

# Live Experiences, Incredible Memories



Installing the Theatre sign, 1984.

Mayor Frank Scarpitti (second from left) Amy Woods, Allstate Insurance; Brian Harvey, Theatre Board Chair; Neil Fernandez, Sponsorship Chair; celebrates Allstate's many years of corporate sponsorship, May 2009.

Markham Theatre Board Chair, Brian Harvey, receives an award from Celeste Pelliccione of the Markham Arts Council for its 25 years of successes, June 2009.

## "Everybody in the country wants to have a Markham Theatre in their community",

says the consultant who assisted the Town of Markham in building Markham Theatre over 25 years ago. Since opening on October 18, 1985, the Theatre has been a benchmark in the performing arts and the envy of many communities throughout Ontario and right across Canada. But what is it that has led to its success?

The Theatre has always balanced community, educational and professional events. Although it was only a field when built 25 years ago, the Theatre location in the centre of Markham has meant it is perfectly located for patrons to access from across Markham, York and Durham Regions and Toronto.

Since opening its doors, Markham Theatre for Performing Arts has been home to an outstanding array of programming for the arts community.

The facility was designed and built at the same time as Unionville High School. The York Region District School Board was a partner with the Town of Markham in the initial stages of the design and building project.

When the Theatre opened, it started with a staff of 3

full-time positions. As its successes increased, the need for more qualified staff grew. Today, the facility maintains a full-time staff of 8 and an additional 50 part-time staff.

The cost to operate the Theatre was estimated in 1982 to be \$100,000 annually. The Town of Markham felt that this was a fair investment in the cultural life of the community.

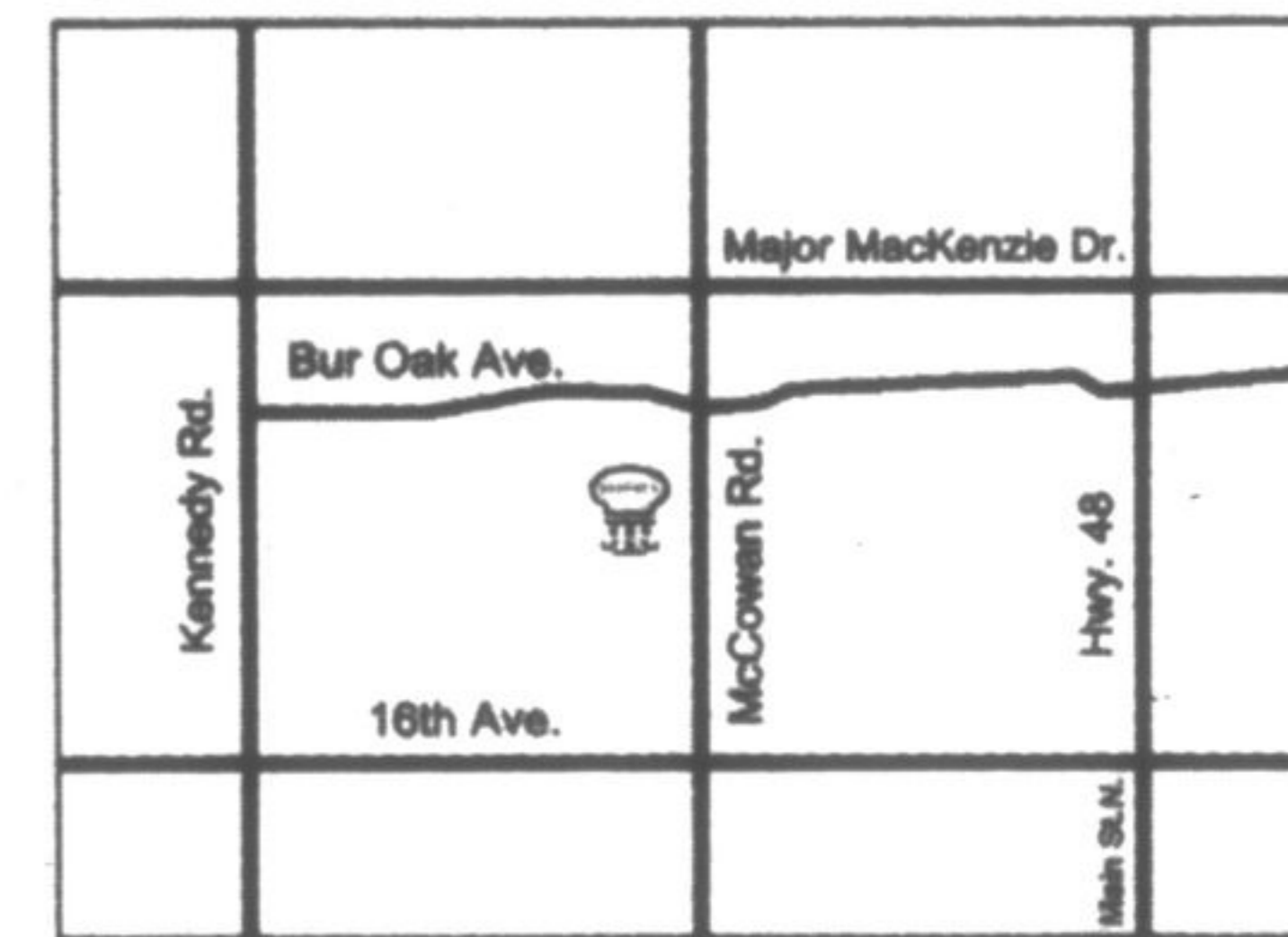
With 530 seats, the Theatre was built to meet the needs of a growing community in the 1980s. In an ever changing and growing community such as Markham, the demand for the facility continues to increase, reinforcing its position as a thriving hub for the performing arts in our community.

