

MARISSA TEETER

Marissa Teeter, 33
Corporate executive

Charitable giving can save companies money at tax time, but Marissa Teeter believes the benefits are much more substantial.

"I have given talks on what it can do for morale," said Teeter. "What it can do for attracting or retaining great talent. Companies pay a lot to market their image, but if you are out there doing good things in the community, that is all the marketing and PR you need."

Teeter is vice-president of Skyline Wealth Management Inc. where she deals with investments valued at more than \$1.6 billion, as well as compliance and relations with more than 2,000 investors.

"Philanthropy and charity are not at all a part of my job description," she said. "It is just something I love to do that I have taken on and ran with."

One of the initiatives she introduced is Skyline Volunteer Day where each employee has one paid day off each year to support a charity of their choice.

"There is a new generation of employees who want to work for a company that represents more than what it says on their business card," Teeter said. "We attract a lot of new young people who want to work for Skyline because they heard about all the great things we do."

Teeter has a business degree from the Western University in London, Ont., and a bilingual business degree from the Paris Chamber of Commerce and Industry in France.

She was working in Toronto eight years ago when she met Skyline chief executive Jason Castellani and provided consulting ser-



vices for the new and growing company.

A few years later, she met her husband Jeff Teeter, who also works at Skyline, while at the wedding of a mutual friend in Mexico.

"The stars were essentially aligned and I had a great opportunity to come and work for Skyline," Teeter said. "I moved to Guelph and my husband and I were engaged not much longer after that."

Two years ago they welcomed the third member of the Teeter team, daughter Hunter.

Teeter got involved with Big Brothers Big Sisters while in university. She has been on the board in Guelph for five years and served as vice-president and president.

"It is a wonderful organization," she said. "They do a lot of great work in our community and service over 500 kids in the

Guelph area."

Skyline sponsors their annual Have A Heart for Kids' Sake gala every February.

"I get lots of Skyline staff to come out and volunteer," she said. "If you didn't know better you would think it was a Skyline event with all the hands and people helping out."

Teeter also helps organize Skyline's Annual Charity Golf Classic

that, since its inception, has raised more than \$355,000 for Big Brothers Big Sisters, The Children's Foundation of Guelph Wellington and Onward Willow.

"I am very fortunate to come from a great family and I work for a great company," Teeter said. "A lot of what I do comes from just wanting to make them proud."

Nominated by Jason Castellani