

## **Ontario Community Support Association receives funding from Canada Revenue Agency's Charities Partnership and Outreach Program**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

(Toronto, April 8, 2009) The Ontario Community Support Association (OCSA) receives funding from the Canada Revenue Agency's Charities Partnership and Outreach Program. The Honourable Jean-Pierre Blackburn, Minister of National Revenue and Minister of State (Agriculture) announced funding for OCSA's training division **Capacity Builders** to provide workshops in different communities, online tutorials and webinars, a moderated listserve, plain language tips and tools to strengthen board and staff understanding of their charity compliance obligations.

In the CRA News Release, Minister Blackburn said, "*The Charities Partnership and Outreach Program is a concrete way of supporting Canadian charities, which provide valuable services in communities across our country. The Government of Canada is proud to support organizations that will help registered charities understand and comply with their obligations under the Income Tax Act, providing useful assistance and learning tools.*"

Cynthia Armour, Project Manager for the "**Charity Law Information Program**" (CLIP) stated how thrilled OCSA is to have another opportunity to build capacity within the voluntary sector. "*Running a charitable organization is a complicated venture that is sometimes driven entirely by volunteers or minimal staff. Thanks to this funding, Capacity Builders will provide practical guidance and support on Income Tax Act compliance, particularly to small and rural charities. Knowing the limited resources available to these organizations, this training will be extremely beneficial.*"

CLIP will run until March 31, 2010, with Canadian charity law expert Mark Blumberg developing the content and acting as lead trainer. Small and rural charities rarely have an opportunity to meet together and clarify their legal obligations. The benefits are far-reaching as board members and senior staff grow their understanding of why compliance steps are necessary to build public accountability, good governance and effective organizations. In an era of increased transparency, this training will enhance the voluntary sector and its contribution to communities and citizens across Canada.

For more information, please contact:

Cynthia Armour  
CLIP Project Manager

Phone: 416-256-3010 or 1-800-267-6272 ext. 226

Fax: 416-256-3021

Email: [cynthia@capacitybuilders.ca](mailto:cynthia@capacitybuilders.ca)

Mail: 104-970 Lawrence Avenue W.  
Toronto, ON M6A 3B6

Web: [www.capacitybuilders.ca](http://www.capacitybuilders.ca)