



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **The York School shouts sustainability from the rooftop with solar system donated by Helios Energy**

*Installation demonstrates economic and environmental potential of vacant rooftop spaces*

**TORONTO – November 11th, 2009** – As part of its ongoing sustainability initiatives, The York School is proud to announce the installation of 28 solar panels on the school's roof. The panels are part of a 5.32 kilowatt system valued at more than \$50,000 that was donated by Helios Energy Inc., a Toronto-based leader in the Ontario solar market. The solar system will enable the school to produce its own renewable energy and will serve as an interactive model for both students and building owners to learn about the many benefits of rooftop solar installations.

"Education is the key to inspiring environmental leadership and effecting positive change in society," said David Anderson, Principal, Helios Energy. "This rooftop solar system will provide The York School's students with the opportunity to learn about solar power. It also serves as an illustrative example of how building owners can employ a previously overlooked and underutilized piece of their property to achieve both economic and environmental benefits."

In keeping with the school's experiential learning model, the Helios Energy solar system will serve as an educational tool for students. Monitoring software will allow the school to measure the amount of electricity being generated and teachers will be able to access this data to teach students about renewable energy in action.

"At The York School, our faculty and students are continually looking for innovative ways to enhance their commitment to the environment," said Ezio Crescenzi, Head of The York School. "Last year, our students made their voices heard at City Hall in support of the ban on plastic bags. Now, with this new solar system, we can shout the sustainability message from our rooftop. Not only will we be able to reduce our carbon footprint and save on our energy bills, but we will be able to foster a living laboratory that links what is being taught in the classroom to real-life green energy applications."

#### **About The York School**

The York School is an independent, co-ed, non-denominational International Baccalaureate World School dedicated to academic excellence. Located in mid-town Toronto, The York School's mission is to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who are engaged citizens of the world. For details, visit [www.yorksSchool.com](http://www.yorksSchool.com).

#### **About Helios Energy Inc.**

Helios Energy is a 100% Canadian owned and operated developer of rooftop and ground-mounted solar energy systems. Founded in 2006, our portfolio includes over 100 megawatts of solar projects in various stages of development. For details, visit [www.heliosenergy.ca](http://www.heliosenergy.ca).

**For more information, contact:**

Shaday Livingston  
MAVERICK Public Relations Inc. for The York School  
416-640-5525 ext. 248  
shadayl@maverickpr.com

Jamie Jo Alton  
NATIONAL Public Relations for Helios Energy Inc.  
416-848-1370  
jalton@national.ca