



NEWS RELEASE

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Hundreds pull together to support United Way

Calgary, AB – A record-breaking number of Calgarians pulled together to raise more than \$107,000 at today's sixth annual United Way of Calgary and Area Plane Pull, and over half a million dollars in the past six years.

Forty-five teams used their superhuman power to compete in a challenge that saw them pull a 190,000 lb. UPS plane 50 feet along the tarmac in the fastest time possible. Hundreds of Calgarians came out to cheer on their favourite teams while enjoying the family-friendly entertainment which included a petting zoo, face painting, food trucks, and appearances by Holybatman and the 501st Badlands Garrison.

Funds raised by the United Way Plane Pull will be strategically invested into the community through the organization's three focus areas of overcoming poverty, helping kids succeed, and building strong communities.

"Calgary is a city that believes in itself. It is a city committed to building communities where everyone can access opportunity and feel a sense of belonging," said Karen Young, President & CEO, United Way of Calgary and Area. "Today's United Way Plane Pull shows what we can accomplish when we all pull together toward a common goal. What a great metaphor for what we are trying to achieve through our campaign. 'We are all Calgary.'"

The annual event was emceed by Jermain Franklin of TSN, and sponsored by UPS Canada.

"For 30 years, we've partnered with United Way and each year the collective impact of our employees on communities across Canada grows stronger," said John Dumigan, transportation division manager, UPS Canada. "Evidence of this is in the success of events like our 2017 'Pulling For U' event for United Way and the dedication of everyone involved, who go above and beyond to make a difference in their community."

Thanks to our generous host and presenting sponsor, UPS Canada, for helping make this event possible.

[United Way of Calgary and Area](#) drives social change in three focus areas: poverty, kids and communities. Since 1940, United Way has supported agencies that assist vulnerable Calgarians. Today, United Way invests in programs and collaborations that tackle root causes of social issues, connecting Calgarians with opportunities that help them flourish. In 2016, \$51.5 million was invested back into the Calgary community through United Way.

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