

# Dancin' Santa hit with holiday shoppers

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The better the beat, the more impressive Daven Singh's dance moves got and the more money people dropped into his Salvation Army kettle.

This was the second Christmas Mr. Singh, 49, was dancing and fundraising for the Salvation Army in the LCBO vestibule on Main Street.

"I just love music. It's better than standing here. I find the more I dance, the more people donate," the Goodwood chicken farmer said.

"Some people walk in miserable and then see me and smile," he said, noting everyone gets the same smile and dance whether they donate or not.

"He's got that infectious smile. ... A friendly character, which we need more of," said resident Tim Flynn.

"There's something special about him. You know he's doing good and he's trying, in his own way, to help out," he said.

Mr. Singh's way was work-

ing, as he said donations were "amazing".

Mr. Singh is not your typical Santa. He doesn't wear the suit or have white hair.

He has a jet black mane tied into a pony tail. His long locks are not due to a Samson-like complex. Instead, every four or five years, he cuts his hair off and donates it to a charity that turns it into wigs for children.

At this writing, there were only a few days left in the Salvation Army's kettle campaign, which was about \$1 million short of its \$3 million goal for the GTA.

But Andrew Burditt, divisional secretary for public relations and development for the Salvation Army Ontario central east division, was confident the goal would be met.

All of the money raised stays within the community it came from and helps support community and family services programs, such as food banks, shelters and job training, according to Mr. Burditt.



STAFF PHOTO/MIKE BARRETT

Stouffville resident Tim Flynn drops his donation into the Salvation Army kettle, manned by Daven Singh. Daven, who volunteered six days a week, entertaining customers at the LCBO outlet by dancing to the Christmas music piped into the store.



► To watch a video of Daven Singh strutting his stuff, go to [yorkregion.com](http://yorkregion.com)

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