



Boys & Girls Clubs of Canada
Clubs Garçons & Filles du Canada

MEDIA RELEASE

Boys and Girls Clubs Support the Education Dreams of 62 Ontario Youth with \$115,000 in Scholarships

Presented at 18th Annual Boys and Girls Clubs of Ontario Scholarship Awards

For Immediate Release (Toronto, ON, Sunday, September 28, 2009) Recognizing the critical role played by post-secondary education in breaking the cycle of poverty and allowing young people to achieve their potential, Boys and Girls Clubs of Ontario are presenting 62 Ontario youth with \$115,000 in scholarships at the 18th Annual Boys and Girls Clubs of Ontario Scholarship Awards, held yesterday.

For youth receiving the awards, the scholarships come at a time when the high cost of tuition would make it impossible for many to pursue a post-secondary education without such assistance.

"A quality education is essential in breaking the cycle of poverty and giving young people the best possible opportunity for success," said Sandra Morris, Regional Director, Central Region for Boys and Girls Clubs of Canada. "Thanks to the support of our generous donors and sponsors we are able to help our young people realize their potential and take advantage of the benefits of post-secondary education."

The 62 youth, from communities across Ontario, will receive scholarship awards ranging from \$1,000 to \$4,000 towards tuition costs for the 2009-10 school year at the school of their choice. Recipients were selected based on financial need, good academic standing, and an outstanding contribution to their local Boys and Girls Club and community.

"The young people receiving these scholarships are already leaders in the Boys and Girls Clubs and communities, and will be stronger leaders in the future as a result of this opportunity", said Mona Ghiami, President of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Ontario Board.

The Scholarship Program is one of two flagship programs of Boys and Girls Clubs of Ontario. Since it was established in 1992, Boys and Girls Clubs of Ontario have awarded more than \$1,125,000 in scholarships to help more than 875 Ontario youth fulfill the dream of a post-secondary education.

The Boys and Girls Clubs of Ontario Scholarship Program is made possible thanks to the support of The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Ontario, Future Shop, Sears Canada, Media Dimensions, Trillium Non-Profit Ventures for Youth, the Kiwanis Club of Toronto Foundation, and private family donors, including the family of John H. Brace and family of Raymond and Jean Allan.

About Boys and Girls Clubs

Boys and Girls Clubs provide safe, supportive places where children and youth can experience new opportunities, overcome barriers, build positive relationships and develop confidence and skills for life. Clubs offer after-school programs in physical recreation, technology, the arts, literacy, personal growth and more. Many clubs also provide meals, emergency shelter, family support programs and other support to children, youth and families at risk. Across Ontario, 25 local community Boys and Girls Clubs serve more than 75,000 young people in 100 service locations. To learn more, visit www.bgccan.com.

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