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RBC INSURANCE, HOCKEY CANADA & HOCKEY HALL OF FAME RECOGNIZE ST. LAURENT VOLUNTEER

**Manitoba's "RBC Local Hockey Leader" awarded \$10,000 for hockey in his
community**

TORONTO, March 6, 2008— Laurent Kerbrat, the long-time ice maker at the St. Laurent area, will be recognized in the Hockey Hall of Fame in Toronto.

Kerbrat is this year's RBC Local Hockey Leader for Manitoba, one of 13 volunteers (one for each Hockey Canada branch) recognized today by RBC Insurance, with support from Hockey Canada and the Hockey Hall of Fame. The winners, who will also receive a signed Team Canada jersey, were chosen from hundreds of nominations received from across the country.

"St. Laurent is still one of the few communities in the Interlake that still does not have artificial ice, and if it wasn't for Laurent there literally would be no ice at all," said St. Laurent's Maurice Piche in a nomination essay. "Laurent retired long ago, but when it is cold enough he still spends 72 hours a week at the arena, flooding every 3 hours. We believe this award is the perfect way for us to show how much we appreciate him."

RBC Insurance will donate \$10,000 to a local hockey cause in Kerbrat's name. Kerbrat is also invited to attend a special ceremony on April 28, 2008, unveiling a display honouring the 2007-08 RBC Local Hockey Leaders at the Hockey Hall of Fame in Toronto. A banner recognizing his achievement will also be raised in the local arena.

"RBC Insurance is proud to continue the tradition of recognizing truly dedicated hockey volunteers like Laurent Kerbrat," said Neil Skelding, President and CEO, RBC Insurance. "Hockey is a way of life in many Canadian communities, and volunteers are the engines that keep it running."

A panel including National Women's Team member Jennifer Botterill, National Men's Sledge Hockey Team Captain Jean Labonté, hockey legend Ron Ellis, Dr. Allan Morris, chair of the Hockey Canada Board of Directors and other Hockey Canada officials selected winners from the hundreds of nominations submitted through the program website. Hard work, dependability, enthusiasm and leadership were among the criteria considered during the evaluation of submissions. Over the past four years, RBC Insurance has awarded more than \$500,000 to grassroots hockey activities across Canada through the RBC Local Hockey Leaders program.

“Every Canadian community has individuals that organize, administer, fundraise, coach and do whatever it takes to keep hockey vibrant in their communities,” said Bob Nicholson, President, Hockey Canada. “We appreciate RBC’s continued leadership not only in recognizing these volunteers, but also in providing the funding to replace aging equipment, improve facilities and generally make hockey more accessible.”

For more information and biographies on all of the RBC Local Hockey Leaders, please visit www.rbcinsurance.com.

2008 Regional RBC Local Hockey Leaders:

Region	RBC Local Hockey Leader	Community
Hockey North	Mike Gravel	Inuvik, NT
British Columbia	Doug Bondue	Port Alice, BC
Alberta	Garry Wolosinka	Viking, AB
Saskatchewan	Robert “Sam” Somerville	Eatonia, SK
Manitoba	Laurent Kerbrat	St. Laurent, MB
Ontario	Angelo Giajnorio	Niagara Falls, ON
Northwestern Ontario	Russell Desjarlais	Kenora, ON
Ottawa District	Ron Baker	Brockville, ON
Quebec	France Bédard	Port Cartier, QC
New Brunswick	Jean Pelletier	Dalhousie, NB
Nova Scotia	Graham Parker	Middleton, NS
Prince Edward Island	June Sencabaugh	Murray River, PEI
Newfoundland & Labrador	Dave Ingram	Clareville, NFLD

About RBC Insurance

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