



## **TD Bank Financial Group Contributes to Calgary Mentorship Program for New Canadians**

**Calgary, AB – May 28, 2008** – Immigrant and refugee women will have an enhanced opportunity to establish connections with dedicated and community-engaged professionals, thanks in part to a TD Bank Financial Group donation of \$45,000. The funds will be used by Immigrant Services Calgary (ISC) to empower these women to find suitable work through relationships they develop with successful individuals within their chosen field.

“Personal introductions and guidance go a long way towards helping new immigrants get a better understanding of job expectations in Canada,” says Sue Cummings, Senior Vice President Human Resources, TD Bank Financial Group, who is herself a mentor. “TD sees new immigrants as a valuable talent resource and is an active participant in a variety of mentoring opportunities across the country.”

The program will serve immigrant women who have the ability to effectively communicate in English, but have experienced difficulties when looking for a career in Canada. They will be provided with a minimum of twenty-four hours of mentoring support over a four month period by educated professionals in their career field or area of interest. The goal is to increase their pre-employment knowledge and improve their confidence in finding an appropriate position.

“Our goal is to reach as many immigrant and refugee women as possible and welcome other established professional women to help us in this empowering project,” says Mercedes Iparraguirre, Integrated Women’s Mentorship Program Coordinator. “Mentors help the women in the program realize their self-worth, stay positive and confident during a difficult transition period.”

### **About Immigrant Services Calgary**

Established in 1977 as the Calgary Immigrant Aid Society, Immigrant Services Calgary is one of Alberta’s longest serving and most comprehensive settlement agencies dedicated to ensuring that immigrants and their families have the opportunity to become successful members and contributors in the community they choose to call home.

Over the past 30 years ISC has helped over 250,000 immigrants settle in their new life and new homes in Calgary. Our focus is primarily on the individual and families through caring, and by providing a sense of community and connection. Working in partnership with other service providers, we believe in, and advocate for, equity, inclusion, diversity and accountability for all individuals.

**TD Community Giving: Making a Difference Together**

Children's health, literacy and education, and the environment are where TD focuses its community giving. The major flagship programs within these areas are: TD Children's Hospital Fund, TD Friends of the Environment Foundation and the TD Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup, TD Canadian Children's Book Week, TD Canada Trust Scholarships for Community Leadership, and the TD Summer Reading Club. In addition, through the support of our customers and employees, TD is involved with a host of national, regional and local programs in support of diversity, arts and culture and other causes. In 2007, TD donated more than \$32 million to charities and not-for-profit organizations across Canada.

-30-

**Media Contacts:**

Jaime Enachescu, MBA  
Communications Coordinator  
Immigrant Services Calgary  
Phone: (403) 705-3431  
Email: [jaimee@immigrantservicescalgary.ca](mailto:jaimee@immigrantservicescalgary.ca)

Jennifer L. Martin  
TD Bank Financial Group  
Phone: (416) 308-6473  
email: [Jennifer.l.martin@td.com](mailto:Jennifer.l.martin@td.com)