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*The future rests in our helping hands*

## MEDIA RELEASE

### Volunteer MBC Celebrates International Volunteer Day & Launches Holiday Giving Campaign

**December 4, 2015 – Brampton, ON** – On Wednesday, December 2, the Region of Peel community were invited to join in on the celebration of International Volunteer Day at Volunteer MBC's Annual Holiday Open House.

International Volunteer Day (IVD), which is officially held on December 5 each year, as declared by the United Nations General Assembly, is a day that celebrates the efforts of those who have made an important contribution to society by giving their time as volunteers. It is on this day that Volunteer MBC acknowledges the support received from their very own volunteers who help deliver the centre's various programs and services to the community, as well as volunteers who help support essential local community services.

"We are very grateful to the 330 volunteers who generously gave their time, talents and skills to our centre this year and to all the volunteers across the Region of Peel," said Carine Strong, Volunteer MBC's Executive Director. "Our volunteers help out in various capacities, including reaching out and connecting volunteers to close to 200 member community service organizations; they assist us with our community outreach; as well they provide support with our day to day operations and governance oversight. Without the incredible support of so many dedicated volunteers, we simply would not be able to deliver our mission. Thank you so very much!"

During the event, Volunteer MBC launched their Annual Holiday Giving Campaign where guests were provided with the opportunity to participate in a silent auction which featured various unique items and gifts for all ages, as well as a number of raffle and door prizes. Proceeds raised during the Holiday Giving Campaign will directly support the local Volunteer Centre in continuing to promote and foster volunteerism within the community.

"Right here in our community, Volunteer MBC helps to build the capacity of community service organizations by sourcing and matching qualified volunteers to assist them in delivering their much needed programs and services," said Rohit Mehta, Chair of Volunteer MBC's Fund Development Committee. "Last year, Volunteer MBC referred 31,000 volunteers which resulted in 3.9 million volunteer hours, 2,051 full time volunteer positions, and a cost savings of 94.7 million dollars, all of which, would not be possible without the support of Volunteer MBC, the local Volunteer Centre." Ms. Strong further noted, "Volunteers are the backbone in supporting strong, healthy communities. Without volunteers, essential community services would simply no longer exist."

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Special thanks goes to all of the volunteers who supported the planning and coordination of the centre's annual event, including the event sponsor Scotiabank who generously matched all donations raised during the event.

Other event supporters included: City of Brampton; Cody Palmer-Almond (Musical Entertainment); Good Food Brampton; Husky Injection Molding Systems; IMC - Ilic Management Consultants; JSO Consulting; Kruger Products; La Siembra Co-operative; Mars Canada; the Mohawk Inn & Convention Centre; Ovik's Salon & Spa; Purdy's Chocolateer; Rogers TV Peel; the ROSE Theatre; Scotia Wealth Management, the Second Cup (Huronario Street); SLiCK Solutions; snapd Brampton; and Toronto West KOA Campground. A special thanks as well to Volunteer MBC's Board of Directors, staff and a number of individuals who personally provided in-kind and financial donations.

Donations by cash or cheque can be delivered or mailed to:

**Volunteer MBC**  
**c/o Community Door Brampton, 7700 Hurontario Street, Unit 601**  
**Brampton, ON L6Y 4M3**

Donations can also be made on-line by credit card or Interac through CanadaHelps at:

<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/volunteer-mbc/>

**About Volunteer MBC:**

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 Volunteer MBC, to access their On-line Volunteer Referral System, and to find more details on the centre's three convenient locations in Mississauga, Brampton and Caledon, visit [www.volunteermbc.org](http://www.volunteermbc.org).

Photos of the event can be viewed at: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/volunteermbc/albums/> under the album titled "Volunteer MBC's 2015 Int'l Volunteer Day Celebration & Annual Holiday Open House".

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**For more information and media inquiries, please contact:**

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*Photos follow.*

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*Photo caption:*  
 (from left to right) Sumit Chadah, Manager of Scotiabank-Hurontario,  
 Danila Maric and Lucy Sanzo from Scotiabank-Orangeville.

Special thanks to Scotiabank for matching all donations raised during  
 Volunteer MBC's 2015 International Volunteer Day Celebration/Annual Holiday Open House.  
**THANK YOU!**

*Photo credit: Jonathan Cox*  
[www.jmcoxphotography.com](http://www.jmcoxphotography.com)



*Photo caption:*  
 (from left to right) Carine Strong, Volunteer MBC's Executive Director;  
 Shawn & Bridget Saulnier, Owners of the Mohawk Inn & Convention Centre;  
 and Jake Dheer, Senior Manager, Rogers TV - Peel Region, Simcoe,  
 Grey, Bruce & Dufferin Counties & Volunteer MBC Board Vice-President

*Photo credit: Jonathan Cox*  
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