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MEDIA ADVISORY

Volunteer MBC Events Wrap-up Local ChangeTheWorld Youth Volunteer Campaign

May 13, 2013 – Brampton, ON – Almost four weeks ago, Volunteer MBC, along with 22 volunteer centres across the province of Ontario, kicked off the *ChangeTheWorld - Ontario Youth Volunteer Challenge*. This weekend marks the end of the campaign and to help to wrap-up this exciting initiative, Volunteer MBC will be hosting two community events on Saturday, May 18 in the Mississauga area.

The first, in partnership with the City of Mississauga and Councillor Chris Fonseca (Ward 3), is an open invitation to the entire community to participate in “ChangeTheWorld: One Community A Time”, a park clean-up which is taking place at Shelby Park in the Cawthra Road and Rathburn Road East area. The event will be held from 9:30AM until 11:30AM. Participants will collect trash throughout the park, and are also invited to show their support for Our Place Peel by bringing donations of backpacks, socks, deodorant and other items to help youth in need.

The second event is being coordinated entirely by Volunteer MBC’s Step Up Youth Volunteer Ambassador Committee and is titled “Fun for Change”. The event will include a host of activities such as a 5 km run, a 2 km walk, and a carnival for all ages. The event will be held at Lake Aquitaine Park in the Derry Road West and Millcreek Drive area from 10:00AM to 2:00PM.

ChangeTheWorld is funded by the Government of Ontario, in partnership with the Ontario Volunteer Centre Network (OVCN), and is a province-wide campaign for youth aged 14 to 18 years to volunteer through a wide variety of exciting local initiatives. The campaign officially began during National Volunteer Week (April 21 to 27) through to May 20, 2013. The goal is to inspire youth to volunteer, develop new skills and broaden their awareness of community service organizations.

Last year, Volunteer MBC engaged over 5,183 youth in 76 events across Peel Region, which totaled an astounding 24,426 volunteer hours! Across Ontario, nearly 28,000 youth participated in 2012 breaking records contributing to almost 124,000 volunteer hours. This year, 23 volunteer centres are participating across Ontario with the goal to surpass 30,000 youth volunteering for a minimum of three hours per volunteer over the four week campaign.

Members of the media and the general community are invited to attend both events.

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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 opportunities database, and to find more details on the centre's three convenient locations in Mississauga, Brampton and Caledon, visit www.volunteermbc.org.

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For more information and media inquiries, please contact:

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Event #1: ChangeTheWorld: One Community At A Time

Date/Time:

- Saturday, May 18, 2013
- 9:30AM to 11:30AM

Location:

- Shelby Park, 4220 Shelby Crescent, Mississauga, ON L4W 3N5
- Link to map: <http://goo.gl/maps/sdMrk>

Attendees/Dignitaries:

- Councillor Chris Fonseca, Ward 3, City of Mississauga (*confirmed*)
- Mayor Hazel McCallion, City of Mississauga (*invited*)
- Ms. Carine Strong, Executive Director, Volunteer MBC (*confirmed*)
- Representatives of Our Place Peel (*confirmed*)
- Youth and community residents (*invited*)
- Volunteer MBC Staff (*confirmed*)

Event #2: Fun for Change

Date/Time:

- Saturday, May 18, 2013
- 10:00AM to 2:00PM

Location:

- Lake Aquitaine Park, Derry Road West and Millcreek Drive, Mississauga, ON (near L5N 4E8)
- Link to map: <http://goo.gl/maps/5VqUY>

Attendees/Dignitaries:

- Youth and community residents (*invited*)
- Volunteer MBC's Step Up Youth Volunteer Ambassadors (*confirmed*)
- Volunteer MBC Staff (*confirmed*)

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