

## Your Business ... Your Burlington

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### **Joyce joins Hall of Fame**

*Burlington names Hortons coffee chain co-founder Entrepreneur of the Year*

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THE HAMILTON SPECTATOR

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Ron Joyce has won many honours over the years, and now he's bagged a tiger.

The co-founder of the iconic Tim Hortons coffee and doughnut chain revealed last night he will be hosting Tiger Woods at his beloved Fox Harb'r golf course in Nova Scotia at the end of the month, a week after Woods defends his title at the U.S. Open.

"It's a bit of a coup for us to get Tiger Woods to come to Fox Harb'r," the effusive businessman told The Spectator, just before he was inducted into Burlington's Entrepreneur Hall of Fame as the 2009 Entrepreneur of the Year. "Tiger is a real gentleman."

Joyce, who turns 79 in October, said the event is a fundraiser for Woods' charity foundation for children, plus Canadian junior golf and other Canadian charities. There will be 96 golfers and participants paid \$70,000 to play nine holes with Woods, who just won the Memorial golf tournament in Ohio last weekend.

Joyce played with Woods at a fundraiser in 2005, but won't be picking up the clubs with him this time out.

"My golf days are over," he said. "I had a little airplane accident you may have heard about one time, so that sort of ended my golf game."

Nearly 500 people came out to see Joyce honoured by the Burlington Economic Development Corporation (BEDC).

The gala was held at the Burlington Convention Centre and some of those in attendance included former Ontario premier Mike Harris -- a close Joyce friend -- Liberal MPP Sophia Aggelonitis, Mohawk College president and former Burlington mayor Rob Maclsaac, advertising whiz Brian Torsney, United Way CEO Darrel Skidmore and former Hamilton councillor Don Ross.

Joyce has business interests around the world, but maintains his administrative office in a renovated 150-year-old farmhouse on Appleby Line. He also has a Burlington home.

Harris praised his friend.

"He's honest, he's a leader, he's got a vision and he's tireless in getting those visions out," said the former Conservative premier, who has recently returned to the limelight to help Niagara-West Glanbrook MPP Tim Hudak win the party leadership.

"That's how he built the Tim Hortons chain ... He's just the kind of guy, regardless of title, regardless of position, people will follow. Leaders are like that and great entrepreneurs are also great leaders."

Mark Gregory, chairman of the BEDC, called Joyce "a colossus of Canadian commerce. We're proud he calls Burlington home."

Joyce came to Hamilton from Nova Scotia in 1947 when he was 16. He first opened a Dairy Queen in 1962, but joined up with former hockey great Tim Hortons in 1967 to develop the coffee and doughnut chain. Hortons was killed in a car crash in 1974 and Joyce sold Tim Hortons in 1996. He is reportedly worth a billion dollars.

The father of seven said he was a "little emotional" in receiving the award because of his ties to the Hamilton-Burlington area. He said he's chosen to live "a lot of my life" in this region because it has brought a lot of joy to him.

Joyce received the Order of Canada in 1992 and was inducted into the Canadian Business Hall of Fame in 1999.