



**MEDIA RELEASE**  
**For Immediate Release**

**March 8, 2007**

**\$219,000 OTF Grant Invested in the Iranian Canadian (IC) Network-  
JVS Toronto Group Mentoring Program**

**Toronto** – The launch of the second session of the “Iranian Community Network for Mentoring” program in partnership with JVS Toronto and IC Network got underway without a hitch thanks to the \$219,000 grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation. Carol Roberts, who volunteers with the Foundation, officially recognized the partnership between both organizations, for the continued success of this essential program.

"I am very pleased that the Iranian Canadian Network - JVS Toronto Mentoring Program has been able to secure continued funding through the Ontario Trillium Foundation. This type of program is essential in helping immigrants successfully integrate into the Ontario labour market and in helping them find employment related to their professional qualifications and experience," said David Caplan, M.P.P. for Don Valley East.

The three-year grant was made in June 2006 as a collaborative comprised of the IC Network and JVS Toronto, to support an occupation-specific group mentoring program to assist newcomer professionals to find employment related to their field of training and experience. JVS Toronto was founded as Jewish Vocational Service of Metropolitan Toronto in 1947 and now operates as JVS Toronto, serving the broad community. The IC Network is an Iranian-Canadian Network for employment and entrepreneurship.

The Program plans to run nine sessions in total over the three years thanks to OTF funding. The mentors serve as advisors, networkers and leaders with responsibilities such as: helping to determine a newcomer's skill level and market demands, suggesting appropriate companies to which newcomers may apply, offering industry specific guidance with job search, motivating and coaching newcomers to overcome their initial challenges, advising newcomers of licensing issues specific to their occupation, and introducing newcomer professionals to Iranian business professionals through IC Network business networking events.

For more information on the mentoring program, please contact, Farah Alizadehahi, JVS Toronto Mentoring Coach at (416) 491-0552 ext. 203 or email at [farizadehahi@jvstoronto.org](mailto:farizadehahi@jvstoronto.org) or Hassan Hassanzedeh, IC Network Mentoring Coordinator at (416) 312-4226 or email at [info@icnetwork.ca](mailto:info@icnetwork.ca).

The Ontario Trillium Foundation, an agency of the Ministry of Culture, receives annually \$100 million of government funding generated through Ontario's charity casino initiative. The Foundation allocates grants to eligible charitable and not-for-profit organizations in the arts and culture, environment, human and social services, and sports and recreation sectors.

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**For more information, please contact:**

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