



Leadership Graduates Make an Impact

Guelph, Ontario, June 17th, 2011. Leadership Guelph & Wellington is celebrating the graduation of its second class of participants on Friday, June 17, 2011th at the Ignatius Jesuit Centre. It has been an exciting year for the participants in this program – a year of discovery, learning, networking and community building.

Tanya Riemann, Leadership 2011 Graduate and founder of Platypi Designs comments that *"This program has led to significant personal and professional growth for me and I know that through this education my contribution to community will be that much more significant. Let the adventure begin!"*

Leadership Guelph & Wellington offers leadership skills training to 25-30 participants annually. Over the course of the past year (September 2010-June 2011), participants learned about the local community, leadership skills and opportunities, and how they can impact our communities.

Leadership 2011 Graduate Kate Vsetula, Project Coordinator, Guelph Wellington Local Food explains her experience with the program: *"Leadership Guelph & Wellington allowed me the opportunity to learn new skills to be a strong leader in the community. Everyone possesses the potential to be an effective community leader and this course can help you get there."*

The Volunteer Centre of Guelph/Wellington is the lead organization for Leadership Guelph & Wellington. Cathy Taylor, Executive Director, notes, "The participants and alumni of this program come from a wide variety of backgrounds resulting in a network of strong leaders in fields throughout the community."

Kundan Abelson, another Leadership Graduate 2011 from the Publication, Hospital News says *"Leadership Guelph & Wellington is a hothouse for blossoming leaders. Gayle Valeriotte (the lead facilitator of the program) has helped us sow the seeds of success and it is a pleasure to see how we have all bloomed throughout our time together"*.

Late applications for our 2012 class are being accepted until the end of June 2011, from those 18 years of age or over who work or live in Guelph or Wellington County. The ideal candidate is committed to taking a leadership role in the community, either at work or as a volunteer. This is a program for future leaders from all walks of life.

The 2012 program begins in September 2011 and runs until June 2012. Tuition for the program is \$2,750. This includes all learning materials, meals and retreat costs. There are a limited number of tuition subsidies available.

To find out more or to apply for the program, visit www.leadershipgw.ca or call the Volunteer Centre of Guelph/Wellington at 519-822-0912.

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For further information contact:

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Leadership Guelph & Wellington is the first program of its kind in our community. With a made-in-Wellington curriculum to be instructed by a broad range of community experts, the program will provide 20 to 30 participants annually with the skills they need to take leadership roles at work and as volunteers. The program was developed by the Volunteer Centre of Guelph/Wellington in concert with the University of Guelph, with support from the Ontario Trillium Foundation.