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*The future rests in our helping hands*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Volunteer MBC to Participate at  
Brampton Youth Volunteer and Employment Fair**

**April 14, 2010 – Mississauga, ON** – Volunteer MBC (Mississauga, Brampton, Caledon), a volunteer centre serving the Region of Peel, will be participating at a volunteer and employment fair tomorrow Thursday, April 15, 2010 in Brampton. The event has been coordinated by Fletcher's Meadow Secondary School and the Brampton Mayor's Youth Team and is targeting youth and their families by providing information about volunteer and career opportunities within the community.

The fair will take place from 3:15 p.m. to 5:15 p.m. at the Cassie Campbell Community Centre, 1050 Sandalwood Parkway West, (north west corner of Chinguacousy and Sandalwood), in Brampton. Everyone is welcome to attend.

With an expected 300 or more youth, the fair will provide the opportunity for local area not-for-profit agencies, as well as local area businesses to meet with youth to discuss the opportunities that are available. The agencies confirmed to attend include Big Brothers Big Sisters of Peel; the Canadian Cancer Society; the City of Brampton; Credit Valley Conservation; the Drew Hildebrand Teen Benefit Fund; Habitat for Humanity – Brampton; Knights Table; and Volunteer MBC.

In previous years the fair was held at Fletcher's Meadow Secondary School, but this year with the partnership of the Brampton Mayor's Youth Team, it was relocated to the community centre so to allow for an increased attendance and for more exhibitors to participate.

Volunteer MBC will be providing detailed information about youth volunteerism at their booth, and will be promoting the upcoming *ChangeTheWorld - Ontario Youth Volunteer Challenge*, which will be held from April 18 through to May 9, 2010. *The Challenge* is an initiative by the Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration and is a call to action for youth aged 14 to 18 years to volunteer through a wide variety of exciting community initiatives.

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“This fair is quite timely as this weekend the *Ontario Youth Volunteer Challenge* will begin,” stated Carine Strong, Executive Director of Volunteer MBC. “By working with organizations, like the Mayor’s Youth Team, and with our local area schools, our volunteer centre is able to send out the message about the importance of youth volunteerism.” Ms. Strong further notes, “*The Challenge* is a campaign to encourage and increase youth volunteerism and to encourage and foster a lifelong commitment to volunteering – over and above the 40 hours of mandatory community service for high school.”

A dedicated website can be found at [www.volunteermbc.org/change.aspx](http://www.volunteermbc.org/change.aspx), which provides detailed information about the *Challenge* including a list of confirmed events, event registration forms (for schools and for community events), celebrity endorsement videos, helpful resources and contact information including direct links to Facebook and Twitter.

Volunteer MBC is a volunteer centre serving the cities of Mississauga and Brampton, and the Town of Caledon. The centre offers a referral service for volunteer placement within the community for all ages to include youth, seniors, newcomers and groups. They also serve the corporate community with various programming services that engage team volunteering. Additionally, the centre provides education and support for volunteers and community service agencies and organizations through topic and issue related workshops, comprehensive and informative programs, and community outreach.

Volunteer MBC is located at 2601 Matheson Blvd. E., Unit #43 in Mississauga, with satellite locations planned for the future in Brampton and Caledon. For more information about Volunteer MBC visit [www.volunteermbc.org](http://www.volunteermbc.org), or call 905.238.2622, or send an email to [info@volunteermbc.org](mailto:info@volunteermbc.org).

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For more information, contact:

Sharon Clark-Koufis  
Marketing & Communications Manager  
Volunteer MBC  
P: 905.238.2622 ext. 21  
C: 416.433.0639  
E: [media@volunteermbc.org](mailto:media@volunteermbc.org)

