

## **Dedicated volunteer helps save Prince Edward Island's first-ever children's breakfast program**

*Federal government employee key in helping turn around struggling Boys and Girls Club*

*By Judy de Lima*

**Sept. 7, 2006 – Summerside, PEI** – Thanks in part to the timely intervention of a devoted volunteer, Prince Edward Island's first children's breakfast program was saved and today is one of several important programs helping the island's young people.

Ted Cross, a manager in the Summerside office of the Canada Revenue Agency, has volunteered on behalf of his community's youth for more than 30 years. He has participated with his local Boy Scouts troop, coached boys' basketball, and served as chair of the International Youth Exchange and Rotary Youth Parliament. The Rotary International Service Club program operates high school student exchanges around the world.

One of his most prized contributions was to the Summerside Boys and Girls Club. The organization was in poor financial shape and on the brink of closure when Mr. Cross joined its board of directors in 2000. Thanks to his wealth of banking and business knowledge, Mr. Cross helped put the club's finances back in the black. Mr. Cross is now president of the once-again thriving organization, which now provides computer labs, sports events, dances and summer camps for local youth, as well as its children's breakfast program.

"It's very satisfying to see that these youth have a safe environment in which to enjoy their childhood," Mr. Cross said.

Mr. Cross 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 nation-wide. GCWCC 2006 kicks off on September 7 and will run until November 22.

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