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## ***Staples for Students* Raises Over \$1.5 Million Dollars to Help Students in Need**

*Staples partners with customers, raise record donations*

Toronto, September 16, 2013 – Staples Canada with the generous support of customers across the country helped raise more than \$1.5 million dollars to assist thousands of students in need.

The 8<sup>th</sup> annual *Staples for Students School Supply Drive* ran from July to September. The program featured associates and customers working together to raise funds on behalf of local charitable partners and schools for purchasing basic school supplies for kids in the community.

“We’re grateful to our customers for their generosity and support of our future leaders,” said Steve Matyas, president of Staples Canada. “The funds raised go directly into local communities, helping students in need begin their school year with the tools to empower them. Reaching over \$1.5 million dollars is an impressive milestone and will benefit kids across Canada.”

The importance of efforts such as Staples for Students was highlighted in a in a recent study. Teachers believe that 35 per cent of school-aged children in Canada will not begin the new school year with the necessary supplies, according to the survey.

Staples retail locations across Canada have partnered with community organizations and school boards across the county. In Quebec, Bureau en Gros supported *Le Club des Petits Déjeuners*, a breakfast club that assists nearly 18,000 children in 287 schools start their day with a healthy breakfast. This year, celebrity host Benoît Gagnon was the campaign spokesperson in Quebec and helped fundraise for students to have a great start to their day.

Every year Staples Canada bands together with customers giving over two and a half million dollars in charitable donations. The company’s community programs are a part of Staples’ mandate to support initiatives that encourage education, build entrepreneurship and preserve the environment. Some of these programs include the *Staples for Students School Supply Drive*; *Two Million & Change*; *Give a Toonie. Share a Dream.*; *Five Million Cartridge Challenge*, and *Recycle for Education*. For more information, visit [www.staples.ca/community](http://www.staples.ca/community)

### **Methodology**

From June 10-17, 2013, Vision Critical conducted an online survey among 1444 Canadian Teachers & Educators who are My Staples Panel members or from a list provided by Staples.

## **About Staples Canada**

Staples, Canada's largest office products company is committed to providing Canadians with a wide choice of office services and products. Serving all types of business - from the small home office to large enterprise - Staples makes it easy for customers to operate their offices efficiently and affordably by offering an extensive selection of office supplies, technology, electronics and office furniture as well as business services, including computer repair and maintenance, and copy and print services. Operating as Bureau en GrosMC in the province of Quebec and Staples Canada in all other provinces, the company employs over 15,000 associates at 330+ stores and at their head office in Richmond Hill, Ontario. Ranked as one of Canada's top ten Canadian companies in Marketing Magazine's Marketing/Leger 2013 Corporate Reputation Survey, Staples/Bureau en Gros is dedicated to offering customers the highest level of service, whether they choose to shop in-store, by catalogue or online. Staples Canada/Bureau en Gros also is invested in a number of corporate giving programs that actively support environmental, educational and entrepreneurial initiatives in Canadian communities from coast to coast. Visit [www.staples.ca](http://www.staples.ca) for more information, or visit us on Facebook and Twitter @StaplesCanada.

### **For interviews, media resources or further information:**

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