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**Local Toronto woman honoured for serving on the
Huntington Society of Canada’s Board of Directors
*Celebrating National Volunteer Week: April 12-18, 2015***

(KITCHENER, ON) April 16, 2015 – To celebrate National Volunteer Week (April 12-18), the Huntington Society of Canada (HSC) is honouring Susan Wright. Her hard work and dedication as a member of HSC’s Board of Directors makes a significant impact in the Huntington’s community. Volunteers are at the heart of HSC. Our volunteers tell a powerful story of caring people who pull together to improve the quality of life for Canadians impacted by Huntington disease (HD).

For Susan Wright, serving on the Society’s Board of Directors was a simple decision. “They asked,” she says. “I said yes.”

Susan has plenty of personal motivation: her mother died of Huntington disease, and she has siblings, nieces and nephews at-risk. There’s also a question of tradition. By helping to guide the Society, Susan is following in the footsteps of her father, her brother and her two sisters.

“Contributing is a great feeling,” she says — especially at a time when researchers are so close to developing meaningful treatments. “We’re on the brink of real change.”

“Volunteer dedication and support enable us to grow, achieve impactful results and reach our goals,” says Bev Heim-Myers, Chief Executive Officer of the Huntington Society of Canada. “Our inspiration comes from the thousands of volunteers that stand beside us as part of the fabric of the Society and make us the best that we can be.”

The Huntington Society of Canada would like to thank each and every one of our over 10,000 volunteers across the country. Their hard work and dedication is deeply appreciated by the Society.

Now in its 74th year, National Volunteer Week is all about recognizing the hardworking volunteers that make a difference in Canada. It has grown to be the largest celebration of civic participation in Canada. Help us celebrate National Volunteer Week in Canada. Volunteers are part of the ripple effect.

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Huntington disease (HD) is a debilitating brain disorder that is fatal and incurable. About one in every 7,000 Canadians has HD and approximately one in every 5,500 is at-risk of developing the disease. Many more are touched by HD whether as a caregiver, a family member, or a friend. HD causes cells in specific parts of the brain to die. As the disease progresses, a person with Huntington’s become less able to manage movements, recall events, make decisions and control emotions. The disease leads to incapacitation and, eventually, death.

The **Huntington Society of Canada (HSC)** is a respected leader in the worldwide effort to end Huntington disease. HSC is the only Canadian health charity dedicated to providing help and hope for families dealing with Huntington disease across Canada.

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