



For immediate release
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Peel Children's Centre Recognizes Donors at Evening Reception

Mississauga – On October 11, Peel Children's Centre (PCC) hosted an evening reception for donors, board members, staff and community organizations in recognition of their generous financial support. The event was held at Credit Valley Golf and Country Club in Mississauga and included cheque presentations for donations totaling over \$86,000.

PCC Board President David Herzstein welcomed guests and thanked them for believing in PCC's Mission to help children and youth with mental health challenges by providing a continuum of high quality services. "Each year, PCC provides help and hope to more than 4,300 children and youth in our community," said Herzstein, "And this simply would not be possible without generous support from donors like you."

PCC CEO Humphrey Mitchell echoed Herzstein's words of gratitude before introducing the mother of a young person who had accessed PCC services to share her story. The mother shared that her son had struggled with various mental health challenges for years before he and his family reached out for help through the Tangerine Walk-In Counselling* service provided by PCC. "Walk-in counselling served as a lifeline for us until my son could be connected to on-going services," the mother said, adding, "Without help, I really don't know what would've happened to my son." The mother also told guests that years later, when her younger child began to experience mental health challenges, she knew exactly where to turn. "It was PCC staff who helped put my son back on the path to mental wellness," she said. "Because they had helped my son, I knew they could help my daughter."

The mother's story beautifully illustrated the impact PCC donors have on children, youth and families in Peel, and the evening included several cheque presentations by dedicated corporations and foundations. **RBC Royal Bank** presented a cheque for \$50,000 in support of improving access to services through WhereToStart.ca, Peel Region's single access point for community-based child and youth mental health services. **The Community Foundation of Mississauga** presented a cheque for \$21,750 in support of PCC's Summer Camp and CONNECT After-School programs. **Peel Regional Police** presented a cheque for \$14,503 raised from their annual *Mother's Day Brunch* in support of PCC programs and services.

Mitchell concluded the evening by thanking everyone in attendance for being part of PCC's caring community working together for children and youth and for prioritizing the mental health needs of Peel's youngest residents.

PCC is a fully accredited, not-for-profit children's mental health agency. Since 1985, PCC has provided free and confidential mental health services to over 4,300 children, youth and their families annually. In 2014, PCC was named Lead Agency for the Region of Peel as part of Moving on Mental Health (MOMH), the Provincial Government's plan to transform child and youth mental health services in Ontario. To learn more about PCC, visit our website, www.peelcc.org. To learn more about MOMH, please visit www.peelcc.org/en/lead-agency.

* *Tangerine Walk-In Counselling is offered in partnership with Associated Youth Services of Peel and Rapport Youth and Family Services.*

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