

**News Release**

**United Way Waterloo Region Communities**

For Immediate Release – September 13, 2019

**United Way Waterloo Region Communities Announces New 2019-2020 Board of Directors  
and Campaign Cabinet Members**

***Samson Ling to serve as Chair of Board of Directors along with Rebecca Tascona as  
Campaign Cabinet Chair***

Waterloo Region - United Way Waterloo Region Communities (UWWRC) announces the appointment of 5 new members to its Board of Directors as well as 7 new Campaign Cabinet members.

Moving from his role as UWWRC Cabinet Campaign Chair, Samson Ling, President and CEO of Clarion Medical Technologies, has assumed the role of Board Chair. Samson has held senior executive posts in automotive parts manufacturing, specialty reinforcement, the chemical industry and the medical device industry. Samson joined Clarion Medical Technologies in 2006. He holds a doctoral degree in chemistry from Western University and an MBA from Wilfrid Laurier University. Samson and his wife Susan are residents of Kitchener.

“I am thrilled with my appointment as Board Chair at United Way Waterloo Region Communities,” said Ling. “The work done by United Way is so critical to the people of this Region and that is my motivation for continuing in this new role. This is my home and I am passionate about what United Way does in terms of creating a better community for all its citizens.”

New to UWWRC, Rebecca Tascona has taken over as Campaign Cabinet Chair. Rebecca is the Regional President, BMO Private Wealth, South Western Ontario. Rebecca joined BMO Financial Group in 2005 and has held a variety of progressive roles in the Office of Strategic Management, Personal & Small Business Credit Cards, BMO Insurance COO and Chief Operating Officer of BMO Wealth Management. She has a Hons. Bachelor of Commerce and an MBA from Queen’s University. Rebecca lives with her family in Waterloo.

“I am so excited to be joining United Way as Cabinet Campaign Chair,” stated Tascona. “This role works directly with the business community to ensure our business leaders understand the impact their contributions can have. We are facing some critical issues in the Region and I want to help deliver the message to everyone who is in a position to help. At times it may be difficult to see what is often right in front of us, but someone in need may be a neighbour, relative or friend. I feel it is very important for me to be able to illustrate that connection to everyone that calls Waterloo Region home and the critical role UWWRC plays in supporting everyone that may need help.”

New UWWRC Board of Directors and Campaign Cabinet Members for 2019-2020:

**Board of Directors:**

Jane Albright - Commissioner, Human Resources and Citizen Service - Region of Waterloo  
Bryan Larkin - Chief of Police - Waterloo Regional Police Service  
Ken Seiling – Retired, Regional Chair  
Karen Wilkinson – President - Karen Wilkinson Professional Corporation

**Campaign Cabinet:**

Bob Kalbfleisch – President - R.S. (Bob) Kalbfleisch Consulting Services Inc.  
Dave Wilson – District Vice President, Waterloo Region District – Scotiabank  
Gary Shantz – Front of House Coordinator – Centre in the Square  
Sherry Veg - Community Manager, Financial Services - RBC  
Toni Lemon - Professor - Conestoga College  
Rita Westbrook - Retired (Waterloo Regional Police Service)

For a full list of United Way Waterloo Region Communities' Board of Directors and Campaign Cabinet members, please go to <https://www.uwaywrc.ca/about-united-way/governance/>

United Way Waterloo Region Communities will launch its 2019 fundraising campaign on September 20<sup>th</sup> with its 2<sup>nd</sup> annual March of 1,000 Umbrellas. To find out how you or your organization can become involved, visit [www.iamtheone.ca](http://www.iamtheone.ca).

**Digital Assets:**

Please visit [www.uwaywrc.ca/communications](http://www.uwaywrc.ca/communications) to download our digital assets and further information, including photos, CEO bio and photo, and United Way backgrounder.

- 30 -

**About United Way Waterloo Region Communities**

United Way Waterloo Region Communities is dedicated to helping people live better lives in every one of the seven communities we serve. We are fundraisers and community builders who support a network of agencies whose programs and services are locally focused, informed, connected, and deeply invested in helping people reach their full potential.

For more information or for media interviews, please contact:

**United Way Waterloo Region Communities**

Hilary McCann  
Senior Director, Marketing and Communications  
P. 519-888-6100 EXT. 227 C: 226-898-1394  
E: hmccann@uwaywrc.ca