

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

For Immediate Release

**December 16, 2010**

### **\$618,200 in OTF Grants Place Focus on Helping Youth**

#### **Minister of Children and Youth Services Announces Grants for Five Youth-Oriented Programs**

**Toronto** – On Thursday afternoon, the Hon. Laurel Broten, Minister of Children and Youth Services, met with five of the Ontario Trillium Foundation's newest grant recipients to hear how new funding will effect programs designed for young people in Toronto and across the province. The Minister announced that the organizations have received a combined total of \$618,200 in grants to implement various initiatives, designed to reach out to young people by looking at health issues, helping at-risk youth, developing safety programs and fostering leadership skills.

The recipients of the five grants come from both of the Ontario Trillium Foundation's Province-wide and Community granting streams:

- **ParticipACTION**  
\$210,000 over two years to support the Sogo Active Ontario Youth Advisory Committee in outreach and mentorship training to engage youth in creating physical activities in 10 communities across Ontario.
- **Raising The Roof/Chez Toit**  
\$213,900 over two years to research and share best practices in community-based partnerships with corporate sector employers for programs that help make homeless youth more employable and to demonstrate opportunities for collaboration and corporate engagement.
- **Schools Without Borders/Écoles Sans Frontières**  
\$75,000 over one year to host a multi-stakeholder initiative that explores the conditions to best support effective youth organizing. The initiative will also develop a provincial strategy to scale up and share a youth organizing platform model.
- **Young Women's Christian Association of Greater Toronto (YWCA)**  
\$44,700 over six months to develop partnerships and a training model to support the expansion of the Safe Sisters Programs for girls in Ontario YWCA's and other girl-serving organizations. The Safe Sisters Program helps girls aged nine to 13 make healthy choices around safety and violence prevention in their communities.
- **Tropicana Community Services**  
\$75,000 over one year to further organizational development through enhanced outreach, marketing, volunteer engagement, and social enterprise development. This will strengthen the work of Elevated Grounds, a youth-led initiative in Scarborough that uses the performing arts to raise awareness of mental health issues.

#### **QUOTES**

"By investing in a range of innovative programs, the Ontario Trillium Foundation and these five community organizations are improving the lives of young people. By working together and investing in Ontario's children and youth, we will build a better future for all Ontarians."

- Laurel Broten, Minister of Children and Youth Services.

"We're delighted to help these organizations who are investing their expertise and knowledge to help young people discover a new sense of self and learn about the unique opportunities available to them. It's a good fit with our own goal of building healthy and vibrant communities in Ontario."

- Helen Burstyn, Chair of the Ontario Trillium Foundation.



## **ABOUT**

The Ontario Trillium Foundation makes nearly 1,500 grants each year to charitable and not-for-profit organizations located across the province. It awards grants in both its Province-wide and Community programs in the following sectors; Arts and Culture, Sports and Recreation, the Environment and Human and Social Services.

A leading grantmaker in Canada, the Ontario Trillium Foundation strengthens the capacity of the voluntary sector through investments in community-based initiatives. An agency of the Government of Ontario, OTF builds healthy and vibrant communities. [www.trilliumfoundation.org](http://www.trilliumfoundation.org)

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