

Award-winning partnerships a model for building stronger communities

Imagine Canada celebrates innovative programs of Canadian businesses and nonprofits and charities.

Tuesday, November 8, 2005. The winners of Imagine Canada's *Community Partnership Awards* will be announced this afternoon at a reception in downtown Toronto. This prestigious initiative is the country's premier awards program that recognizes partnerships with Canadian corporations and charitable and nonprofit organizations.

"Charities and nonprofits are no strangers to the need for collaboration," says Ted Garrard, chair of Imagine Canada's national board of directors. "When that takes the shape of innovative partnerships that make Canadian communities better places to live, it's simply inspiring!"

Imagine Canada's National Survey of Nonprofit and Voluntary Organizations revealed that sponsorship, donations and grants from Canadian corporations represented almost \$3 billion in revenues to nonprofit and voluntary organizations in 2003.

In ranked order, the winners of Imagine Canada's 2005 *Community Partnership Awards* are:

- Children's Miracle Network and Microsoft Canada, for the development and support of the Child Life Interactive Computers for Kids (CLICK) technology centre at the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario in Ottawa. The CLICK centre provides computers, games, a wireless network and a full time child life practitioner to help hospitalized children benefit from and enjoy the technology;
- The Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation (CBCF) and Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce (CIBC), for the annual CIBC Run for the Cure – the largest one-day, volunteer-led fundraising event in Canada. In the nine years of CIBC's involvement, the Run has grown to encompass 170,000 participants raising \$21 million in over 40 Canadian communities; and,
- Dare to Care Incorporated and EnCana Corporation, for the delivery of anti-bullying seminars in schools throughout Western Canada. Since 2004, the seminars have included a Life Skills component that empowers students with the confidence to make decisions and recognize accountability for their actions.

Three honourable mentions will also be awarded to: Toyota Evergreen Learning Grounds Program (Toyota Canada Inc. and Evergreen); Water for Life (Petro Canada and Centre for Affordable Water and Sanitation Technology); and Climate Change Education and Action Program (The Delphi Group and Scouts Canada).

Imagine Canada supports Canada's charities, nonprofit organizations and socially conscious businesses and champions the work they do in our communities.

All members of Imagine Canada's Caring Company program are eligible to submit an entry to the Community Partnership Awards. Members of the Caring Company program pledge to give 1% of pre-tax profits to a charitable cause, and to encourage employee giving and volunteering. Launched in 1988, the Caring Company program is one of the world's most successful corporate citizenship initiatives.

For more information, please visit the Corporate Citizenship area of our website at www.imaginecanada.ca.

Further information and b-roll footage are available from:

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