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Nominations now open for ROI's Youth Engagement Showcase

Guelph, Ontario, November 2, 2015. Beginning November 2nd, 2015 rural communities across Ontario have the opportunity to nominate Engaged Rural Youth for recognition in the Youth Engagement Showcase, the most recent initiative of the Rural Ontario Institute.

This showcase will profile compelling stories of young leaders taking charge and tackling important local issues, highlighting the impact youth can have in their communities and demonstrating how different types of rural communities can successfully involve youth in addressing local challenges.

Up to eight final nominees will be profiled through individual video documentaries, each being filmed in their respective hometown. These documentaries will showcase individual involvements and accomplishments as well as community programs and organizations that are successfully engaging youth.

“Today’s engaged youth represent the future leadership of rural Ontario,” says Norman Ragetlie, Director of Policy and Stakeholder Engagement, Rural Ontario Institute. “The exodus of youth from rural towns to urban centres is a common trend but evidence illustrates that engaging young people in leadership roles before they leave for post-secondary education is integral to improving return rates.”

Nomination information is available online at
www.ruralontarioinstitute.ca/youth_engagement_showcase.aspx.

Nominees must be 29 years of age or younger and reside in or be actively involved in a rural community in Ontario. The open call for nominations will conclude on November 27, 2015.

The Youth Engagement Showcase is one of seven projects in the Measuring Rural Community Vitality Initiative. The Rural Ontario Institute is a non-profit organization committed to developing leaders, initiating dialogue, supporting collaboration and promoting action on issues and opportunities facing rural Ontario.

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