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*The future rests in our helping hands*

## MEDIA RELEASE

### Volunteer MBC Acknowledges International Volunteer Managers Day on November 5th

**November 5, 2015 – Brampton, ON** – Today, on Thursday, November 5th, Volunteer MBC is pleased to acknowledge International Volunteer Managers Day. Now in its 16th year, International Volunteer Managers Day provides the opportunity to celebrate the dedication and leadership that volunteer engagement professionals bring to their role.

Universally, people recognise the contribution of volunteers – in sport, health, emergency services, faith communities and the environmental lobby. In fact, volunteers are involved in just about every aspect of service delivery in all walks of life.

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 volunteers who help to fulfill a specific need that the organization may have, but also to help fulfill the personal objectives that a volunteer may have and the reason behind why they give of themselves.

That is why we celebrate International Volunteer Managers Day every year on November 5. It is important to let those professionals know that the spirit of volunteerism is enhanced and enabled by them – and to thank them.

Over the years this day has grown to now receive support by volunteer involving agencies and organizations – both large and small – from all around the world. Just as important is the opportunity to educate others about this important work, which is why the catch phrase “*Education through Celebration*” is used to acknowledge International Volunteer Managers Day.

Volunteer MBC, the local Volunteer Centre serving the Region of Peel, provides a direct link in helping volunteer engagement professionals find individuals to support their organization’s programs and services through the centre’s On-line Volunteer Referral System and volunteer referral service. Additionally, through their Training Centre for Service Excellence volunteer engagement professionals gain access to a wide array of sector-related topics to include: volunteer engagement recruitment (following the *Canadian Code for Volunteer Engagement*); the *10 Steps of Volunteer Screening*; volunteer retention and training; and standards related to the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA)*.

The theme of International Volunteer Managers Day 2015 is “**VOLUNTEER MANAGERS: the power behind Super Hero Volunteers**”.

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**Quote from Carine Strong, Executive Director, Volunteer MBC:**

“On this day we extend our sincere thanks to volunteer engagement professionals for doing all that they do to make volunteers feel valued and for their outstanding ability to engage volunteers in various roles within their organizations. It is through the leadership, support and dedication of volunteer engagement professionals that individuals can find true meaning in volunteering. They guide volunteers towards using their expertise and talents to help others, and provide appreciation and recognition for the volunteers' contribution. The spirit of volunteerism is enhanced and enabled by volunteer engagement professionals every day, so on behalf of our entire team at Volunteer MBC, we thank you for all that you do.”

**Quote from Patricia Weiler, Chair, Ontario Volunteer Centre Network (OVCN):**

“On November 5, 2015, we wish to express our greatest appreciation to the Managers of Volunteers, both paid and unpaid, who strengthen their organizations by recruiting the most appropriate individuals who fulfill various volunteer roles. These Managers provide support and training to volunteers in order to help make their experience a meaningful one. They are also continually educating themselves about the sector in order to safely, creatively and in fun ways engage volunteers within their organizations. In Ontario, over 6 million people volunteer and on this day, and every day, we give thanks to Managers of Volunteers for their commitment and dedication in ensuring the volunteer movement continues to flourish.”

**Quote from Lisa Rae, President, Professional Association of Volunteer Leaders – Ontario (PAVRO):**

“As we celebrate International Volunteer Manager’s Day on November 5th, I would like to acknowledge and thank you for being a part of a wonderful and essential profession. While volunteers receive recognition for the work they do, not enough appreciation is often bestowed upon those who manage and coordinate volunteer programs. At PAVRO, we believe and support the work that leaders of volunteers do every day, it is a profession that makes a strong contribution to our communities. On behalf of the PAVRO Board of Directors thank you for offering stellar volunteer programs based on best practices. Without you, volunteer programs would not succeed in keeping volunteers engaged and working towards the mission of organizations they are involved in. Your work contributes to our profession and demonstrates to others the importance of the work that leaders of volunteers do.”

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**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).

**Other links:**

- Ontario Volunteer Centre Network (OVCN): [www.ovcn.ca](http://www.ovcn.ca)
- Professional Association of Volunteer Leaders - Ontario (PAVRO): [www.pavro.on.ca](http://www.pavro.on.ca)
- International Volunteer Managers Day: [www.volunteermanagersday.org](http://www.volunteermanagersday.org)

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