World Vision Canada's leader set to retire

By Joseph Chin

jchin@mississauga.net

After 18 years as president and CEO of Mississauga-based World Vision Canada, Dave Toycen is set to retire.

Toycen will step down within the next seven months upon completion of a process to choose his successor.

In the meantime, he will continue to lead World Vision Canada, this country's largest humanitarian relief, development and advocacy agency.

"I've been privileged to lead one of Canada's greatest charities. There is never a perfect time for this type of transition, but after more than four decades with the organization and 18 years as CEO of World Vision Canada, the time is right to find a leader who can steer the organization for years to come," Toycen said in a statement.

During his tenure with WVC, more than \$4 billion has been raised in aid and development for people living in poverty, and the number of children sponsored by Canadians has increased five-fold to nearly 500,000.

Over the years, he has provided on-site assessment and support during many large-scale humanitarian disasters across the globe.

Toycen also led the agency into significant advocacy and

public policy work, with an emphasis on issues that affect children. He has spoken before the World Bank, and has met with heads of state, key global executives and development leaders to discuss the well-being of the world's children.

"Whether it's building schools or health clinics through our child sponsorship program, lobbying governments to change policies that hurt the poor, or responding to a humanitarian crisis, the needs of children are front and centre," he said.

Toycen received the Order of Ontario in 2011.

His book, *The Power of Generosity*, draws from his experiences and calls on readers to become more engaged in the world and to develop a more generous way of life.