



**United Way**  
Perth-Huron



Social Research &  
Planning Council

## ***For Immediate Release***

From: Social Research and Planning Council - United Way Perth-Huron  
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Your Neighbourhood Credit Union  
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### **Your Neighbourhood Credit Union Certifies as Living Wage Employer**

Stratford, ON – Your Neighbourhood Credit Union (YNCU), with local branches in Stratford and Mitchell, is the latest employer to certify as a living wage employer.

“We want our employees to feel valued and be able to give back to their communities,” said Jennifer Kern, Director, Sales & Coaching – Mitchell. “By ensuring they’re paid a living wage, we know they’ll be able to enjoy their lives outside of work and invest in the wonderful businesses in Stratford. This is a great place to live and work, and we want our employees to be able to take in all our community has to offer.”

“Here at YNCU, we look after our employees and our neighbours,” said Andriana Akins, Manager, Member Services – Stratford. “We want our employees to be able to enjoy the vibrant communities they live in, and paying a living wage means they have that opportunity.”

“We thank YNCU for certifying as a living wage employer,” added United Way Perth-Huron Executive Director Ryan Erb. “By committing to improving the lives of their employees, YNCU is helping champion our work building stronger local communities. We appreciate their commitment to this important initiative.”

Based on a 35-hour work week, the living wage for Perth-Huron is calculated regularly using local data and takes into account the living expenses of a weighted average of family types including a family of four, a single mother supporting a seven-year-old child and a single adult, once government transfers and deductions are factored in. Everyday expenses in the calculation include housing, food, utilities, childcare and transportation. For more information about the living wage, visit [perthhuron.unitedway.ca](http://perthhuron.unitedway.ca).

#### **About Your Neighbourhood Credit Union**

With 17 branches and a network of surcharge-free ATMs, Ontarians can access financial services close to home across southwestern and northern Ontario. At \$2 billion+ in assets under administration and 53,000 members strong (and growing!), YNCU is one of the largest credit unions in Ontario. As a community-based organization, not only do YNCU’s partnerships and investments make a difference, its employees live and work in the communities they serve. YNCU’s foundation is built on connectedness to the communities where it operates. Yearly the organization sets aside a minimum of 1% of the pre-tax profit earned by the credit union in the previous fiscal year to be used for charitable organizations and associations that share its focus on improving our communities. Together with its

members, employees and community partners, YNCU is helping to make life better in the places Ontarians live, work, learn and play!

### **About the Social Research and Planning Council**

The SRPC is operated by UWPH and includes community volunteers dedicated to increasing well-being through the collection, analysis and distribution of information related to local social justice issues including; poverty reduction, income security, quality of life, living wage and equity, diversity and inclusion. The SRPC's research and advocacy helps UWPH better understand root causes of local issues and mobilize the community to create effective, innovative solutions. To read more about the SRPC's research, visit [perthhuron.unitedway.ca/research](http://perthhuron.unitedway.ca/research). For a source of current, locally sourced insights into the well-being of Perth-Huron, visit [myPerthHuron.ca](http://myPerthHuron.ca).

### **About United Way Perth-Huron**

UWPH helps here in the community you care about, tackling #UNIGNORABLE issues such as homelessness, mental health and access to services. Thanks to United Way, its partners and donors, almost 40,000 vulnerable people across Perth-Huron have the chance for a brighter future. To show your #LocalLove by donating or volunteering, call 519-271-7730 or 1-877-818-8867, mail to 32 Erie Street, Stratford, ON N5A 2M4 or visit [perthhuron.unitedway.ca](http://perthhuron.unitedway.ca).

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For more information, or to set up an interview with UWPH Executive Director Ryan Erb, call (519) 271-7730 or email [info@perthhuron.unitedway.ca](mailto:info@perthhuron.unitedway.ca).