



For Immediate Release
May 2nd, 2011

Halton Fresh Food Box Awarded Community Leadership Award

OAKVILLE (Monday May 2nd, 2011) – The Halton Multicultural Council (HMC) is proud to announce the recipient of its 2nd Annual Bill Allison Community Leadership Award to the Halton Fresh Food Box - a champion of diversity, inclusivity and respect.

The award was presented to Brenda Moher, Program Manager of the Halton Fresh Food Box by founding HMC President Bill Allison and HMC President Trivi Mehendale on Saturday April 30th, 2011 at the HMC's Annual Fundraising Gala - Halton Meets China at St. Volodymyr Cultural Centre in Oakville.

“The Halton Fresh Food Box is honoured to receive this award, because valuing diversity, equity and inclusiveness is at the heart of what we do,” said Brenda Moher, Program Manager, Halton Fresh Food Box. “Our core fundamental belief is that any program that is designed to support the residents of the Halton Region to access food must be inclusive for all people.”

The Halton Fresh Food Box is a non-profit fresh produce buying service operated by the community. From its inception in 2004, one of their key goals was to provide an accessible healthy food program to everyone in the community.

The program draws a wide range of partners to encourage a broad base of community engagement including: St. Christopher's Anglican Church, Halton Multicultural Council, Halton Region Health Department, Faith Christina Reformed Church and Georgetown Christina Fellowship Church.

“Halton Fresh Food Box builds stronger and more supportive neighbourhoods by incorporating community in the implementation and provision of their programming. They recruit and train volunteers to manage and facilitate the program,” said Joanna Matthews, Executive Director, Halton Multicultural Council. “Over 170 volunteers are involved to allow the program to service over 700 families in 33 neighbourhoods across Halton each month.”

“HMC congratulates Halton Fresh Food Box for their outstanding leadership in response to our diverse community. Their awareness and understanding of Halton's changing demographic has a positive and sustaining impact,” said Trivi Mehendale, President, Halton Multicultural Council. “We recognize their innovation and leadership in providing access to inclusive services in our community.”

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The fundraiser featured an evening of both traditional and modern Chinese performances from Wushu the Wushu International Collage of Canada, Hello Dance and the Hamilton Chinese Folk Dance Group. The event was emceed by Lu Zhou, CBC Radio Producer and Xiaou Chen, HMC Youth Settlement Worker. Live entertainment was provided by the Hamilton Chinese Folk Dance Group.

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