

Hamilton Roundtable on Poverty Reduction wins Canadian Urban Institute Awards

Congratulations to the Hamilton Roundtable on Poverty Reduction for being recognized nationally at this year's Urban Leadership Awards (ULA) which are awarded to individuals, groups and organizations that have made significant contributions to improving the quality of life in Canada's cities and urban regions.

The Roundtable received the David Crombie Award – which recognizes people or initiatives that work collaboratively on solutions for complex urban problems – for its proven success in not just slowing poverty rates but actually reducing them by almost two percent in less than a decade. “By tackling poverty and making a difference the Hamilton Roundtable on Poverty Reduction has taught us all a lesson that is respected far beyond the Golden Horseshoe,” said CUI President and CEO Glen Murray.

This victory deserves celebration not only because it reflects the hard-earned achievement of hundreds of dedicated people and organizations across Hamilton, but also because it is a significant victory for each and every individual and organization across Canada who is actively working to pioneer coordinated poverty-reduction efforts in their community or neighbourhood.

At the recent *Reducing Poverty in Ontario* gathering in Waterloo, Mark Chamberlain, Chair of Hamilton's Roundtable on Poverty Reduction reminded us that “poverty can be eradicated by refusing to accept arguments that helping poor people doesn't make economic sense.” Just as a successful business entrepreneur must be “unreasonable” and refuse to take no for an answer from investors, anti-poverty advocates “should invoke the same stubborn determination with government,” he said.

Hamilton's victory is a victory for us all because it provides a powerful example that we can all point to when confronted by skeptics and cynics who believe that what we are striving for is not possible.

Related Links:

- [Learn more about the Hamilton Roundtable and its work](#)
- [View the Hamilton Spectator article featuring Mark Chamberlain, Chair Hamilton Roundtable](#)
- [Visit the Hamilton Roundtable website](#)
- [More about the Canadian Urban Institute's Urban Leadership Awards](#)

By: Paul Born