



Press Release

Veolia Transportation Sponsors Special Olympics in York (Greater Toronto)

York, Ontario, Canada – July 25, 2013 - Veolia Transportation recently participated in the Ontario Special Olympics in the York Region, as a platinum sponsor. Additionally the company donated transportation services for more than 900 athletes, families, coaches and supporters from across Ontario. Veolia participated at the request of our client, York Region Transit, who initially asked if the company could provide drivers and support staff for the three-day event. However, once the company became involved in providing transportation, Veolia executives quickly stepped up with a platinum sponsorship citing the intrinsic value of the Special Olympics.

During opening ceremonies attended by Ken Westbrook, President of Veolia's Transit Division and other Veolia executives, Dr. Frank Hayden was recognized as the Father of Special Olympics in Canada. He spoke about his commitment and dedication to children with disabilities and the testing method he used to disprove that children with mental disabilities were unfit. Dr. Hayden's testing further proved that persons with mental disabilities could improve physically, socially and emotionally through a fitness program.

Dr. Hayden's work caught the attention of the Kennedy Foundation and Eunice Kennedy Shriver. Mrs. Shriver began her support for the Special Olympics in the United States in the 1950s after she realized that children with developmental disabilities were lacking places to play and opportunities to excel. What started as a day camp for young people quickly grew into the Special Olympics. The first games were held at Soldier's Field, Chicago in 1969, with both Canada and the U.S. participating. Today Special Olympics hosts 32 Olympic-style summer and winter sports events, with millions of athletes from 170 countries.

Westbrook said of the Special Olympics program, "Veolia supports our communities and their causes worldwide. We and York Region Transit support Special Olympics because their events provide an enormous opportunity to individuals who otherwise may not have such a unique experience."

About Veolia Transportation

Based in Lombard, IL, Veolia Transportation is the largest private-sector operator of multiple modes of transit in North America, including bus, rail, paratransit, shuttle, and sedan and taxi services. Veolia Transportation is committed to setting the standard in safe and sustainable mobility solutions through partnerships with cities and transit authorities.

Visit the company's Web sites at: www.veoliatransportation.com and www.transdev.net

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