

FirstOntario

CREDIT UNION

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 4, 2008

Hamilton, ON – Kids Helping Kids In Our Communities.

FirstOntario Credit Union is committed to raising awareness and support for important charities in local communities. This year, FirstOntario is very pleased to announce the publication of their first “Kids Helping Kids” calendar. This calendar features pictures drawn by children in local communities and will be used to help raise money for three local charities that help children in need during difficult times in their lives. This 2009 calendar is now available at all FirstOntario branches.

“Our vision for this calendar was to have kids in our communities help raise support for other children in need.” said Kelly McGiffin, FirstOntario President and CEO. “We held a kids drawing contest and asked them to submit a drawing that best represents their community as they see it. Our desire with this program was to raise much needed funds for charities in our community that are there to serve and support children during difficult times in their lives. What better way than to reach out to children and ask them to help other kids through a fun and creative idea. We were overwhelmed with the response. The kids’ drawings were truly impressive, and we are thankful for the time they have given to take part in this donation drive towards kids helping kids.”

The “kids helping kids” calendars are now available at any FirstOntario branch for a nominal donation of \$5. All donations received this year will go towards the support of AutismOntario, Camp Trillium and Gillian’s Place. FirstOntario’s goal this year is to raise \$100,000 to split between these three charities.

FirstOntario received over 400 drawing submissions for the calendar. Twelve winning artists were selected for publication. From the twelve winners, the four best drawings were selected and these winners each received a Nintendo Wii, a \$100 RESP and a \$50 Chapters gift card.

FirstOntario Drawing Contest Top Winners

Sydney – Age 4
Chloe – Age 6

Robert – Age 11
Payton – Age 16

Drawing Contest Runner-Ups

Laci – Age 5
Vienna – Age 4
Tristan – Age 7
Rachel – Age 8

Haley – Age 12
Lilia – Age 11
Kaitlyn – Age 13
Theresa – Age 13

FirstOntario wishes to thank all the kids who submitted drawings for the 2009 calendar and we encourage everyone to visit any FirstOntario branch to make a charitable donation and pick up your calendars today.

In business since 1939, FirstOntario Credit Union serves over 70,000 Members and offers a full suite of banking products including daily banking, mortgages, lines of credit, loans and investments. FirstOntario has over \$2 billion in assets under administration and currently has 17 branches serving 11 communities within the Greater Hamilton Area, the Niagara Region and South-Western Ontario. Membership is open to anyone living or working in the areas in which FirstOntario operates. **More information about FirstOntario is available at www.FirstOntarioCU.com**

AutismOntario is dedicated to increasing public awareness about autism and the day-to-day issues faced by individuals with autism, their families, and the professionals with whom they interact. **More information about AutismOntario is available at www.autismontario.com.**

Camp Trillium is dedicated to supporting children with cancer and their families. Throughout the year, day camps, youth groups and community programs are offered in several major centres. **More information about Camp Trillium is available at www.camptrillium.com**

For over 30 years, Gillian's Place has protected and defended abused women and their children in Niagara. All services are free of charge and confidential. **More information about Gillian's Place is available at www.gilliansplace.com.**

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For Additional Information Contact:

Christine Zalzal
Vice President, Marketing
FirstOntario Credit Union
Phone: 1-800-616-8878

Mandy MacPhee
Director, Marketing Strategy and Communications
FirstOntario Credit Union
1-800-616-8878