

## News Release

[For Immediate Release]

### **Ryan Hreljac Receives National Emerging Leader Award at Canada's Volunteer Awards**

**Ottawa, Ontario—June 9, 2016**—As a recipient of the National Emerging Leader Award, Ryan as well as 15 other award winners were honoured today at a special ceremony in Ottawa. The exceptional contributions of businesses and individuals from across Canada were acknowledged in various categories including the return of the Thérèse Casgrain Lifelong Achievement Award.

*"This is an incredible recognition of the hard work that Ryan's Well has been able to achieve," said Ryan Hreljac of Ryan's Well Foundation. "I am humbled and honoured to receive the Emerging Leader Award today. Congratulations to all of the other volunteers, businesses and not-for-profits who continue to make a difference in their communities!"*

The Emerging Leader Award recognizes volunteers whose volunteer contributions made or are making a positive difference in their communities.

The Honourable Jean-Yves Duclos, Minister of Families, Children and Social Development, gave out 16 awards recognizing the accomplishments of deserving individuals, businesses and not-for profit organizations that volunteer their time and make a difference in their communities. Award recipients have the opportunity to identify an eligible not-for-profit organization to receive a grant for either \$5,000 or \$10,000, depending on the award category.

*"I'm pleased to recognize the exceptional contributions of some of Canada's top volunteers today through Canada's Volunteer Awards. These volunteers give of themselves and help to make Canada a great place to live. It is a pleasure to be able to give back to them in return."*

– The Honourable Jean-Yves Duclos, Minister of Families, Children and Social Development

Since 2001, Ryan's Well Foundation has made a noteworthy difference in providing solutions to the water crisis in developing countries. Over the last fifteen years, RWF has built over 1,090 wells, 1,229 latrines and concurrently established effective hygiene programs in schools and communities in over 16 developing countries. Since then, Ryan has demonstrated success in educating and inspiring children and youth, as well as adults, to take action and effect change in the world. Through these initiatives, the Foundation has touched and changed the lives of over 864,768 people.

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## Media Inquiries

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