

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Mississauga Summit 2009: Community leaders create blue print for the future

Over 175 leaders from the corporate, non-profit, government, education and labour sectors gathered at the Living Arts Centre to develop strategic plans on four key priority areas essential to our city's future. The best minds from across the community assembled for **Mississauga Summit 2009**. This half-day conference, presented by Astra Zeneca Canada Inc., built on the success and ideas generated by the 2007 Mississauga Summit.

Honorary Chair Mayor Hazel McCallion and co-chairs, Brian Crombie, local business consultant, and Shelley White, CEO of United Way of Peel Region, led off the day with a request that all participants apply their ideas, energy and experience to tackling these four issues critical to the city's future.

"The community needs to work in partnership with government on new approaches to ensure the resilience of our city in this time of economic challenge and to create new opportunities for success," said Crombie.

The day included presentations on the economy, the environment, Mississauga's diversity, and the future of education and human services in our city. The presentations provided the context for on-site working sessions. The discussion was divided into the four priority areas. They are:

- Building human capital
- Creating a postsecondary education strategy to complement our economic and human capital development
- Waterfront development and environmental sustainability
- Cultivating Mississauga as a centre of excellence for diversity and immigration

Attendees participated in round-table discussions designed to tap into their diverse and complementary areas of expertise. Groups strategized on ideal outcomes for each of the priority areas. The results will provide actionable plans that include both vision and ground-level tactics.

"This is just the beginning of the work. The ideas created by these round-tables will launch four separate Task Forces charged with implementing the vision and strategy defined here today. Today's results will have a big impact on the future of Mississauga," said Shelley White

The first Mississauga Summit, held in 2007, gathered senior leaders from across the community and thinkers from around the world to create a one-day think tank that addressed issues affecting Mississauga. These issues included the strains that rapid population growth has placed on social and health services and the widening fiscal gap between needs and resources.

There was no cost to attend the Summit, which was made possible by generous support. Aside from the title sponsor, AstraZeneca Canada Inc., additional sponsors include Medtronic, United Way of Peel Region, RBC Royal Bank, CIBC Wood Gundy, PricewaterhouseCoopers, University of Toronto Mississauga, Proactive Print Management and the Host Fine Indian Cuisine.



The Summit Co-Chairs Brian Crombie and Shelley White are available for interviews. Please contact the media desk to arrange interviews with speakers.

For more information, visit the **Mississauga Summit 2009** website at www.mississaugasummit.ca.

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