



that was easy.™



rien de plus simple.™

## **ALL KIDS DESERVE TO HAVE THE RIGHT SUPPLIES FOR BACK TO SCHOOL**

***STAPLES Business Depot kicks off their annual Back to  
School Supply Drive collection program***

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**TORONTO, ON – August 10, 2006** – STAPLES Business Depot/Bureau en Gros, Canada's leader in office supplies, invites customers to help make the back to school season easier for children in need by equipping them with the essential school supplies to start the school year off right.

STAPLES Business Depot/Bureau en Gros is pleased to partner with local schools and school boards, Kiwanis International and Le Club de Petit Dejeuner in this initiative. Through these important partnerships STAPLES Business Depot/Bureau en Gros will ensure the supplies are distributed to the thousands of children in need of school supplies across the country.

"It doesn't matter how big or small the donation is," says Steve Matyas, President, STAPLES Business Depot, "we appreciate anything our customers contribute. It's unfortunate that so many children go back to school each fall without the basic essentials, like erasers or pencils. The goal of the STAPLES Business Depot/Bureau en Gros School Supply Drive is to help these kids receive the tools they need for the new school year."

New to the program this year STAPLES Business Depot/Bureau en Gros will be accepting cash donations at the register for those customers who wish to contribute without having to purchase an item. All cash donations will be used to purchase school supplies at the end of the program and donated to the school, school board, Kiwanis or Quebec Breakfast Club as chosen by the individual store.

Kiwanis is dedicated to changing the world one child, one community at a time. We are proud to have the opportunity to partner with STAPLES Business Depot and together we can make a difference for children in need in communities across Canada," said Bill Cowperthwaite, President of the Kiwanis Club of Orleans.

Every morning the Quebec Breakfast Club brings 14,250 children two essential elements to start their school day on the right foot: a nutritious breakfast and a nurturing environment. "The STAPLES Business Depot/Bureau en Gros Back to School Supply Drive will help us achieve our mission, provide school supplies to those in need and help to ensure a great start to the school year!" says Francyne Charette, executive vice-president Quebec Breakfast Club. "We are delighted to be chosen as one of the beneficiaries of this campaign."

All STAPLES Business Depot and Bureau en Gros store locations across the country are asking customers to contribute to the Back to School Supply Drive by making either a monetary or product donation to the program between August 13<sup>th</sup> and September 23<sup>rd</sup>.

-more-

All store locations have placed a designated collection bin at the exit to the store, and are asking customers to purchase an item to donate to the STAPLES Business Depot/Bureau en Gros School Supply Drive. School teachers surveyed established a list of the top 15 supplies children need for Back to School:

- o Pencils
- o Coloured markers
- o Scissors
- o Math kits
- o Calculators
- o Notebooks
- o Binders
- o Pencil crayons
- o White erasers
- o Rulers
- o Glue sticks
- o Highlighters
- o Lined paper
- o Folders
- o Backpacks

Each store location across Canada has chosen a local charity, organization, school or school board to be a recipient of the collected school supplies. STAPLES Business Depot and its partners hope to donate thousands of school supplies to thousands of children across Canada this fall.

### **STAPLES Business Depot**

STAPLES Business Depot was founded in Toronto in 1991. It is Canada's largest supplier of office supplies, business machines, office furniture and business services for the small business and home office customer. The company is an everyday low price retailer. The chain operates stores in all provinces across Canada under the banners STAPLES® Business Depot™ and BUREAU EN GROS™. The company has over 13,000 employees serving customers through more than 265 office superstores, catalogue, and e-commerce. STAPLES® Business Depot™/BUREAU EN GROS™ is committed to making shopping easy by offering customers three ways to shop - online, by catalogue and in-store. More information is available at [www.staples.ca](http://www.staples.ca).

### **About Staples**

Staples, Inc. invented the office superstore concept in 1986 and today is the world's largest office products company. With 69,000 talented associates, the company is committed to making it easy to buy a wide range of office products, including supplies, technology, furniture, and business services. With 2005 sales of \$16.1 billion, Staples serves consumers and businesses ranging from home-based businesses to Fortune 500 companies in 21 countries throughout North and South America, Europe and Asia. Headquartered outside of Boston, Staples operates approximately 1,780 office superstores and also serves its customers through mail order catalog, e-commerce and contract businesses. More information is available at [www.staples.com](http://www.staples.com).

-30-

For further information, please contact:

Ann Dennis  
Public Relations Manager  
STAPLES Business Depot  
(905) 737-1147 ext. 2424  
[ann.dennis@staples.ca](mailto:ann.dennis@staples.ca)

Lesley Kisil Ciciretto  
Public Relations Specialist  
STAPLES Business Depot  
(905) 737-1147 ext. 2455  
[lesley.ciciretto@staples.ca](mailto:lesley.ciciretto@staples.ca)