

Developing the leaders of tomorrow

Federal government employee volunteers with other youth to help make a difference in communities around the world

By Greg Rogers

September 7, 2006 – Moncton, NB –

What you put into something is what you get out of it is an observation shared by Liette Lavallée and other young leaders who are making a difference in more than 5,000 communities around the world. They are members of a worldwide federation called Junior Chamber International (JCI).

“JCI is all about getting people in their 20s and 30s to develop their leadership skills, social responsibility, fellowship, and entrepreneurship and getting them involved in their community,” said Ms. Lavallée, a senior communications officer with the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency in Moncton.

New to Halifax in 2002 and knowing few people, Ms. Lavallée joined JCI to meet other young professionals.

“At first, it was purely for social reasons,” she said. “Then I discovered the positive impact JCI has on Halifax and I was hooked!”

Ms. Lavallée was elected president of the Halifax chapter in 2005. She moved to Moncton later that year and established a JCI chapter in her new home. The Moncton chapter now has nearly 40 members. For the past two years, she has organized the Outstanding Young Canadians Awards Gala, an event that recognizes remarkable young people.

Ms. Lavallée is one example of Government of Canada employees making a difference in their communities. Along with their regular volunteering, thousands of public servants participate in the annual Government of Canada Workplace Charitable Campaign (GCWCC), the largest workplace charitable project in Canada. In 2005, federal public servants contributed more than \$29.5 million to GCWCC in 113 communities nationwide. GCWCC 2006 kicks off on September 7 and will run until November 22.



Jason McQuaid, JCI Halifax president (far left), Liette Lavallée, JCI Canada president, and Terry Soucy, JCI Atlantic president at the Halifax Outstanding Young Canadians Awards Gala.

For more information, please contact:

Mary O'Meara

T: 613-941-4705

E: mary.omeara@cra-arc.gc.ca