Quebec’s National Assembly, city councillors and NPO leaders in attendance.

The funds were raised from among the Society’s 40,000 members in 26 countries worldwide. Of the \$100,000 donated, some \$68,000 is also eligible for a federal government matching grant.

Monsieur Gérin-Lajoie, aged 90, received a standing ovation from the 570 banquet guests as he made his way to the podium to deliver thanks to the Society, to state the Foundation’s goals, and to reaffirm the fundamental role of education in fostering a healthy outlook on life for all. Both Mr. Frame and Foundation President, François Gérin-Lajoie reflected on how the charitable mission of each organization led quite naturally to this common project. Mr. Frame then proceeded to pin the emblem of the Society on Monsieur Paul’s lapel – across from the insignae of the Order of Canada, of the Légion française and of the Order of the Lion (Senegal).

A former president of the Canadian International Development Agency, Paul Gérin-Lajoie, is a Rhodes Scholar and one of Canada’s most decorated civilians for his international development initiatives. One of the fathers of the Quiet Revolution, he created, in 1960, Quebec’s first Ministry of Education, prior to which no more than 20% of Quebecers had an education level higher than grade school.

The International Taoist Tai Chi Society is celebrating its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2010. It was in 1970 that Master Moy Lin-shin left Hong Kong to found the Taoist Tai Chi Society of Canada, a national registered organization (no. 119258655RR0001). The Society’s mission is to promote well-being in the community through the practice of the *Taoist Tai Chi*<sup>TM</sup> internal arts of health. Over the years, it has branched out to 26 countries where its affiliated not-for-profit and charitable organizations group some forty thousand members. For more information about the aims and objectives of the Society, visit [www.taoist.org](http://www.taoist.org).



*L. to R.* -- Dave Frame, president of the Taoist Tai Chi Society of Canada, Joé Thibault, president of the Society's Eastern Region, Bernard Voyer, director of the Fung Loy Kok Institute of Taoism, François Gérin-Lajoie, president of the Fondation Paul Gérin-Lajoie.



Dave Frame pins the emblem of the International Taoist Tai Chi Society on the lapel of the Honourable Paul Gérin-Lajoie – across from the insignae of the Order of Canada, of the Légion française and of the Order of the Lion (Senegal).



Some of the dignitaries present at the Taoist Tai Chi Society of Canada – Eastern Region’s 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary banquet, where the Society donated \$100,000 to the Fondation Paul-Gérin-Lajoie to rebuild schools in Haiti. (*L. to R., seated*, The Honorable Paul Gérin-Lajoie, CC, GOQ, QC; Mme Fatima Houda-Pepin, first Vice-president of the Quebec National Assembly; *top row*, Léonie Couture, founder of the NPO La rue des femmes; Robert Gladu, City of Longueuil councilor; Jean Dorion, MP from Longueuil-Pierre-Boucher; Pascal Forget, Pro-Mayor of the City of Brossard; François Gérin-Lajoie, president of Fondation Paul Gérin-Lajoie; Bernard Voyer, director of the Fung Loy Kok Institute of Taoism; Dave Frame, president of the Taoist Tai Chi Society of Canada.)