



Outstanding volunteer leaders are recognized by 4-H Canada and CIBC

Ottawa, ON – May 21, 2014 – 4-H Canada and CIBC are pleased to announce the **2013 National Volunteer Leader of the Year** as well as provincial winners.

4-H is about building responsible, caring and strong leaders that affect positive change in the world around them. 4-H leaders play the most significant and pivotal role in this development and are the reason young people succeed.

“We are so impressed by the commitment of all our volunteer 4-H leaders and we are honoured that these dedicated people want to be part of 4-H in Canada, said Shannon Benner, CEO of 4-H Canada. We are also very fortunate that CIBC understands the importance of recognizing responsible and motivated leaders in Canada.”

The call for nominations for the **National Volunteer Leader of the Year** took place in December 2013 and was driven by member reference letters and recommendations. Seven provincial winners were selected from the applicants and these winners moved forward to a national judging panel.

“At CIBC, we are committed to serving the needs of rural and agriculture communities across Canada,” said Iain McIntyre, Director and Team Leader, Commercial Banking, CIBC. “For over 60 years, CIBC has been a proud partner of 4-H Canada and we’re delighted to support this outstanding leadership program recognizing these remarkable role models and the contribution they make in shaping our leaders of tomorrow. We congratulate all of the 2013 winners.”

Every provincial winner will receive \$100 each as well as a prize package. The national winner receives \$2000 as well as an invitation to and recognition at 4-H Canada’s Annual General Meeting in Abbotsford, BC in May 2014.

Selection criteria included references, club involvement, community involvement, length of involvement, and how much the members learned and developed as a result of the leader.

Provincial and Overall National Winner:

John Drummond, Kitchener Market 4-H Club, ON

Provincial Winners:

Heather Serafini, South Country Crafts and Critters 4-H Club, BC

Dorothy Carlson, Cherhill 4-H Multi Club, AB

Adele Pizzey, Binscarth Home-Ettes 4-H Club, MB

Ila Goodwin, Chignecto 4-H Club, NB

Louise Lachance, Les Jonquilles St-Léonard Parent, NB

Geoff Baldwin, Ro-Win-Lea 4-H Club, NS

Susan Simmons, French River 4-H Club, PE

About 4-H Canada

4-H is one of Canada's longest-running and most respected youth-serving organizations helping young Canadians to "Learn to Do by Doing" in a safe environment. With more than 24,000 members and 7,500 volunteer leaders, the 4-H community has extended beyond its rural roots and offers clubs for a diverse range of interests and skills across the country. Provided with the tools and guidance 4-H members work individually and with others to reach their goals. This unique combination of group-based learning and personal interests is what makes the 4-H experience exciting and memorable for everyone involved. Through this process, we are creating a 4-H culture of skilled, responsible and confident leaders that are committed to positively impacting their communities across Canada. At a national program level, members have the chance to travel nationally and internationally, and participate in leadership conferences and seminars.

To learn more about 4-H Canada visit: www.4-h-canada.ca

About CIBC

CIBC is a leading North American financial institution with 11-million personal banking and business clients. CIBC is committed to supporting causes that matter to our clients, our employees and our communities. We aim to make a difference in communities through corporate donations, sponsorships and the volunteer spirit of employees. With a strategic focus on Kids, Cures and Community, and employee commitment to causes, including the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation CIBC Run for the Cure, the CIBC Children's Foundation and United Way, we are investing in the social and economic development of communities across the country. In 2013, CIBC contributed more than \$41 million to 1,870 charitable and non-profit initiatives in over 430 communities. You can find other news releases and information about CIBC in our Press Centre on our corporate website at www.cibc.com.

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