

A lifetime of helping others

Federal government employee is dedicated to volunteering for numerous organizations and campaigns

By Bonita Gagné

Sept. 7, 2006 – Halifax, NS – Jane Underwood knows what it means to be a volunteer. She has been doing it as long as she can remember.

“Volunteering excites me and gives me a sense of accomplishment. I feel I am really making a difference in the lives of those around me,” she said.

Ms. Underwood, an administrative assistant with Public Works and Government Services Canada in Halifax, has played an active role in the Government of Canada Workplace Charitable Campaign (GCWCC) throughout her career, from being a member of the special events committee to serving as a canvasser.

Her generosity and caring spirit are evident to the many people she has helped. Ms. Underwood volunteers much of her time for Dress for Success, a non-profit organization that helps low-income women make the transition into the workforce.

She has also volunteered as a canvasser for the Nova Scotia Heart and Stroke Foundation, during the Izaak Walton Killam Health Centre telethon, at the Canadian Red Cross Nova Scotia Region shelters, for the Lower Sackville Royal Canadian Mounted Police Stetsons and Spurs organization, and for the Special Olympics at Halifax Moosehead Major Junior Hockey games.

Ms. Underwood 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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For more information, please contact:

Mary O’Meara

T: 613-941-4705

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