



**North-South Partnership for Children
Southern Co-chair, Dr. Judy Finlay, to address Belleville Rotary**

Date: Monday, April 19
Time: 12 noon
Venue: Ramada Inn, Belleville

The Rotary Club of Belleville is pleased to welcome Dr. Judy Finlay, MSW, Ph.D, and Betty-Lou Scholey, the Executive Assistant in the Toronto office of the North-South Partnership for Children, as keynote speakers Monday, April 19 and invites the media to attend to learn about the work of the North-South Partnership for Children.

Dr. Finlay is an Associate Professor in the School of Child and Youth Care at Ryerson University. As Ontario's Child Advocate for 16 years, she was a National and International champion of children's issues, with more than three decades experience in the areas of child welfare and children's mental health. As the Southern Co-Chair of the North-South Partnership for Children, Dr. Finlay plays an integral role in the building and sustenance of respectful, enduring relationships between Northern First Nation communities and southern partners.

Ms. Scholey is a member of the Matachewan First Nation and is involved with First Nation organizations, most recently as volunteer for the Aboriginal Legal Services of Toronto's Community Council Program, a criminal diversion program for Aboriginal adult and youth offenders who live in Toronto.

Rotarian Len Kennedy, Executive Director of Hastings Children's Aid Society, says the North-South Partnership for Children was formed in 2006 to improve the quality of life of children, youth and families in remote First Nation. "Linking communities in northwestern Ontario and caring individuals and voluntary organizations based in southern Ontario allows communities in need to harness money, resources and supports," said Kennedy.

North-South Partnership for Children/Rotary continued...

Rotary President, John Cairns, says Rotary is committed to supporting causes, both at home and abroad, with a particular emphasis on children. “We’re looking forward to Monday’s meeting and are eager to learn more about the conditions facing remote native communities and their needs”, said Cairns.

Following the presentation by Dr. Finlay and Ms. Scholey for the Belleville Rotary Club, Hastings CAS will host a regional workshop for the Society’s staff and community partners at the HCAS boardroom, 363 Dundas Street West in Belleville.

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For further information and interview requests contact:
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