



National Office

T (416) 487 5281
F (416) 487 5570
W girlguides.ca

50 Merton Street
Toronto, ON
M4S 1A3

For Immediate Release
May 27, 2008

GIRL GUIDES OF CANADA-GUIDES DU CANADA EMPOWERS GIRLS New program helps girls build strong relationships

Toronto - Thanks to funding from the Ontario government, Girl Guides of Canada-Guides of Canada (GGC) is launching an exciting new program for girls aged 8-14. The "Girl EmPower Project" was developed in partnership with METRAC and will give girls the knowledge and skills they need to build healthy, equal non-violent relationships.

The "Girl EmPower Project" will help our girls to build self-esteem, develop a strong sense of self-worth and give them the guidance they need to help them make the right decisions in their lives," said Deborah Del Duca, Chief Executive Officer, Girl Guides of Canada. "This new program furthers GGC's commitment to giving Canadian girls the tools they need to become confident, responsible members of their communities."

Girl Guides of Canada is one of several organizations to receive funding from the Ontario government and the Promoting Healthy, Equal Relationships Grants Program, which supports province-wide public education initiatives targeting youth (ages 8 to 14) and the adults who influence them to change attitudes and mobilize communities to stop violence before it happens.

The Honourable Deb Matthews, Minister Responsible for Women's Issues, will officially announce the grant recipients on **Tuesday, May 27, 2008, 3 p.m., at the Girl Guides of Canada National Office, 50 Merton Street, Toronto, Ontario.**

"By teaching our girls and boys about equality and good relationships, we are helping to create a future where women are free from all forms of violence," said Minister Responsible for Women's Issues Deb Matthews.

Girl Guides of Canada-Guides du Canada is the leadership organization for girls and women in Canada. Guiding provides diverse and exciting programs and activities that offer girls the opportunity to discover new interests, learn valuable leadership skills and make lasting friendships.

The Metropolitan Action Committee on Violence Against Women and Children (METRAC) is a not-for-profit, community-based organization that works to ensure women, youth, and children live free from all forms of violence and the threat or fear of violence.

For media inquiries contact:

Shauna Klein
Manager, Marketing & Strategic Alliances
Girl Guides of Canada-Guides du Canada
kleins@girlguides.ca
416-487-5281 x248