

MEDIA RELEASE

Volunteer MBC - Caledon Centre Officially Launched

September 21, 2012 – Caledon, ON – With a room filled of Caledon-serving community service organizations, members of Council, the public, staff and supporters, the Volunteer MBC - Caledon Centre officially launched yesterday at the Albion Bolton Branch of Caledon Public Library. The launch was made possible through a partnership between Caledon Public Library and Volunteer MBC, the local volunteer centre serving Peel Region.

"We are extremely grateful to Caledon Public Library," said Carine Strong, Executive Director of Volunteer MBC. "With limited resources, serving rural communities often presents many challenges. But the libraries across Ontario offer a venue where the community – young and old can gather and connect." Ms. Strong further noted, "Now, you can drop by to visit our volunteer centre here at your local library in Bolton."

Starting in October 2012, the Volunteer MBC - Caledon Centre will be available at the Albion Bolton Branch of Caledon Public Library to provide on-site support for their referral/matching service for volunteer placement within community service organizations. **Caledon residents are welcome to visit the 1st or 3rd Thursdays of each month between 2PM to 6PM** to learn how to access the centre's online volunteer opportunities database and to get assistance to find a suitable volunteer role in the community.

"I'm very pleased to be here along with Councillor Patti Foley and Councillor Allan Thompson, which goes to show you how very important these events are and how council cares about every part of this municipality no matter where you come from in this municipality," said the Honorable Marolyn Morrison, Mayor for the Town of Caledon. "I encourage everybody to continue volunteering and to give back to your community, that's why Caledon is the community it is. Because people care, they get involved and we try to take care of each other." She further added, "We welcome into the community Volunteer MBC who can help bridge people who like to volunteer with the organizations who need them."

The celebration also included a volunteer fair, which was attended by Caledon-serving community service organizations to include: Caledon Community Services; Caledon Meals on Wheels; the Canadian Cancer Society - Georgetown Dufferin Peel Unit; Habitat for Humanity - Brampton; Peel Children's Aid; Peace Ranch; and the Region of Peel's Human Services. Volunteer MBC staff were also on hand to promote volunteerism and to meet-and-greet with visitors to the library to discuss what volunteer roles they were interested in and to provide an overview of how to access the volunteer centre's on-line opportunity database.

"One of the things I get asked about every once in a while is what are you going to do when they stop publishing books," said Bill Manson, Chief Librarian for Caledon Public Library. "And the answer is in this room today, and which is in our mission statement, to connect people. And not only with books, but with people and organizations. A community that is vibrant and self-sustaining is built on this type of partnership, because we really are the connections place, the books are only a part of this." Mr. Manson further noted, "Thank you to Volunteer MBC in helping to work with us by providing your services in now making connections between volunteers and our community."

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.

For more information and media inquiries, please contact:

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Photo Attachment #1: VolunteerMBC CaledonCtr Launch1

Photo Caption:

The celebratory cake cutting for the official launch of the Volunteer MBC - Caledon Centre at the Albion Bolton Branch of Caledon Public Library.

From left to right:

Mary Maw, Manager of Communications & Programming, Caledon Public Library; Councillor Patti Foley, Ward 5 - Town of Caledon; Honorable Marolyn Morrison, Mayor for the Town of Caledon; Carine Strong, Executive Director, Volunteer MBC.

Photo Credit: Jonathan Cox

<u>Photo Attachment #2:</u> VolunteerMBC_CaledonCtr_Launch2

Photo Caption:

The ribbon gets cut for the official launch of the Volunteer MBC - Caledon Centre at the Albion Bolton Branch of Caledon Public Library.

From left to right:

Councillor Patti Foley, Ward 5 - Town of Caledon; Honorable Marolyn Morrison, Mayor for the Town of Caledon; Carine Strong, Executive Director, Volunteer MBC; Bill Manson, Chief Executive Officer,

Caledon Public Library; Mary Maw, Manager of Communications & Programming, Caledon Public Library; Councillor Allan Thompson, Ward 2 - Town of Caledon.



