

## THE HONOURABLE DR. MARIE BOUNTROGIANNI MINISTER OF CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION

## KEYNOTE SPEAKER AT COSTI ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, April 27, 2005 Corvetti Education Centre

760 College Street 6:00 p.m.

(Toronto) – April 25, 2005 – The Honourable Dr. Marie Bountrogianni, Minister of Citizenship and Immigration, will visit COSTI Immigrant Services on **Wednesday**, April 27, 2005, 6:00 p.m., at 760 College Street. As Keynote Speaker, Minister Bountrogianni will address guests attending COSTI's Annual General Meeting.

COSTI is a charitable organization that assists immigrants to learn English, find jobs and housing, learn new skills, and solve personal and family problems. "The Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration has played a crucial role in the provision of our services by funding settlement and orientation services through the provincial government's Newcomer Settlement Program", said Mario Calla, COSTI's Executive Director. Last year, over 5,000 newcomers accessed the Newcomer Settlement Program through COSTI's North York Centre and Corvetti Education Centre.

COSTI is Canada's largest immigrant services organization. It operates 13 Centres in the City of Toronto and York Region area. Meeting community needs for over 50 years, **COSTI Immigrant Services** is committed to helping those in need, providing education and employment services, protecting women and children, strengthening families, fostering understanding between cultures, and building communities. Last year, COSTI provided educational, social, and employment-related services to over 42,000 individuals in need.