



Mississauga • Brampton • Caledon

The future rests in our helping hands

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Caledon Youth Were Tops at Changing the World

June 11, 2009 – Mississauga, ON – In late April, youth from across the entire Region of Peel were encouraged to participate in a provincial challenge to “change the world” by volunteering at various events throughout the community during National Volunteer Week. The final statistics have been calculated and Volunteer MBC is pleased to announce that Robert F. Hall Catholic Secondary School in the Town of Caledon ranked number one with the most students volunteering and with the most number of hours contributed on a per student basis.

“Our centre worked very hard at co-ordinating meaningful and rewarding volunteer opportunities for the youth challenge”, noted Carine Strong, Director of Volunteer MBC. “We’re very proud of the students at Robert F. Hall on this accomplishment and congratulate them for making a difference in their community and for doing their part to help change the world.” She further noted, “We encourage all youth to continue to serve their communities through volunteering for you truly can make a difference as the future rests in your helping hands.”

The *ChangeTheWorld - Ontario Youth Volunteer Challenge*, ran from April 18 through to April 25 and was an initiative put forward by the Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration (MCI) in partnership with the Ontario Volunteer Centre Network (OVCN). Volunteer MBC was one of 19 volunteer centres across the province to participate and the centre co-ordinated 33 events across the Region of Peel, with 15 events held specifically in the Town of Caledon.

One of the events that youth volunteered at was the Caledon Library for a large book sale which netted \$3,000 in sales – the most that the library has ever collected. Mayor Marolyn Morrison (Town of Caledon) and MP David Tilson (Dufferin--Caledon) attended the sale to lend their support and to speak with the youth about the importance of giving back to the community.

###

Regional Councillor Richard Paterak (Ward 1 – Town of Caledon) visited youth volunteers at Chez Thrift, a store located on Highway 50 that specializes in gently-used clothing, toys, kitchen and household articles at bargain basement prices. While there, he presented a congratulatory certificate to one of the youth who had volunteered 25 hours in total during the challenge.

At the Caledon Home Show, youth assisted EcoCaledon with representation at their booth and with tree seedling orders. Regional Councillor Allan Thompson (Ward 2 – Town of Caledon) also lent his support by volunteering alongside the youth who participated. Youth also volunteered at The Davis Centre by helping the senior's home with garden and patio preparations.

Volunteer MBC is a new volunteer centre that has been created to foster, develop and support volunteerism in the Region of Peel, serving the cities of Mississauga and Brampton, and the Town of Caledon, by raising awareness of the power of service. The centre provides the service of volunteer placement within the community for all ages to include youth, seniors, newcomers and groups. The centre also serves the corporate community with various programming services available.

The centre is located at 2601 Matheson Blvd. E., Unit #43 in Mississauga, with satellite locations planned in the future. More information on Volunteer MBC can be found shortly at www.volunteermbc.org (launching in Mid-June) or by contacting the centre at 905.238.2622.

- 30 -

For more information, contact:

Sharon Clark-Koufis
Marketing & Communications Manager
P: 905.238.2622 ext. 21
C: 416.433.0639
E: sclark@volunteermbc.org