



AON®

BESTEMPLOYER

PLATINUM | CANADA | 2018
BEST SMALL & MEDIUM ORGANIZATIONS

**KAWARTHA CREDIT UNION ACHIEVES PLATINUM STATUS
AS A BEST SMALL AND MEDIUM EMPLOYER IN CANADA**

Peterborough, Ontario November 9, 2017 - KAWARTHA CREDIT UNION has once again made the list of Best Small and Medium Employers in Canada and this year the company achieved PLATINUM status. The study is conducted by AON Hewitt annually and their national awards program recognizes top employers with between 50 and 400 employees.

“We are absolutely thrilled to receive this prestigious Best Small and Medium Employer designation, and we are particularly proud of our Platinum status. We work hard to be a best employer as we recognize that our employees’ engagement is critical to our success. A key focus is attracting and retaining the best employees who are motivated by our mission-driven culture to support the financial success and well-being of our members and the communities we serve. We are an employer of choice because of that focus,” commented Robert Wellstood, CEO of Kawartha Credit Union.

“We use the results from this survey to guide our efforts to improve as an employer - this is one of our most significant goals. It is important to us that our employees believe in our values, support our culture, and are committed to our success,” adds Jennifer Mowry, Vice President of Human Resources.

States Wellstood, “Strong communication with staff regarding our goals and values ensures alignment throughout our company. Employees are highly engaged in part because they see all levels of the company doing their best to uphold our core values – in particular acting with integrity and dedication to member service excellence.”

For more than 10 years, Kawartha Credit Union has participated in the Best Small and Medium Employers in Canada program. Kawartha is repeatedly ranked as a Best Employer due to their continuous improvement approach.

About AON’s Best Employers Program

The *Aon Best Employers* program measures and recognizes leading employers across Canada and worldwide. It is based on more than 15 years of experience in Best Employer studies across the world, backed with more than 20 years of experience in employee research and a global employee engagement database. It focuses on the measures that lead to sustainable business results — engagement, leadership, performance culture and employer brand — and uses the most objective measure possible: employee opinion.

With changing demographics, shifting business dynamics and increasing competition for a best-in-class workforce, talent has become the singular differentiator in business performance. Employers are revisiting the way they select and develop at all levels in the organization, with a focus on hiring for agility and potential across the employee lifecycle.

Based on years of experience, deep employee research, and data from thousands of organizations worldwide, AON has proven that achieving *Aon Best Employers* status correlates with:

- Greater organizational performance
- Greater employee retention and morale
- Better customer service
- Lower absenteeism
- Improved personal health; lower job stress

About Kawartha Credit Union

Kawartha Credit Union serves over 50,000 members through online, mobile, and telephone channels and through a 25 branch network that extends from Cornwall to Parry Sound. With more than 65 years of history and a focus on service excellence, Kawartha delivers a full range of financial products and services, needs-based advice and financial solutions tailored to each member. Additionally, we provide access to The Exchange® Network of thousands of no-fee ATMs in Canada. Membership at Kawartha is open to anyone looking for a financial services provider with a local focus.

Supporting the well-being of the communities we serve is one of Kawartha's guiding principles. Since 1998, Kawartha has donated over \$2.5 million to charitable causes through its Community Involvement Program. In addition to corporate donations, employees volunteer their time and talents to many initiatives throughout the year.

One of the many benefits of membership at Kawartha is the exclusive Affinity Share Program which rewards members for their patronage. The more business you do with Kawartha, the more you receive in Affinity Shares. This program is Kawartha's way of saying "thank you" for choosing us for all of your banking needs. Cumulatively, we have distributed over \$13 million in profits back to our members in the form of Affinity Shares over the eleven years this program has been in place.

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