

HALTON SOCIAL PLANNING COUNCIL & VOLUNTEER CENTRE



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November 16, 2001

Dear Colleagues:

Thank you for participating in the conference, *The Voluntary Sector and Volunteers: Building Our Future Together*. It was a day marked by the sharing of experience in and knowledge of the non-profit sector in Halton. Great diversity of experience and expectations emerged, yet, similar patterns of concern over the capacity of the sector to support and nurture the men, women and children of our community was a constant thread throughout the day's deliberations. The reflections of the day covered the issues of volunteer recruitment in local communities to the relationship of the voluntary sector to government and funders.

Attached you will find the proceedings of the conference. It is a document rich in ideas and recommendations for action. There is much to ponder as we build the future of this sector together. I know that this *Book of Proceedings* will contribute to the development of each agency and to the partnerships to be created among our agencies in order to enhance our capacity as a sector. The Council's Volunteer Centre has much 'food for thought' and an emerging blue print to guide its program development.

The memorandum attached to this letter summarizes the work of the action planning session, a follow up to the conference held Tuesday, November 13, 2001. The participants grouped or categorized the various conference sessions into a listing of priorities for further development and community-based action. The Council's Volunteer Centre looks forward not only to working with you on meeting your agency's volunteer needs but also on building the voluntary sector in Halton.

Albeit a bit early, the signs of the festive season are beginning to appear such that the staff and board of the Council wish you and all our colleagues peace and best wishes during this festive season.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joey Edwardh". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'J' and 'E'.

Joey Edwardh, Ph.D.
Executive Director

