



Belinda Stronach, left, offers congratulations to “Give Back” award winner Holly Nolson of Huron Heights Secondary School in Newmarket, during a barbecue held by Neighbourhood Network at Aurora’s Magna headquarters Thursday evening. The barbecue, honouring the volunteers of the Network, attracted almost 300 people.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

Belinda gives grants to groups

Neighbourhood Network founder Belinda Stronach gave away \$50,000 in funding to 10 local charities and community groups in Aurora Thursday night.

The donations were part of the Neighbourhood Network Community Funding program, which was established by Magna International in June in lieu of the annual hoedown, cancelled this year because of the economy.

The 10 local charities and community groups that received cheques at a Neighbourhood Network barbecue were: ABLE Network, the Aurora branch of the Royal Canadian Legion, Big Brothers Big Sisters of York, Doane House Hospice, Inn

From the Cold, Mothers Against Drunk Driving, Aurora’s Safehaven Project for Community Living, the Women’s Centre of York Region, the York North Basketball Association and the York Region Food Network.

Representatives of the groups were presented with their cheques at the second annual volunteer recognition barbecue.

Nearly 300 of the 350 volunteer members showed up.

Representatives of partner organizations also attended the event, which was held at the Magna head office in Aurora.

Guests also were entertained by The Coyotes.