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## CANADIAN YOUTH: “RAISE YOUR VOICES!” WITH NATIONAL STUDENT BANNER CONTEST

**Canada’s Capital Region** — The National Capital Commission (NCC), in partnership with Classroom Connections, has launched a cross-Canada classroom banner contest that calls on youth to share their views in an inspired way — with the chance to have their handiwork exhibited in the heart of the Capital.

Students in Grades 5 through 8 (Elementary 5 through Secondary 2 in Quebec) are being asked to create and submit a one-of-a-kind banner design to the “Raise Your Voices!” National Student Banner Contest. Designs should represent an issue or topic of importance to Canadian youth. The seven winning banners will be professionally produced by the NCC and flown in Major’s Hill Park from May to October 2010.

“The NCC’s mandate is to create pride through Canada’s Capital Region by making the Capital a meeting place that reflects history, diverse cultures and the shared values of all Canadians, including those of our youth,” said Marie Lemay, Chief Executive Officer of the NCC. “Engaging the youth of today through this contest is a great way to strengthen their relationship with the Capital Region, and to help them to express their views.”

**Students:** Tell your teachers about this contest and start brainstorming your design ideas!

**Teachers:** Encourage your students to speak up! For all the details about how your class can participate in this exciting challenge, visit [canadascapital.gc.ca/bannercontest](http://canadascapital.gc.ca/bannercontest).

For more information about the NCC’s youth programs, classroom resources or other NCC programs, the public can contact the NCC at 613-239-5000, 1-800-465-1867 (toll-free), 613-239-5090 (TTY) or 1-866-661-3530 (toll-free TTY), or visit the NCC’s website at [www.canadascapital.gc.ca](http://www.canadascapital.gc.ca).

Classroom Connections is a non-profit organization dedicated to initiating positive societal change by producing progressive educational resources for Canada’s youth. To learn more about its programs and services, visit [www.classroomconnections.ca](http://www.classroomconnections.ca).

### Media Information

For additional information or interviews, members of the media may contact:

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