And its successes continue...

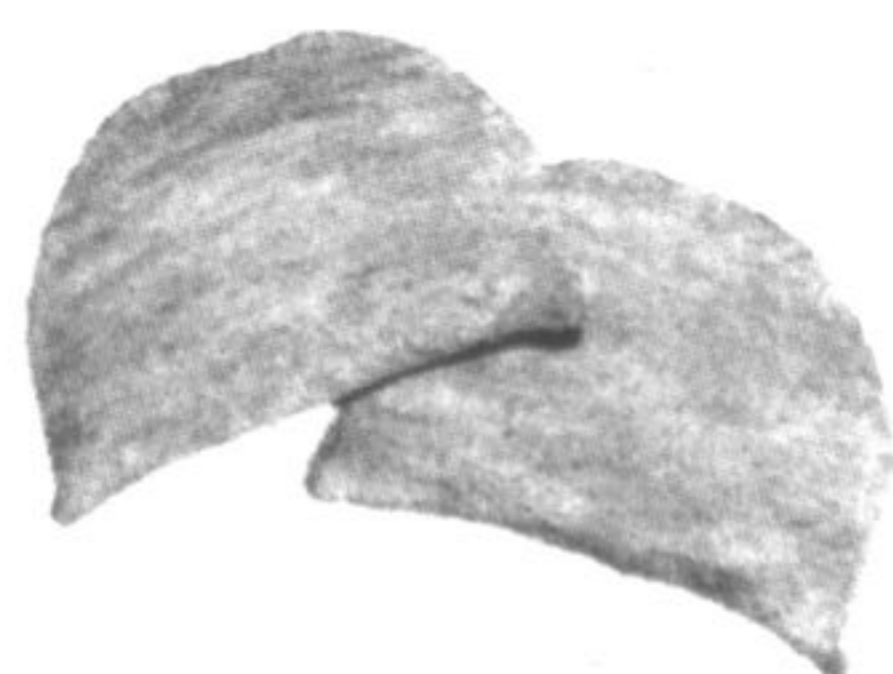


# Tastee

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