

May 22, 2014 |

## Keys to Scott-King's convertible go to Almonte man; Car lottery proceeds support Perley and Rideau seniors



Submitted

*Richard Swartman, left, beams after winning a 1988 red convertible once owned by Canadian figure skating champion Barbara Ann Scott-King. Delphine Haslé, development officer with the Perley and Rideau Veterans' Health Centre Foundation, and foundation executive director Daniel Clapin, drew Swartman's ticket in the car lottery fundraiser.*

Ottawa South News  
By Erin McCracken

An Almonte man is the winner of a 1988 red convertible once owned by Canadian figure skating champion Barbara Ann Scott-King.

Richard Swartman's ticket was drawn on May 9 from 1,093 tickets, which each cost \$100, in a fundraising lottery organized by The Perley and Rideau Veterans' Health Centre Foundation.

The first question Daniel Clapin, foundation executive director, asked Swartman when he called to tell him the news was, do you like the colour red? Swartman had no idea what Clapin was talking about, until the director spelled out the good news.

"When we called him from the stage ... you could hear his wife jumping up and down, 'We won a car. We won a car,'" said Clapin.

Scott-King's Mercedes Benz 560 SL roadster, valued at \$40,000, was donated by Scott-King's husband, Tom King.

Proceeds from the event, held in honour of the legendary figure skater's gold-medal performance during the 1948 Olympic Games, will go to The Perley and Rideau's Building Choices, Enriching Lives capital campaign.

Scott-King, who passed away in September 2012, joined the campaign that same summer as one of three honorary co-chairs. Retired general Rick Hillier and Ottawa philanthropist Grete Hale also hold the title.

More than \$2.5 million has been raised through the fundraiser to pay for the construction of two new Perley and Rideau apartment complexes to provide independent and assisted living accommodations for military veterans and other seniors. The total cost of the project, which includes a physiotherapy centre, and will one day feature a wellness centre and adapted gym, is \$43.2 million.

Construction on the facilities, which began in 2011, is now complete, and 139 people are currently living in the new spaces.

The need for seniors' accommodations in Ottawa has never been greater, said Clapin.

"The (World Health Organization) is talking about an epidemic of aging here," the director said, adding that too many seniors are dying alone without friends, family and other support.

The Perley and Rideau Veterans' Health Centre plays a critical role in providing for aged residents, he added. "We're trying to maintain their independence for as long as possible. That's what we're trying to do," said Clapin. "We hope you come here to live every breath to the fullest."

To donate to the Perley and Rideau Veterans' Health Centre Foundation, please visit [www.perleyrideau.ca](http://www.perleyrideau.ca)