

Brant Community Rally's Around United Way to Support Member Agencies

For Immediate Release

December 15, 2009

Brantford, ON - On Tuesday, December 15, 2009, approximately 175 volunteers and donors celebrated together at the annual Brant United Way Achievement Luncheon at the Best Western Brant Park Inn for the announcement of this year's campaign total. The event was sponsored by Brant United Way supporters TD Canada Trust, Goderich Aircraft and The Neziol Group.

For the third year in a row the Brant United Way Campaign has exceeded its goal. This year the community raised \$1,403,173.00. This money will go to support its Member Agencies in Brantford and Brant County.

All funds raised in Brantford/Brant stay here in our community to support the Brant United Way's Member Agencies. The 18 Member Agencies provide 50 vital programs and services. These programs nurture children, mentor youth, support seniors to live more independently, enable people to participate in society, and assist people during a crisis.

The strength of the Campaign is thanks to hundreds of volunteers and thousands of donors who have united to show their support and to donate to this year's Brant United Way campaign. The Campaign Cabinet and Employee Campaign Coordinators are individuals with strong leadership and big hearts. Their compassion towards the Campaign made this year a real success.

"There is no doubt that during this year's Campaign we had some extra challenges with businesses struggling and some companies closing, but these challenges only made us more determined than ever to reach our goal", said Nancy Tomkins, Campaign Chair. "Those companies and individuals, who could not give this year because of tough times, have pledged to us when things turn around, they will continue to support the United Way. Other companies and individuals, who were able to contribute this year, stepped up to assist us in our shortfall. They opened their hearts and helped this community during our fund raising Campaign. We are truly appreciative and thankful."

Local business owners, volunteers and donors assembled for the announcement of this year's Campaign total and awaited the presentation by Campaign Chair, Nancy Tomkins. These awards of recognition are presented to numerous volunteers and companies who work tirelessly on behalf of the United Way to raise badly needed dollars for Brantford/Brant residents.

The Campaign of the Year Award was presented to Millard, Rouse and Rosebrugh LLP, while The Williamson Group received the Campaign Chair's Award.

MYE Canada Operations Inc., Casino Brantford, City of Brantford Employees, Gates Canada Inc. and the Liquor Control Board of Canada were all recognized as Top Achievers for the 2009 Campaign.

A special award called the 'Stepping Up Award' was presented to SC Johnson who went far beyond what might be expected to make this year's campaign a success.

Awards were also presented to Dave Levac's Constituency Office and The Williamson Group for 100% workplace participation for 10 years or more.

A community is judged by the way in which it supports those who can't help themselves. This year Brantford and Brant County residents showed their community spirit and donated more than \$1.403 million to help local residents who need it the most.

Brant United Way Campaign Director, Gil Scott, was grateful by the overwhelming support shown by the community. "With the economy taking a downward turn the residents of Brantford and Brant County are acutely aware that the need in our community is growing. Although this year's campaign had its ups and downs, the volunteers and donors made it a success. Thank you to everyone who gave so generously to this year's campaign, we couldn't have done it without you!"

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