

Character Community



E-News



A Town of Richmond Hill initiative.

A Town of Richmond Hill Character Community monthly e-letter

February is Initiative

I will recognize what needs to be done and do it, without prompting from others.

February 2009

Town of Richmond Hill

Character Community Organizations

- The Amici Centre
- Arts Richmond Hill Inc.
- Between Friends
- Catholic Community Services of York Region
- Community Living York South
- The Curtain Club Theatre
- Girl Guides of Canada York South Div.
- Helpmate Community Information
- Hill House Hospice
- Ja'fari Islamic Housing
- Learning Disabilities Association of York Region
- Lions Club of Richmond Hill
- Music to Care for Your Life
- Opera York
- Optimist Club of Richmond Hill
- Region Of York Recreationists (ROYR)
- Richmond Hill Aquatic Club
- Richmond Hill Canoe Club
- Richmond Hill Chamber of Commerce
- Richmond Hill Community Church
- Richmond Hill Community Food Bank
- Richmond Hill Community Sports Council
- Richmond Hill Lawn Tennis Club
- Richmond Hill Model Airplane Club
- Richmond Hill Rams Hockey Club
- Richmond Hill Soccer Club
- Richmond Hill Social & Bocce Club
- Richmond Hill Training Centre
- Richmond Hill Winter Carnival
- Royal Canadian Legion Branch #375
- Spiritual Assembly of the Bahai's of Richmond Hill
- St. Matthew's United Church Health Cabinet
- Stroke Recovery Network
- Top o' the Hill Co-operative Nursery School
- Volunteer Association of York Central Hospital
- Wilderness Lifeskills of Youth Inc.
- York Region Support Group of Parents of ADHD Kids
- Youth Assisting Youth

Nominate Someone For A Character Award!

Character Awards Celebration 2009 - Celebrate living with character!

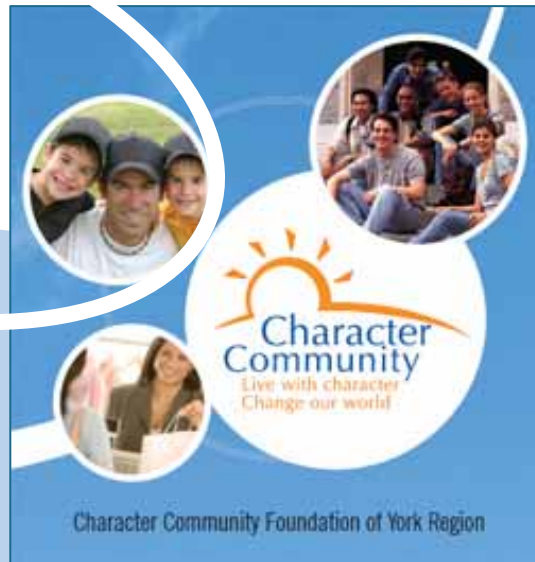
Do you know a group or a person who has demonstrated positive character attributes in their home, school, work or community? Why not nominate them for one of the Character Community Awards?

The Character Community Awards celebrate and recognize individuals of all ages and organizations across York Region who demonstrate positive character attributes from schools to businesses to your neighbour.

Nomination packages and information can be found on the Character Community Foundation of York Region website at www.charactercommunity.com.

Completed nomination packages must be received on or before February 6, 2009.

On April 28, 2009, we will host the 3rd annual Character Community Awards celebration at the new *Richmond Hill Centre for Performing Arts*.



Initiative Poem

*You walk through the forest
Of hidden dangers
Of vicious branches
Clawing at your face
Of ensnaring traps
Biting at your feet
You walk along a path
Created by others before you.*

*Then you see
The path forks out
Which do you take?
The right or the left?
Both created by
Others before you
Which leads to
The place you want?*

*Or why not
Take your own path
Create your own direction
For others to follow
Who's to say
The paths lead anywhere
Won't lead you astray?*

*Who's to say
You can't follow your heart?
Chose your way
Your destiny, your path.*

Source: www.pinkpoem.com



Unleashing Creativity To Inspire Initiative

1. Take the mystery out of creativity: define expected outcomes so that everyone in the organization understands where employees should direct their efforts.
2. Discover how individuals are creative: every person has his or her own approach to generating new ideas. Ask for input, but remember that people have different work styles.
3. Define challenges specifically: focus on areas where creative solutions are needed instead of wasting time on areas that generate little or no return to the individual or organization.
4. Minimize fear of failure: find ways to absorb risk. Regard mistakes as learning opportunities. Rewarding employees who take prudent risks will encourage them to innovate even more.
5. Take personal responsibility: develop an organizational climate for innovation. Start with yourself and the people within your personal sphere of influence.
6. Encourage active communications: set up hot lines among groups for quick, ongoing interactive idea exchanges.
7. Enhance your own creative skills and behavior: set an example.

Source: <http://www.itstime.com/jun2000.htm>

Initiative Quotes



"We have it in our power to begin the world over again."
~ Thomas Paine



"With the new day comes new strength and new thoughts."
~ Eleanor Roosevelt



"You don't have to be great to start, but you have to start to be great."
~ Zig Ziglar

Next Month's Attribute:
March is Perseverance

Tips to Think Differently

- ★ Look for new combinations.
- ★ Ask "what if?" or develop "what-if?" scenarios.
- ★ Consider approaches you've never thought about before.
- ★ Brainstorm with others.
- ★ Be a champion of new ideas — the old ways aren't always the best ways.
- ★ Make multiple plans of action from different perspectives.



Show Initiative By Taking Part In Richmond Hill's Future!

The Town of Richmond Hill has begun working on a new Official Plan that will lay out where housing, businesses, transit and other land uses will be, which, in turn, sets the tone for the look and feel of our community. It ultimately impacts how the Town functions. The Town is looking for your feedback on everything from housing to the environment to transportation. Take part by sharing your comments through our online form, come out to a discussion forum or you can even vote in our online polls. Click on the "Get Involved" links at www.richmondhill.ca/officialplan to find out more.

Character Community E-News is a monthly e-mail newsletter to share information about upcoming events within our organization and beyond. If you would like to contribute upcoming Character Community event information, story ideas or photos, please forward it to the Editor, Michelle Lipkus, at mlipkus@richmondhill.ca.