

**Ministry of Citizenship  
and Immigration**

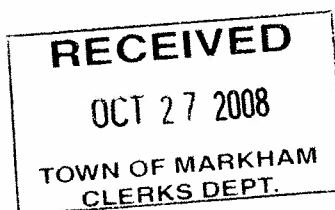
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**Ministère des Affaires civiles  
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October, 2008

Dear friends,

As the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration, I am once again very pleased to invite you to participate in Ontario's volunteer recognition programs for the year 2009. Many of you know these award ceremonies are an Ontario tradition.

Volunteers play a significant role in building strong and diverse communities and give back in so many ways through and with a strong sense of civic responsibility.

The Ontario government recognizes volunteers from all sectors through the following programs:

- **Volunteer Service Awards (VSA)** - in recognition of continuous years of service with a community organization
- **June Callwood Outstanding Achievement Award (JCOAA)** - awarded for superlative volunteer work undertaken by individuals, groups or businesses
- **Ontario Medal for Young Volunteers (OMYV)** – presented to outstanding young volunteers between the ages of 15 and 24

Nomination forms and additional information on each program are available on the Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration website at [www.ontario.ca/honoursandawards](http://www.ontario.ca/honoursandawards) or you can phone the Ontario Honours and Awards Secretariat at 416-314-7526. The nomination closing dates for each program are highlighted below.

Please take this opportunity to nominate volunteers from your organization for the appropriate award program and feel free to share this letter with other organizations that would be interested in participating in these worthwhile programs.

By submitting a nomination you can help ensure that volunteers receive the recognition they deserve. Thank you for participating.

Yours truly,

The Honourable Michael Chan  
Minister

**Nomination Closing Dates:**

VSA – January 25, 2009  
JCOAA – January 15, 2009  
OMYV – January 10, 2009