



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 30, 2008

YWCA JUMP for young women Now Open

Experiencing tremendous pressure to succeed after their families have sacrificed everything for their futures, the unemployment rate for recent immigrant women between 15 and 24 is twice the rate among Canadian-born young women.

For this reason, YWCA Toronto has launched YWCA JUMP, a new program in Etobicoke and Scarborough, to help newcomer young women overcome barriers to employment and to help them settle positively and prosperously in Canada,

“Girls and young women who are new to Toronto face unique challenges, getting familiar with new systems, balancing what is expected of them in their old country with what is expected here. YWCA JUMP is a young woman-centred, one-stop program that offers them the necessary skills to find employment, education and volunteer opportunities, and adjust to their new country in a manner in which they can make friends, be safe and feel supported” said Heather McGregor, YWCA CEO.

YWCA JUMP is open to young women between 13 and 24, who have been in Canada for less than three years, and who are landed immigrants, convention refugees, or permanent residents. Through workshops, activities, individual counselling, and peer support, young women can get information on healthcare, housing, school, recreation, transportation, and banking. Extensive employment services at the centre include job search cafés, résumé workshops, and interview skills. Interpretation and translation is also available in Tibetan, Hindi, Urdu, Punjabi, Mandarin, Daari, Kiswahili, Kibundu, Kanata, Telegu, and Tamil. YWCA JUMP is open weekdays, evenings and Saturdays. Free child minding is available during the hours of the program.

YWCA Toronto opened its first employment program for young women in 1874. Today we help more than 26000 women, girls and families get jobs, find shelter, build lives free from violence, settle in Canada and create permanent homes for themselves and their children. To register a young woman for the program or for more information please call the location closest to you: 222 Dixon Rd. (at Islington) 416- 964-3883 or 3090 Kingston Rd. (at McCowan Rd.) 416 266-0303.

For more interviews or more information please contact Raine Liliefeldt, Communications Manager 416.961.8100 x 326.

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