

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE DECEMBER 5, 2005

**THE CANADIAN TRANSLATORS, TERMINOLOGISTS AND INTERPRETERS COUNCIL
(CTTIC) 2006 VOLUNTEER AWARD**

OTTAWA, ON – During a special ceremony in Montreal where the national organization was holding its Annual General Meeting and its Fall meeting, the Canadian Translators, Terminologists and Interpreters Council (CTTIC) awarded its *VOLUNTEER AWARD*. This award is given each year to a person who has shown a high degree of commitment, dedication and initiative for the Canadian Translators, Terminologists and Interpreters Council and/or one of its member associations.

The recipient of the *CTTIC VOLUNTEER AWARD 2006* is Hana Kucerova.

Ms. Kucerova served as president of STIBC from 2001 to 2003. Out of the many accomplishments Ms. Kucerova had during her presidency, perhaps the most commendable achievement remained her tireless efforts in making the Occupational Title Protection (OTP) a reality for more than 300 certified members of STIBC in the categories of Certified Translators, Certified Court Interpreters, Certified Conference Interpreters and Certified Terminologists.

STIBC's earlier attempts to obtain OTP began about a decade ago, time span of which extended the terms of several presidents including Mercedes Araujo, Peide Zha and Hana Kucerova, all of whom worked very hard in obtaining OTP for our members. When STIBC's 2001 attempt again resulted in failure, Ms. Kucerova, who newly assumed the role of president of STIBC at that time, immediately took herself to the task of revisiting and revising the OTP application. She personally worked closely with the OTP lawyer hired by STIBC to make sure that every word in the application had its proper weight and precise meaning. After several rounds of revision, countless hours of discussion and much editing efforts, STIBC submitted the revised OTP application in March 2002 and received tentative approval from the Ministry of Finance in May 2002 pending the correction of some deficiencies, one being the bylaws. Ms. Kucerova then embarked on another round of intensive work by taking the lead in amending our bylaws. In Sept 2002, STIBC held an Extraordinary Members' Meeting and passed the revised bylaw, which were amended according to the government's requirement, thanks to the leadership of Ms. Kucerova and her bylaws committee. As a result, Certified Translators, Certified Conference Interpreters and Certified Terminologists were granted Occupational Title Protection by the Government of British Columbia in Nov 2002.

Despite her initial success, Ms. Kucerova did not slow down in contentment at that point because one category of certified member was still without the OTP: Certified Court Interpreters. Based on the old application that resulted in the successful granting of Occupational Titles, Ms. Kucerova directed a team of volunteer STIBC members in 2003 to work on the new application for Certified Court Interpreters. In the mean time she also led another committee to formulate the competency grids for the different categories of certified members. To crown the accomplishment of Ms. Kucerova as STIBC president, Certified Court Interpreters in British Columbia received their OTP in Feb 2004.

Ms. Kucerova has done a tremendous lot for STIBC and its members and this Volunteer Award would be the most appropriate expression of appreciation from CTTIC (likewise from STIBC) to Ms. Kucerova for her years of service, hard work and dedication.

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