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## News Release

### United Way Waterloo Region Communities

For Immediate Release-August 21, 2020

#### **United Way Waterloo Region Communities' 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Virtual Spirit Awards**

Waterloo Region - United Way Waterloo Region Communities (UWWRC) is pleased to invite community members to join in celebrating and honouring this year's Virtual Spirit Award winners. The winners are showcased at [www.iamtheone.ca/spiritawards](http://www.iamtheone.ca/spiritawards)

"Although we could not celebrate in person this year, our Spirit Awards are more important than ever," says CEO Joan Fisk. "Without these generous people in our community we could not support all the frontline services and programs that play such a critical role in Waterloo Region. The pandemic has taught us that we are stronger together and it is only because of the support from workplaces, individuals and agencies in our community that we are able to react when needed and provide critical funds like our [COVID-19 Response Fund](#). That is just one example of why it is still so important to recognize everyone's dedication and compassion. We are facing issues we have never faced before and all our nominees and winners embody the spirit it will take for Waterloo Region to recover and build a strong future for us all."

Without the exemplary dedication and commitment of donors and volunteers, United Way Waterloo Region Communities could not continue to do what needs to be done. "Our donors, agencies and volunteers are the heart of our community", says United Way Waterloo Region Communities' Board of Directors Chair, Samson Ling. "We have all experienced unprecedented challenges lately and we must make sure we are there when needed for the most vulnerable and support those that are doing the extremely challenging work on the frontlines."

UWWRC is also proud to announce **Mike Murray** as the winner of the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Ken Seiling Community Leader Award. This award recognizes an exemplary public leader who, through extraordinary contributions and outstanding commitment, has driven the spirit of community through personal involvement and initiative.

## **2020 Spirit Award Nominees and Winners**

### **Rising Star:**

Adam Lauder (City of Waterloo)  
Lisa Armstrong & Brittany Kulchar (Carizon)  
Brenda Jacobs & Jeff Hunter (Langs)  
LCBO Team

**Winner: Wilfrid Laurier University**

### **Labour Community Partnership:**

Unifor Kitchener Regional Office  
United Steelworkers Local 4610  
Waterloo Region Labour Council

**Winner: Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario, Waterloo Region**

### **Spirit of Community:**

Sydney Atwood, Conestoga College Student Engagement Committee  
Carizon Family & Community Service  
EY

Tracy Elop

Tom Galloway

KW Counselling

Mike Murray

Pearle Group

Anne Tinker

The partnership of Sleep Country Canada, Region of Waterloo, Mill Creek Motor Freight, Argus Residence and UWWRC Donate a Bed Program

University of Waterloo Campaign Committee

Linda Zensner

**Winner: Energy+**

### **Outstanding Workplace Campaign (Large Organization):**

Clarion Medical Technologies

Equitable Life

Sun Life Financial

Wilfrid Laurier University

**Winner: Toyota Motor Manufacturing Canada**

### **Outstanding Workplace Campaign (Small to Mid-Size Organization)**

BMO Financial Group

Carizon Family & Community Services

McCarter Grespan

Toyota Tsusho

Virtek

**Winner: Gowling WLG**

**Outstanding Volunteer Contribution**

Bill Conway, Rockwell Automation  
Veronica Chapman (KPMG)  
Citizens for Cambridge  
Lisamaree Cormier (Women's Crisis Services of Waterloo Region)  
Robert Correll (UWWRC Cabinet Member)  
Kristen Dansen  
Lynn Hall  
Steve Jennings  
Lisa MacArthur (TLG)  
Kim McLeod (City of Cambridge)  
Ian Miles & Jane Hale- McDonald (Energy +)  
Tammy Robinson – Simmons  
Donald Paddock  
Paul Rossi (KW Counselling Services)  
Sunlife Campaign Committee  
University of Waterloo Campaign Committee

**Winner: EY Waterloo**

**Outstanding Agency**

Cambridge Self Help FoodBank  
Carizon Family & Community Services  
CJI  
Kinbridge Community Association  
KW Counselling  
The Literacy Group  
oneROOF  
The Working Centre

**Winner: Carizon Family & Community Services**

**Digital Assets:**

Please click [here](#) for digital assets and further information, including photos, infographics, CEO bio and United Way backgrounder.

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**About United Way Waterloo Region Communities**

United Way Waterloo Region Communities is dedicated to helping people during times of crisis and in building a stronger future. We are fundraisers that support a network of programs and services that are locally focused, informed, connected, and deeply invested in helping people reach their full potential.

For more information or for media interviews, please contact:

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