



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

Sandra Lawson

cell: 613-727-2844

email: Sandra.lawson@ontario.ca

Safe Communities Ottawa Challenges City Youth to Stay Safe at Work this Summer.

Complete your "Passport to Safety" today for a chance to win a Dell Inspiron 1501

OTTAWA, March 28, 2007 – Safe Communities Ottawa challenges all young workers aged 14-24 in Ottawa to obtain their "Passport to Safety" for a chance to win a 2007 Dell Inspiron 1501. In an effort to increase awareness and to ensure safer workplaces for Ottawa's youth, we are awarding this laptop to one lucky young worker who has achieved his/her "Passport to Safety".

Safe Communities Ottawa launched the contest at Saint Paul High School today. Candace Carnahan a young worker injured on the job was on hand to talk to students about safety in the workplace and teach them that the first to not getting hurt is knowing that you can be. She delivered a moving presentation about her personal injury and encouraged students to obtain their "Passport to Safety" and to take safety in the workplace seriously.

It is estimated that every 8 minutes a young person is injured on the job seriously enough to receive workers' compensation. In Ontario alone, 52 young workers were killed on the job between 2001 and 2005, that's the equivalent of two high school classes. Achieving a "Passport to Safety" transcript can help reduce the number of injuries in the workplace. "Passport to Safety" is an online no-fail test designed to teach young workers about their basic rights and responsibilities and prepare them for on the job training and increase their knowledge of health and safety in the workplace.

To enter the contest, Ottawa youth aged 14-24 should go to PassporttoSafety.com and complete the on-line test. After receiving their transcript, participants should forward it to info@ottawasafecommunities.org to be entered in the contest. The contest runs from March 28 through May 1, 2007 with the prize being awarded on May 15, 2007. For more information about "Passport to Safety" and Safe Communities Ottawa, visit www.ottawasafecommunities.org.

About Safe Communities Ottawa

Safe Communities Ottawa (SCO) is a charitable organization dedicated to making Ottawa the safest city in which to live, learn, work and play. In association with Safe Communities Canada our purpose is to eliminate injuries while promoting a culture of safety through partnerships, programs and education. SCO is proud to be one of the 48 designated 'Safe Communities' across Canada.

About Passport to Safety

Passport to Safety is a unique not-for-profit National catalyst for change intended to help eliminate needless injuries and preventable deaths of young Canadians aged 24 and under in the workplace. Young people challenge a Passport to Safety "test", based on learning outcomes developed by health and safety curriculum experts from most provincial and territorial jurisdictions across Canada.

Successful participants are awarded a "transcript" that can be attached to resumés to demonstrate their basic awareness of health and safety. This basic level of awareness becomes a foundation on which to build all the other essentials required to be safer and healthier workers. For further information contact: passporttosafety.com

– 30 –

Contact: Sandra Lawson
Phone: 613-727-2844
Email: Sandra.lawson@ontario.ca