

Ottawa-based NGO strikes partnership with the United Nations, celebrates Catalysts who helped make it happen.

What:

Ottawa-based NGO One Change welcomes the Washington, DC-based Director and Regional Representative of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Regional Office for North America (RONA), and Ontario Environment Minister John Gerretsen at its first Catalyst Awards at the National Gallery of Canada. The event will highlight One Change's new North American partnership with the UNEP, and provide a platform for the announcement of a new One Change pilot project to be run in Ottawa this summer.

Photo/interview opportunity:

Amy Fraenkel, Director and Regional Representative of the UNEP Regional Office for North America (RONA) will address a cocktail reception of business, government, and non-governmental organization leaders at the National Gallery of Canada and will present One Change's Catalyst Awards to four who have helped One Change grow from a local energy efficiency campaign to a continent-wide NGO.

The cocktail reception will also celebrate the remarkable growth of One Change's first award-winning energy efficiency campaign: **Project Porchlight**. Since starting with a group of friends in Ottawa in 2005, over 2 million free energy-saving light bulbs have been distributed by 10,000 volunteers and 2,000 community groups in over 500 communities across Canada and the US. The energy-efficient compact fluorescent light (CFL) bulbs have helped residents reduce their energy use by 1 billion kilowatt hours, save over \$86 million, and stop 630,000 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions from being released into the air.

When: Wednesday, April 15, 2009; 6:00 PM to 8:30 PM (speeches start at 6:45 PM)

Where: Great Hall, National Gallery of Canada, 380 Sussex Drive, Ottawa, Ontario

Guest speakers and special guests:

Amy Fraenkel, Director of the UNEP Regional Office for North America (RONA) (Washington, DC)

Hon. John Gerretsen, Ontario Minister of the Environment

Stuart Hickox, One Change Executive Director

David McGuinty, MP for Ottawa South

Florence Murphy, EnCana Corporation, Vice-President of Public & Community Relations

Chris Granda, Vermont Energy Investment Corporation

MPs, MPPs, City of Ottawa Councillors, guests from all sectors

Event will be emceed by actress and television star **Mag Ruffman**, with entertainment by local band **Jazzbeat Trio**.

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For more information and to access the event, please contact:

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