



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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**BLACK MBA'S PARTNER WITH XEROX CANADA TO PROVIDE FUNDING & INTERNSHIPS FOR STUDENTS**

*Toronto Chapter of the National Black MBA Association continues to actively seek Canada wide applications for its 2009 Scholarship program jointly supported by Xerox Canada*

**TORONTO** – The Toronto Chapter of the National Black MBA association is putting its money where its mouth is to help remove the barriers for minority students to obtain a degree in business. The organization has partnered with Xerox Canada to provide \$3000 scholarships to visible minority undergraduate and MBA students across Canada.

The issue of barriers to education and the availability of funding is a real concern to potential and current students. In their paper "Mind the Access Gap" researcher officer's at Canada's Millennium Scholarship Foundation identified finances as one of three main barriers to post secondary education. Enrolled students are also subject to the pinch - financial reasons were cited by one in five of those who discontinued their post secondary studies. In the current economic climate, students are further challenged with the prospect of rising tuition costs in parallel to reductions in the source of funds from loans, scholarships and even summer jobs.

"Our partnership with Xerox not only provides funds that will help offset educational costs, but also provides an unparalleled opportunity for students to obtain internships at one of Canada's top corporations" said Damon Knights the NBMBAA's Toronto Chapter President.

As a show of support for the initiative, Kevin Warren, president and CEO, Xerox Canada, launched the scholarship program during a recent speaking engagement at the University of Toronto's Rotman School of Management. "At Xerox we believe that investing in individuals is critical in building Canada's future leaders" said Mr. Warren. "We also recognize that organizations can play a role, not just out of moral obligation but to address a business need. It's good for Canada...good for business...and good for people."

Applications for the scholarships and internships will be evaluated along the criteria of academic achievement, recognized contribution to the community and demonstrated leadership skills.

The deadline for applying for one of the NBMBAA/Xerox Canada scholarship is May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009. Interested students and parents can download and print an application form from the NBMBAA website ([nbmbaa.ca](http://nbmbaa.ca)) or contact NBMBAA Canada at [scholarships@nbmbaa.ca](mailto:scholarships@nbmbaa.ca) to receive an application form in the mail.

**About NBMBAA Toronto:**

As a professional membership organization of Black graduates with MBAs, advanced degrees, and entrepreneurs, the mission of the Toronto Chapter is to increase the number as well as the diversity of successful Blacks in Canadian businesses by increasing awareness and facilitating access to graduate management education programs and career opportunities in management fields.

The long-term goal of NBMBAA Toronto is to grow Canadian chapters nationwide. NBMBAA Toronto membership is open to business professionals, entrepreneurs, and MBA and business students. For more: [www.nbmbaa.ca](http://www.nbmbaa.ca)

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