



Quinte Community Loses Key Labour Force Advocate

It is with heavy hearts that we let the community know of Mike Whitaker's passing on June 23, 2021. His enthusiasm toward workforce challenges and opportunities in the Centre for Workforce Development's (CFWD) region and beyond never waned. His passion inspired everyone he met and the success that CFWD has had in this community is because of his very nature. Mike was always there for us, helping us truly understand the issues the community faced and ensuring that CFWD had the right connections to develop the strong partnerships we have today.

Mike had more than 30 years of experience as an Employment Counsellor with Loyalist Community Employment Services. He knew firsthand the struggles that job seekers faced and was an advocate for educating employers about recruiting and retaining employees.

He first joined the Board of Directors at CFWD in March 2010. He later became Secretary of the Board in April 2012. Mike went on to become Co-Chair of the Board in April 2015 and provided strong leadership as a member of the Board Executive until he stepped away in June 2020 due to his health.

One cannot simply explain all that Mike gave to the community and this Board. His influence and involvement was far and wide. He will be deeply missed both on the Board and in the community.

Mike was a great mentor to the other Directors of CFWD. If there is one thing he would tell us, it is that CFWD is doing great work. Keep doing what we are doing and stay the course of our plans. We are making a difference.

Thanks Mike for all that you did!

Board of Directors
Centre for Workforce Development