

## Regional staff gets praise for latest United Way effort

By Bill Rea

Peel Region employees have a long history of supporting the local United Way efforts, and the 2013 campaign was no exception. Regional staff last year raised \$333,901, surpassing their corporate target by about \$8,900. In addition, employees of Peel Regional police contributed \$97,700, bringing the total to more than \$431,600.

The effort of staff was recognized recently by Regional council.

Regional Chair and CEO Emil Kolb was impressed with the results.

"We have had a long, steady tradition of supporting the United Way in Peel over the last 40 years," he remarked.

"We are privileged to have this partnership with such an organization," he added. "They are dedicated to meeting the needs of our community and ensuring that individuals who are affected by various social issues lead healthy lives."

Deputy Police Chief Frank Roselli commented he's been with the local service for 34 years.

"It's a campaign that's near and dear to us in the policing world," he told councillors.

Regional CAO David Szwarc thanked employees for their contributions to the campaign.

He stressed that staff does a good job every day to serve the public. "On their own, they have also given back," he remarked.

"We are a community in which people care about one another, and the contributions made by our employees shows their commitment to being part of that caring community," he added.

United Way of Peel Region President and CEO Shelley White was also on hand to express her appreciation for the support from the Region, pointing out that since 1998, the Region has contributed more than \$5.76 million. She called that "extraordinary."

White pointed out there were several events held that help raise these funds, including a golf tournament that raised more than \$59,000, and a 5K Run, Walk and Roll event in October that took in more than \$21,000 "on a cold, rainy day."

"That day did not dampen the spirits," she added.

The United Way of Peel Region provides financial support to more than 50 agency partners in the social services sector in Caledon, Brampton and Mississauga.

"The Region of Peel and Peel Regional Police are one of our top contributing United Way partners," White commented. "They have a rich legacy of supporting our community initiatives and 2013 was no different. From bringing people across the organization together to fund-raise for the United Way Community Fund, to bringing the community together for their annual golf tournament and Peel 5K Run, Walk and Roll event, they came together in the spirit of cooperation to build a better community for all of us.

Thank you for all that you do."



Peel Region Chair and CEO Emil Kolb was recently joined by representatives of Peel Regional Police and Regional staff in presenting this cheque to the United Way of Peel Region.