

# TD: Helping the community helps everyone

An interview with Scott Mullin, Vice-President, Community Relations, TD Bank Group, by Sarah Treleaven



TD is very proud to support Art with Heart 2011 and Casey House, a community relationship we've been happily supporting for many years. Art with Heart is an event that goes into our calendars the day the date is announced, and we wouldn't miss it for the world. The art has been selected, the auction is on, the canapés are circulating and some of the ladies in the audience are probably already regretting the decision to wear four-inch heels. But in addition to a fabulous evening of mingling and the excitement of the bid, it's up to all of us to make this a night that contributes to the success of Casey House and the important programs it delivers.

This event offers an opportunity to see and buy some amazing contemporary art by both emerging and established Canadian artists. But most importantly, it offers us the opportunity to pledge our support for the incredible work being done by Casey House for a diverse range of individuals and communities affected by HIV/AIDS.

There are many causes that are deserving of both time and money; like many institutions, we sponsor a number of very worthwhile endeavours. But unlike many other institutions, one of our main priorities is a robust diversity agenda that seeks to speak to a variety of communities and individuals who require some help in attaining access to the support they need.

We aim to be diverse and inclusive. We aim to create a safe and welcoming space within our bank and beyond. We aim to establish a work culture in which people can be proud of their employer and open about who they are. In 2010, we gave over \$55 million to support a variety of good causes—from Gay Pride to Black History Month—in an effort to ensure that those aims are reflected in the philanthropic work we do in our communities.

At TD, we believe that helping the community helps everyone. The more we make an effort to offer a hand to people in need, the more our employees will feel engaged about working for an institution that believes in progress for everyone. As one of the original donors that helped to establish Casey House, we would like to underscore the importance of the work being done by the organization; it's why we have been contributing to this cause on an annual basis ever since. Casey House supports our city, our friends and our neighbours—a most worthwhile investment in the community.

We hope you have fun, enjoy the amazing art on display, and bid big! And in addition to raising money for the cause, please take some time to familiarize yourself with the wonderful work being done by Casey House. If we all help each other, we help ourselves. Building strong cities, strong neighbourhoods and strong institutions requires that we all play a collaborative role in helping one another to succeed. Tonight is a great time to start. TD is a proud continuing sponsor of Casey House and Art with Heart. We hope you'll join us in making the most of this exciting evening.

*Sarah Treleaven is a writer in Toronto.*