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**United Way**  
Winnipeg

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## **UNITED WAY REACHES 62% OF CAMPAIGN GOAL**

United Way of Winnipeg has reached 62 per cent, or just over \$11 million of its \$18.2+ million fundraising goal. But with half the campaign still to go, Jeff Zabudsky, 2009 Campaign Chair was quick to caution it will take everyone, working together to ensure success.

“Anybody can make a difference, every gift has an impact and our community is counting on everyone working together to ensure the programs and services our friends, family, co-workers and neighbours are counting on remain stable and available precisely when they’re needed most,” Zabudsky said.

More than 150 Winnipeggers, including members of the city’s labour community, United Way agency partners, volunteers, and staff rose early today to hear the news during United Way’s Report Session Two at United Association Local 254.

“It’s reassuring to know Winnipeggers continue to look out for one another – particularly now, when economic uncertainty over the past year has created challenges for everyone,” said Jeff Zabudsky, President & CEO of Red River College and United Way’s 2009 Campaign Chair. Incredibly, much of the progress is due to working heroes throughout the city, some of whom are among those Winnipeggers directly affected by economic uncertainty.

“Without these dedicated and determined people, there would literally be no way,” said Emcee Sandra Oakley, United Way’s Deputy Chair of Labour and Regional Director for CUPE. Oakley made her comments during a special presentation acknowledging Winnipeg’s labour community for their contributions to a safer, healthier Winnipeg through United Way.

This is a very special year for Canadian workers everywhere as it marks the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Winnipeg’s general strike. The unions that gained strength as a result went on to establish United Way in 1965 through the Winnipeg Labour Council and along with the Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce.

We still have a long way to go before we reach our fundraising goal – one that will ensure our community remains stable today and emerges stronger tomorrow. “We really want Winnipeg to know that we can’t do this without everyone’s help and participation,” Zabudsky said. “Without you, there would be no way.”

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