



Mississauga • Brampton • Caledon

*The future rests in our helping hands*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Volunteer MBC to be Opening Keynote at  
*The Youth Can Move the World Symposium***

**February 18, 2009 – Mississauga, ON** – Carine Strong, Director of Volunteer MBC (Mississauga, Brampton, Caledon), will be the opening keynote speaker at *The Youth Can Move the World Symposium*, which is being held on Saturday, February 21, 2009 at the Mississauga Secondary School.

*The Youth Can Move the World Symposium* is a free, one-day event, open to all youth in the Region of Peel aged 15 to 25 years. The event also includes an Agency Fair which allows local, non-profit organizations to showcase their services, programs and volunteer opportunities to youth. Volunteer MBC will also be participating in the showcase, which will provide the centre with the opportunity to introduce the various programs, and services that are available to youth, as well as their families, who will be attending the event.

“Youth are the future of our communities”, states Ms. Strong. “It is our hope to help and guide them in developing their civic responsibility, which, in turn, will make them understand the role they can play to strengthen the community which they live in”. Ms. Strong further adds, “It is through volunteering that youth can help others in a non-competitive environment, where everyone has a shared mission that generates camaraderie, tolerance and respect. Volunteering is a great way for youth to make new friends, and it provides an opportunity for them to discover their individual strengths, talents and interests and to test them in a real environment.”

Over 30 community leaders from the social, civic, business and environment sectors will also host a luncheon attended by youth delegates. Ms. Strong will also be participating as a community leader at the luncheon and will convey the importance of how volunteerism can add value to the quality of life within our community. She will also share her own personal leadership journey on creating the Region of Peel’s new volunteer centre and how together we can make a significant difference, as the future rests in our helping hands.

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Volunteer MBC will also be promoting the Ontario Youth Volunteer Challenge, *ChangeTheWorld*, which is being held during National Volunteer Week in April. More details will be announced shortly.

Volunteer MBC has been created to foster, develop and support volunteerism in the cities of Mississauga and Brampton, and the Town of Caledon by raising awareness of the power of service. 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 will be posted on-line shortly at [www.volunteermbc.org](http://www.volunteermbc.org). For more information on the *Youth Can Move the World Symposium*, visit [www.youthcanmovetheworld.ca](http://www.youthcanmovetheworld.ca).

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