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**FESTIVAL GOES GREEN TO PRESERVE MOONEY'S BAY PARK**  
**Tim Hortons Ottawa Dragon Boat Festival Attains EcoLogo Certification for the Second Year**

**OTTAWA, June 1, 2011** – It isn't easy being green, but North America's largest dragon boat festival has attained EcoLogo certification for the second consecutive year to help preserve Mooney's Bay Park. Spectators, visitors and paddlers can take advantage of many green initiatives onsite during the 18<sup>th</sup> edition of the Tim Hortons Ottawa Dragon Boat Festival (THODBF) on June 17 to 19, 2011.

"The Tim Hortons Ottawa Dragon Boat Festival deserves congratulations for demonstrating their environmental leadership with EcoLogo certification for a second year in a row," says Dr. Angela Griffiths, Executive Director of the EcoLogo Program. "This festival has taken significant steps to ensure those involved, from paddlers to event participants, are treading lighter on the park and the surrounding environment."

EcoLogo provides assurance that an event bearing its certification mark meets stringent standards of environmental leadership. Last year, the THODBF became the first festival in the world to attain EcoLogo certification under its standards for Events. The festival has once again met the Program's strict criteria in a variety of categories including material, waste, energy, and transportation and it will undergo an on-site audit to ensure compliance.

THODBF's greening initiatives include providing recycling stations for festival-goers, the RBC Blue Water Project Hydration Station, which allows people to re-fill personal water bottles, the Ottawa Citizen secured bike parking area, and shuttle services from Downtown to Mooney's Bay Park provided by OC Transpo, among others.

"The festival is proud to have attained EcoLogo Certification for a second year," said John Brooman, Executive Director, "The staff and board members remain committed to being a leader in greening initiatives in the festival industry. We take pride in putting on an event that minimizes the impact on our natural setting at Mooney's Bay Park."

The Tim Hortons Ottawa Dragon Boat Festival takes place at Mooney's Bay Park from June 17 to 19, 2011. Admission for the weekend is free and includes family friendly entertainment with live music, Tim Hortons Children's Area, BMX Shows, exhibitors and vendors.

**About EcoLogo™**

EcoLogo is a third-party, multi-attribute eco-labeling program approved by the Global Ecolabelling Network, an international association of eco-labeling programs, as meeting the ISO 14024 standard. Originally formed in 1988 by the Canadian Federal Government and now managed by TerraChoice, EcoLogo is now one of the most recognizable eco-labels in North America. EcoLogo is a Government of Canada official mark used under license from Environment Canada. TerraChoice is not an agent of Environment Canada. In 2010, the Program became part of the UL global network, significantly expanding its reach as a leading certifier of the world's most sustainable products. For more information, visit [www.ecologo.org](http://www.ecologo.org).

**About the Tim Hortons Ottawa Dragon Boat Festival**

The Tim Hortons Ottawa Dragon Boat Festival is the largest festival of its kind in North America and is one of Ottawa's must-attend summer events. This 3-day festival is hosted at Mooney's Bay Park from June 17-19 and features non-stop dragon boat racing, with a total of 190 team and 5000 paddlers. Over 70,000 spectators take in cultural activities, live music, a variety of vendors/exhibits and family-oriented entertainment. For more information, visit [www.dragonboat.net](http://www.dragonboat.net), [www.facebook.com/ottawadragonboat](http://www.facebook.com/ottawadragonboat), and [www.twitter.com/ottdragonboat](http://www.twitter.com/ottdragonboat).

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