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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Youth Recognized by Brampton's Mayor's Youth Team

September 2, 2011 – Brampton, ON – On Tuesday, August 9, close to two dozen youth were recognized for their exemplary voluntary contributions in front of their peers, as well as representatives from the City of Brampton, including the Honourable Mayor Susan Fennell, and Volunteer MBC the local volunteer centre. The 2011 Youth Recognition Awards were held in the City Hall Atrium, a fitting location for many of the youth who have spent a significant amount of their hours at City Hall participating as a member of the Brampton Mayor's Youth Team.

The Brampton Mayor's Youth Team provides the opportunity to network with like-minded youth from various secondary schools, community service agencies, as well as other municipalities with the goal of keeping the City of Brampton a youth-friendly community. "We commend all of the youth from the team for giving so much of their time, their talents and for having the determination to make such a profound difference in their community," said Carine Strong, Executive Director of Volunteer MBC. "Congratulations to all of the award recipients. We admire your dedication and involvement, and for setting a positive example of working as a team. Together, you have achieved amazing success over the past year."

The Brampton Mayor's Youth Team operates year round working on numerous initiatives and events with the purpose of getting their fellow youth involved. These projects included the Amazing Race High School Challenge, National Youth Week festivities, environmental park clean ups, the Youth Making a Difference Workshop, volunteer and employment fairs, talent showcases, a wide variety of fundraising events at local schools, as well as participating in the ChangeTheWorld – Ontario Youth Volunteer Challenge – an initiative spear-headed by Volunteer MBC.

"The Mayor's Youth Team is very appreciative of the support network provided from the City of Brampton, Volunteer MBC, and other community agencies that have assisted the team in delivering beneficial youth friendly projects and they look forward to more great achievements in the 2011/2012 school year," said Eugene Wilson, Volunteer Coordinator, Community Services for the City of Brampton. "The Brampton Mayor's Youth Team plays a vital role in the Brampton community by inspiring youth to get involved and helping to provide solutions to various issues we witness. I truly believe that without the Mayor's Youth Team, Brampton would be missing a very defining characteristic."

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The Brampton Mayor's Youth Team is a dynamic and dedicated group of youth volunteers represented by all 21 secondary schools in the City of Brampton that strive to provide opportunities for leadership, recognition, and action encouraging Brampton's youth to become responsible and active citizens. The Mayor's Youth Team's objective is to represent the voice of its fellow peers, promoting involvement in the city by developing, implementing, and participating in social, environmental, educational, cultural, and recreational activities.

Volunteer MBC is a volunteer centre serving the cities of Mississauga and Brampton, and the Town of Caledon. The centre offers a referral and matching service for volunteer placement within the community for all ages. They also provide education and support for volunteers and community service agencies and organizations, and serve the corporate community with various programming services that engage individual and team volunteering. Additionally, the centre strives to be a strong voice to support and promote volunteerism.

For more information about the Brampton Mayor's Youth Team, visit their website at www.brampton.ca/en/residents/youth/MYT. For more information about Volunteer MBC and to access their on-line volunteer opportunities database, visit www.volunteermbc.org.

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Photo Attachments:

- Photo #1:
 - o From left to right:
 - Michele Robinson, Recreation Supervisor Community Development, Community Services, City of Brampton
 - Lindy Greenhalgh, Community Programs Coordinator, Community Services, City of Brampton
 - The Honourable Mayor Susan Fennell, City of Brampton
 - Eugene Wilson, Volunteer Coordinator, Community Services, City of Brampton
 - Carine Strong, Executive Director, Volunteer MBC
 - Sharon Clark-Koufis, Marketing & Communications Manager, Volunteer MBC
- Photo #2:
 - o Members of the City of Brampton's Mayor's Youth Team