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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Volunteer MBC Celebrates International Volunteer Managers Day

November 5, 2009 – Mississauga, ON – Today, November 5th, Volunteer MBC is proud to be celebrating International Volunteer Managers Day. This celebration is an opportunity to recognize the dedication and leadership that volunteer managers bring to their profession.

Volunteering does not take place in isolation. Behind each and every volunteer there is someone who takes on the responsibility of coordinating, supporting, training and recruiting the volunteer so that it not only fulfills a specific need that the organization may have, but that it also fulfills the personal objectives that a volunteer has and helps to fulfil the reason behind why they give of themselves.

“It is with the support of volunteer managers that the spirit of volunteerism is greatly enhanced and exemplified,” states Carine Strong, Executive Director of Volunteer MBC. “Often volunteers are exploring new careers, looking for ways to socialize and become part of their communities, and also wanting to help others by using their talents and skill sets. Volunteer managers are a vital connection to ensuring that the volunteer feels appreciated and rewarded for their contribution – we send our profound congratulations to all volunteer managers.”

Volunteer MBC is a volunteer centre serving the cities of Mississauga and Brampton, and the Town of Caledon. The centre offers a referral service for volunteer placement within the community for all ages to include youth, seniors, newcomers and groups. They also serve the corporate community with various programming services that engage team volunteering.

One of the centre's goals is to strengthen the capacity of the sector by providing education and support for volunteers and community service agencies and organizations through topic and issue related workshops, comprehensive and informative programs, and community outreach.

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By working closely with organizations to include the Peel Volunteer Administrators Network (PVAN), the centre helps to provide resources and tools for volunteer managers to assist them with volunteer recruitment, managing and retaining volunteers for their organizations.

“On behalf of PVAN, and in recognition of your hard work in the field of volunteer management, Happy International Volunteer Managers Day!” stated Robin Haley-Gillin, Chair, Peel Volunteer Administrators Network (PVAN). “Because of you, your organization runs more smoothly and efficiently, your programs are successful and your clients nourished. Your volunteers feel appreciated and are happy to assist and your co-workers know the value of your contribution to the overall success of the organization.”

Executives of Volunteer MBC agency members, comprised of not-for-profit community service providers, also shared accolades about their own volunteer managers. Attached is a collection of their statements of support.

Volunteer MBC is located at 2601 Matheson Blvd. E., Unit #43 in Mississauga, with satellite locations planned in the future. For more information or to contact Volunteer MBC visit www.volunteermbc.org or call 905.238.2622 or send an email to info@volunteermbc.org.

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**Volunteer MBC Agency Members
Support of International Volunteer Managers Day - November 5, 2009**

“Live to give - for it is only in the giving of oneself to others that we truly live.”

Samina Talat, Executive Director, Aurat Health Services

“No single issue has so transformed our organization as has the prominent leadership of volunteers. This has emanated from a vision, often coming from our Manager of Voluntarism, Michelle Stubbs. She has seized on an array of skills and passions in our community; she has created opportunities for individuals, families and entire organizations to lead, to truly guide traffic in what we do and how we do it. The results of her work in Caledon Community Services are very impressive.”

Monty Laskin, Executive Director, Caledon Community Services

“Distress Centre Peel relies on volunteers to provide emotional support and crisis intervention to our callers 24 hours a day, seven days a week. They would not have the training and support they need to do the job if it weren't for the dedication and hard work of our Volunteer Managers who recruit, interview and screen them, provide them with the training they need, and give them ongoing support and on-the-job coaching. The Volunteer Managers also schedule the volunteers 24/7 and provide continuous training and motivation. We have an outstanding staff team and their work is integral to the success of our service in the community.”

Linda Gerger, Executive Director, Distress Centre Peel

“Our Director of Volunteer Development and Coordinator of Volunteers are very dedicated and caring individuals. They have a deep appreciation of the needs of our clients as well as the commitment and compassion of the volunteers with whom they work. Our volunteer managers understand the unique qualities that volunteers offer to support our clients, our agency and ultimately our community. They provide encouragement, inspiration, caring and foster an environment where volunteers grow and experience the role of companionship with our clients and their families. Many volunteers express they feel they receive more from the experience than they give. Truly the volunteers make a real difference for our clients and their families. This dedicated group of people are supported by dedicated volunteer managers.”

Theresa Greer, Executive Director, Heart House Hospice

“Anna Olsen, Manager of Volunteer Programs at Peel CAS is the heart and soul of our agency. She is deeply committed to the work we do in supporting kids and families and works tirelessly at creating opportunities for people of all ages in our community to contribute to this work as volunteers. The wisdom, skill and a contagious enthusiasm she brings to her role have helped her to build a very successful volunteer program within our agency. The volunteers and staff of Peel Children's Aid salute and thank *our Anna.*”

Paul Zarnke, Executive Director, Peel Children's Aid Society
