



For Immediate Release

TORONTO ARGONAUTS COACH MICHAEL CLEMONS URGES UNITED WAY AGM ATTENDEES TO DREAM LARGE

Argos Coach inspires crowd and challenges people to work together to create a city of inclusion, where everyone has access to equal opportunities

TORONTO, May 23, 2007 – United Way of Greater Toronto marked 51 years of helping make Toronto a stronger and healthier place with one of this city’s most vocal supporters – Argos Coach and Youth Challenge Fund Chair, Michael Clemons. A champion of this city’s youth, Clemons understands the power that collective dreams have in building partnerships that create opportunities for everyone. Says Clemons, “we shouldn’t rest until everyone feels included, no one feels alone, and where everyone has access to equal opportunities. We may never be able to rest, but that doesn’t mean we shouldn’t keep trying.”

Frances Lankin, President and CEO, United Way of Greater Toronto shared his vision. “At United Way, we dream of a city where our young people consider their opportunities limitless, where newcomers find fulfilling employment in their chosen field, and where it doesn’t matter which neighbourhood you live in – all offer an equal chance to thrive. It’s by working together – connecting with donors, volunteers, agencies and community partners – that this dream can become a reality.”

Lankin and Richard Venn, Chair Board of Trustees for United Way, highlighted United Way’s 2006 achievements including the launch of its five-year Building Strong Neighbourhoods Strategy, an initiative aimed at creating lasting change in Toronto’s 13 priority neighbourhoods.

In 2006, United Way surpassed its fundraising goal of \$100 million, to raise \$106.8 million thanks to the extraordinary generosity of Torontonians. Doug Barrington, Chair of United Way Canada-Centraide Canada, presented the 2006 Thanks-a-Million awards to organizations, labour unions and employees who collectively donated \$1 million or more to United Ways across Canada. Close to 100 organizations and labour unions received the award in recognition of their

generosity and community spirit. Together, these groups raised over \$140 million for United Ways-Centraides across Canada, including Toronto.

During the business portion of the meeting, United Way announced several changes to its Board of Trustees, including the appointment of Robert Harding as Chair of the Board. It also recognized retiring board members – Michelle Di Emanuele, Martha Tory, Francesca Shaw and John Hinds. Hinds will take on the role of United Way of Greater Toronto representative on the Board of United Ways of Ontario and Shaw will continue as United Way's representative on the Youth Challenge Fund Board.

United Way welcomed four new members to its Board of Trustees: Pedro Barata, Communications and Outreach Coordinator, Atkinson Foundation; Leslie Gales, President of Midland Group of Companies; June Ntazinda, President and CEO, I3 Advisors Incorporated; and Vince Timpano, President and CEO, Coca-Cola Limited.

Established in 1956, United Way Greater Toronto is a registered charity and community impact organization dedicated to improving lives and strengthening neighbourhoods across Toronto. United Way identifies needs and takes action to create a better, safer, stronger city through research, partnerships and support of a network of more than 200 health and social service agencies.

- 30 -

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