



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

LOUISE RUSSO WALK TO START WITH GIANT WAVE!

Toronto, ON (Sun., May 28 2006) – Today marks the first annual Louise Russo Walk Against Violence Everywhere (WAVE) fundraising event and leading the crowd with a warm up and enormous WAVE are members of the Toronto Rock lacrosse team.

Starting at 10:30 a.m., the giant WAVE kick-starts those who are walking, strolling, running, jogging, sauntering, dancing and rolling in support of the community - with Louise Russo leading the charge.

With a slew of organizations and volunteers involved, including the City of Toronto, and the offices of Councillor George Mammolitti, it's a great opportunity allowing the community to come out and claim back the streets.

Proceeds from the walk go toward establishing the Louise Russo Awards in recognition of youth making a difference in their communities. The program recognizes and rewards youth between the ages of 12 and 19 who "exemplify the qualities of respect, responsibility and leadership," notes Louise who, two years ago, became the innocent victim of a crime that left the mother of three paralyzed and in a wheelchair.

"It's our hope that this walk will not only help develop leadership in youth, but will strengthen communities everywhere and spread the word that children and families have a right to live, learn and play without fear," Louise explains.

The 2.5-kilometer walk starts this morning at 8:30 a.m. at the south-east corner of Weston Road, and Finch Avenue, walking south along Weston Road, towards the site of what will be officially named the Louise Russo Park on Flindon Road.

The walk starts with registration and a hot breakfast courtesy of Golden Griddle Restaurants and ends with the park dedication and a BBQ lunch featuring music, singing and a zoo.

Officials coming out to show their support include: Toronto Mayor David Miller, Toronto City Councillor George Mammolitti, Leader of Ontario's PC Party John Tory, York Regional Police Chief Armand LaBarge, York West MPP Mario Sergio, York

South Weston MP Alan Tonks and York West MP Judy Sgro.

Donations and registration forms for the walk are available for download at www.louiserussowave.ca.

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WHAT: The First Annual Louise Russo Walk Against Violence Everywhere (WAVE)

WHEN: Sunday May 28, 2006

TIMES:

8:30 a.m. Registration

10:30 a.m. Giant WAVE led by Toronto Rock Lacrosse Team

10:30 a.m. to 12 Noon Walk

OPENING CEREMONIES HOSTED BY AM640 Toronto Radio morning host John Oakley

LOCATION START: Weston Road and Finch Avenue.

LOCATION END: Louise Russo Park, Weston Road and Flindon Road.

To interview Louise Russo please contact: Teresa Donia at iAMBIC

COMMUNICATIONS: Cell: 416-737-9811, T: 905-508-5550, or teresa@iambic.ca

For additional information go to www.louiserussowave.ca

CATCH THE WAVE FOR LOUISE!