

## United Way celebrates contributions of labour

United Way of Peel Region recently recognized the contribution of labour in Brampton, Caledon and Mississauga during the annual Peel Regional Labour Council Breakfast.

Nationally, United Way and the Canadian Labour Congress have partnered together since 1988. Representing more than 3 million individuals, the Labour Congress is the largest federation of unions in Canada. Unions care deeply for their communities, providing cooperative housing, childcare and other social services. Working together with United Way at a national and local level, the Canadian Labour Congress engages and endorses the support of United Way across Canada.

Last year, unionized workplaces donated more than \$2.9 million dollars to United Way of Peel Region. In addition, the Dufferin-Peel Secondary Unit (DPSU) of the Ontario English Catholic Teachers Association (OECTA) provided funding to United Way's Youth in Action grant, a one-time granting opportunity focused on youth-led projects that offer creative youth-initiated ideas to address community issues in Peel Region. Youth between the ages of 14 and 24 are eligible to apply for this grant.

“As a teachers' union local representing 2,300 members working in high schools in the Peel Region, our unit executive has sought to create stronger ties with the communities in which we teach,” DPSU and OECTA President Peter MacDonald said. “We could think of no better way to build community than to partner with United Way of Peel and to help fund this project.”

“Working together we are possibility,” said Peel Regional Labour Council President Jim McDowell.

“Labour has been an important longstanding partner of United Way of Peel Region,” United Way of Peel Region President and CEO Shelley White added. “Together we are working to reduce the root causes of poverty and enhance possibilities for better income security and self-sufficiency among our citizens and families across Peel. I would like to thank all members of the Labour Council for the tremendous work they do and for their continued partnership with United Way of Peel Region.”