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## **Media Release**

For Immediate Release

### **Operation Red Nose Wraps Up Another Successful Season**

*Winnipeg, January 12, 2010* – Once again, Operation Red Nose ensured that thousands of Manitobans arrived home safely this holiday season. Over 2500 people in eight communities across the province used the service.

“We are thankful to the nearly seventeen hundred folks who volunteered across Manitoba,” says Mike Waite, President & CEO, Safety Services Manitoba. “Together we were able to make the streets that much safer for our communities.”

Operation Red Nose is a free, volunteer-run designated driver service that operates during the holiday season. It provides motorists who do not feel fit to drive with a ride home in their own vehicle. While the service is free, donations are accepted.

“Thompson was a real success story this year,” says Waite. “They gave 247 rides compared to 189 in 2008. That’s an increase of 30 per cent, and their donations grew by the same amount.”

This past holiday season, over \$43,000 was raised across the province for youth sports programs. The year also marked the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Operation Red Nose operating in Manitoba.

“Our service is there throughout the holiday season only, but there are always options if someone doesn’t feel fit to drive,” says Waite. “Taking a cab, a limo, a bus or calling a friend are year-round alternatives for drivers who’ve had too much to drink.”

For more information about the program, please visit  
<http://www.safetyservicesmanitoba.ca/rednose/>

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## Operation Red Nose 2009 holiday season numbers

### Total Rides – By community

Brandon	422
Flin Flon	252
Gimli	166
Portage La Prairie	274
Selkirk	70
The Pas	249
Thompson	247
Winnipeg	915
<b>Total Manitoba</b>	<b>2595</b>

### Total Volunteers – By community

Brandon	219
Flin Flon	144
Gimli	150
Portage La Prairie	118
Selkirk	105
The Pas	140
Thompson	121
Winnipeg	684
<b>Total Manitoba</b>	<b>1681</b>

### Total donations – By community

Brandon	3591.00
Flin Flon	3553.29
Gimli	2819.10
Portage La Prairie	4390.66
Selkirk	1403.57
The Pas	2834.41
Thompson	3767.49
Winnipeg	20954.44
<b>Total Manitoba</b>	<b>\$43,313.96</b>