York Region gears up for annual Southlake fundraiser



By Jake Courtepatte

Area mayors gathered at the York Region headquarters in Newmarket on Thursday to kick off the annual Municipal Challenge, a wager between municipalities in support of the 2015 Run or Walk for Southlake.

The friendly competition challenges municipalities to raise the most in pledges for the largest annual fundraiser for the Southlake Foundation, with the winner taking home the coveted Mayor's Cup.

?It's a friendly way of getting everyone involved,? said Dionne Malcolm, communications manager at the Southlake Foundation. ?It gets the ball rolling early.?

Mayor Virginia Hackson of East Gwillimbury took home the trophy last year, as her team raised just shy of \$10,000.

Taking place in late April at the Stronach Recreation Complex in Aurora, this family-friendly event raises funds for new and replacement hospital equipment that is not covered by the Government of Ontario.

This year's fundraising goal is \$175,000.

Registration is currently open for both individuals and teams at www.runforsouthlake.ca.