

Public letter to candidates in the Caledon municipal election

With the approaching municipal election, we would like to take this opportunity to encourage all candidates to consider what they can do to support and promote volunteerism in our community.

There are close to 1.3 million residents in the Region of Peel, including the more than 59,500 residents in the Town of Caledon, making our Region one of the fastest growing communities in all of Canada.

The needs are greatly increasing for the delivery of community programs, services and support for individuals and their families who make our community their home. The organizations that provide these programs, services and support rely on volunteers to support their day-to-day operations. Volunteer MBC is here to help and we are hoping that you, too, will also be able to lend your support.

Volunteer MBC is the local volunteer centre that fosters and develops volunteerism in Peel by raising awareness of the power of service. Our mission is to promote and support volunteerism in an effort to connect all people to meaningful volunteer opportunities.

Here's a quick snapshot of what we do:

? We offer a referral/matching service for volunteer placement within the community for all ages to include youth, seniors, newcomers and groups;

? We serve the corporate community with various programming services that engage individual and team volunteering;

? We provide education and support for volunteers and community service agencies and organizations through topic and issue related workshops, comprehensive and informative programs, and community outreach;

? We strive to be a strong voice to support and promote volunteerism through advocacy, community outreach, public and media relations.

In 2013, our volunteer centre referred more than 29,000 individuals to volunteer roles in our community. As Oct. 27 comes near, we ask that you include the voluntary sector in your platform. Our vision is to create a united community through volunteerism that ensures a safe and healthy environment where people truly care for each other. With your support, we know that we can make this vision a reality in the Town of Caledon.

Can we count on your support?

Carine Strong,

Executive Director,

Volunteer MBC