



KATIMAVIK WELCOMES THE FIRST COHORT OF VOLUNTEERS FOR ITS 35TH YEAR

Montreal, January 4th, 2012 – Katimavik, Canada’s leading provider of youth volunteer education programs, welcomed 584 new volunteers to its program today, partnering with several hundreds of local not-for-profit organizations to provide much-needed support to populations in need. Over the next six months, Katimavik will work closely with groups such as the Red Cross, Habitat for Humanity and the YMCA to provide hands-on experience for Canadian youth and improve the social and economic wellbeing of 54 communities across the country.

“It is a real pleasure to be able to provide this kind of opportunity to young Canadians,” said Katimavik CEO Daniel Lapointe, “These inspiring individuals will learn firsthand the difference they can make by engaging and getting involved in local communities.”

Now entering its 35th year, Katimavik’s gap year program continues a proud tradition of supporting communities with particularly large populations of marginalized and underprivileged Canadians, all the while helping participants develop new skills and gain a clear understanding of personal and professional objectives. Researchers note that students who enter immediately into post-secondary education are more likely to quit, while those that take a gap year are eight per cent more likely to be employed after graduation.

Please visit Katimavik’s website and social media applications to follow the initiatives taking place in communities across the country this year, and to learn about the many opportunities available for volunteers.

About Katimavik:

Katimavik is Canada’s premier national youth learning through volunteer service organization. Since its foundation in 1977, more than 30,000 young Canadians have participated in Katimavik programs. Katimavik provides young Canadians with the opportunity to volunteer in community development initiatives across the country and develop valuable, transferable employment skills. Katimavik service and learning programs focus on the development of lifelong personal, professional and social competencies in the areas of civic engagement, healthy lifestyle, cultural discovery, official languages, communication, environmental stewardship and project coordination. For the 2011-2012 program year, Katimavik will be present in 54 communities in which more than 1,100 volunteers will be dispersed throughout the country.

For more information, please visit www.katimavik.org, our blog at www.gokatimavik.com, or get social with us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [YouTube](#).

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