



Communities win when businesses partner

Best-practice examples of business and community partnerships recognized

Calgary, Thursday February 7, 2008. Imagine Canada tonight celebrated the year's most praiseworthy partnerships between businesses and nonprofit organizations.

The Business and Community Partnership Awards recognizes innovative collaborations between leading businesses and their nonprofit partners. These partnerships, which involve more than only financial support, demonstrate the leadership and commitment of everyone involved. Both parties engage in project design, oversight and implementation.

"Our latest Business Contributions to Canadian Communities research shows us that the majority of companies would support nonprofits even if there were no business benefits of doing so," says Georgina Steinsky-Schwartz, president and CEO of Imagine Canada. "Businesses partner with nonprofits because they are dedicated to meeting a need. In fact, 87% of businesses we surveyed said they give because it helps build strong and healthy communities, which is good for business," says Steinsky-Schwartz.

To be eligible for a partnership award, projects must be sustainable, and include active involvement and resources of both partners. What results are best-practice examples of how to strengthen the communities in which we work and live.

This year's winners are:

- **The Alberta Conservation Association and Suncor Energy Foundation, for their Boreal Habitat Conservation Initiative**
- **The Canadian Association of Food Banks, Regina Food Bank, Ontario Association of Food Banks and Farm Credit Canada for their Drive Away Hunger program**
- **Volunteer Richmond Information and Coast Capital Savings, for the Leadership Richmond program**

The Business and Community Partnership Awards is an initiative of Imagine Canada, a national charity with offices in Toronto, Ottawa and Calgary. Imagine Canada looks into and out for Canada's charities and nonprofits. Its research and public policy facilitate increased philanthropy and public engagement. Imagine Canada's Caring Company program, the country's leading corporate citizenship initiative, sets the benchmark for business giving in Canada.

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