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Get out the martini shaker

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Tomorrow night in Montreal, one of the city's biggest fundraising galas will unfold - the Daffodil Ball (so named because 50,000 daffodils decorate the space) in support of cancer research and treatment.

This year's theme of high stakes, intrigue and glamour is for the men: James Bond with all the trimmings. That means gorgeous models in bikinis and fur coats, a 2008 Aston Martin V8 Vantage roadster and a helicopter in the courtyard of the venue, Windsor Station.

Ooops, the whirlybird isn't actually touching down - it had to be ignominiously trucked in this morning. All because of a last-minute edict from Transport Canada on Monday that withdrew permission for the copter to fly in. Security was the stated reason. (Rioting hockey fans, perhaps?)

But no matter, organizers of the luxe event, which attracts the crème of Montreal business and society, are counting on plenty of high-gloss fun for the guests, who in addition to anteing up thousand of dollars for sponsorships then paid \$700 a ticket to attend.

In return, the women are receiving Chanel sunglasses and earrings in their gift bags and the men are pocketing sterling silver money clips from Birks.

Organizers told Nobody's Business that the black-tie brigade is thrilled about the Bond theme this year, helicopter or not. "And it's hard to get guys working 15 hours a day excited about a dinner."

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444 Front St. W., Toronto, Canada M5V 2S9
Philip Crawley, Publisher