

Our North Halton Office Opens!



410 Bronte St S. Milton, ON L9T 0H8

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Halton is putting down roots in Milton.

Now Bigs and Littles who live in North Halton won't have far to travel to access service.

The agency recently set up shop at 410 Bronte Street S. – a beautiful new office complex completed in late August. Establishing an office in Milton is part of a BBBS Halton initiative to expand its In-School Mentoring (ISM) and The Club after-school tutoring program in North Halton. On hand to help make this happen are Wendy Somerville, North Halton Volunteer Coordinator and Cathy Trautmann, Milton Club Coordinator.

Both Wendy and Cathy are excited to be part of this new initiative and look forward to spreading the word about BBBS Halton programs in the North.

To kick things off, there will be an official grand opening October 5 when Milton Mayor Gord Krantz promises to mark the event in style. Rumour is he will roll a bowling ball through pins set up in the doorway of the office. This will help mark the office opening as well as launch the Bowl for Kids Spirit (BFKS) campaign in the North. Mayor Krantz promises to issue a challenge to other Halton municipality mayors to participate in the BFKS campaign.

The agency would like to thank the Ontario Trillium Foundation for funding the office expansion as well as the Milton Community Fund and Halton Healthy Community Fund for supporting the expansion of The Club and ISM programs.

Leading up the opening, BBBS Halton has received tremendous support from the Milton schools participating in the ISM and new Club programs as well as local media outlets, who have already published articles about the agency's expansion in the North.

Volunteer outreach is in full swing for In-School Mentoring in the North. Thanks to a large article in The Champion as well as a number of mobile signs, scheduled to go up toward the end of September, the agency anticipates a lot of response to calls for volunteers.

Wendy and Cathy invite all BBBS Halton volunteers, Bigs and Littles, to drop by the new office and say hello.

Congratulations Spencer!

Little Brother Spencer is one of 30 deserving winners from across Canada of the **CIBC Youthvision Scholarship**. This scholarship encourages the pursuit of post-secondary education among students who are involved with a Big Brothers Big Sisters organization. They must be in Grade 10 to apply. Students are selected on the basis of community involvement, extracurricular activities, academic potential and individual needs.

Spencer knew that without scholarships he may not be able to pursue his dream of attending university to study forensic science or medicine. Spencer has been matched with Big Brother **Jim Stevenson** since January 11, 2000. All of us at Big Brothers Big Sisters of Halton join Spencer's family in congratulating him on being one of the winners of the **CIBC Youthvision Scholarship**. Spencer is a worthy recipient and we're all proud of him!



Big Brother Jim Stevenson and his Little Brother Spencer

Mark your calendar!

September	
Group Recreation Event -Amazing Adventure	Sept 24th
Monastery Bakery Fundraiser	Sept 23rd

October	
North Halton Office Grand Opening	Oct 5th
Group Rec Event—Spook-tacular Night	Oct 25th

Unique fundraising idea!



Orion Securities this summer presented Big Brothers Big Sisters of Halton with a cheque for \$4,600. Not only were we thrilled with such a generous donation, but the means by which is raised was so unique that we wanted to share it with our other supporters.

The World Cup of course only comes around every four years and attracts fans from all over the world, as it is a truly international event. Despite the fact that the staff at Orion are a hard working group, it was hard not sneaking a peak at a game or two, especially when the best in the world are playing. Rather than deny his staff a chance to cheer on their teams, the CEO came up with a way that our charity could benefit from World Cup fever. During the tournament, employees agreed to pay for the pleasure of watching the games and the proceeds would go to our agency. To sweeten the pot, the tax receipt for the donation would be given to a winning employee in a draw format.

Unfortunately, the World Cup only comes once every four years, but we pass on this story with hopes that other employees out there might come up with a similar idea at their workplace...the World Series perhaps?

Thank you again to Orion Securities whose donation will truly make an impact on the lives of deserving children. You are their "world champion".

Fundraising News



We are pleased to announce that we received a whopping \$13,000 in funding from Telus Communications this August for our First Mentor's Program. While they were interested in all aspects of the First Mentor's program, of particular interest to them was the short mini-movies that incorporated all aspects of film production, that the kids worked on with help from Appleby Student Mentors. Telus believes strongly in supporting technology and thus recognized a truly unique portion of the First Mentor's program.

Work has already begun on the 2007 Bowl for Kids Campaign. Currently we are looking for sponsorship. This is a great way for companies to get some great exposure, show their philanthropic spirit and give back to children in this community. If you or your company is interested in getting some more information please call Susan Coyne at (905)339-2355 ext. 236. This year's goal is \$40,000. We need your help to reach it.



The Kiwanis Club of Oakville has agreed to be the official sponsors of the In-School Mentoring for Early Years Children Project in Oakville for the next year with a generous grant of \$10,000. The project will allow us to focus on matching up to 30 children in Kindergarten to grade 2 in high needs areas such as River Oaks. Thank you Kiwanis Club!

Welcome to new Board Members

We are very pleased to announce our new Board of Directors who were approved at our Annual General Meeting in June. They are:

Michael Banks	Gary Busteed	Amber Ellis	Gary Gold	Joe Hawken
Mark Lukowski	Gary McLean	Cathryn Paul	Roslyn Ralph	Demetra Saldaris
Tom Suddaby	Jason Wadden	Jean Wettlaufer	Daphne Wood	

We are so thankful to both our new and returning board members for volunteering their time and expertise. While we are anticipating a challenging year ahead as we proceed with the implementation of our Strategic Plan, we are confident this new board is up to the task!

Sign up to receive this newsletter electronically! Email : info@bbshalton.ca

Program Updates

Kids N Kops—Girls



This year's Kids 'n Kops Camp for girls went off with a 'bang'. During a week of fun and learning, the girls had the chance to take a tour of the police headquarters, where they learned to shoot a gun at the firing range (blanks only of course!). They were introduced to the Tactical Rescue Unit, the Explosive Disposal Unit, and the Police Canine (police dogs) Unit. They even visited and tried on the equipment at the firefighter training site!

When they weren't learning all about life as a police officer or fire fighter, the girls had fun doing activities with Constables Wendy, Pam and Carla, volunteer Barbara and summer staff Jen. They painted ceramics, made beading crafts, went mini-putting and spent a day at the water park. So that they would remember their experience, the girls shared photos taken during the week and learned to make scrapbooks together.

We hope that all of the girls had a great time and made some new friends too. Many thanks to the constables, volunteers and donors for making the week such fun.

Kids N Kops—Boys

This year Big Brothers Big Sisters of Halton and Hamilton teamed up again to provide 24 boys with a week of fun and excitement. The camp was facilitated by agency volunteers and four officers from the Halton Regional Police Services. The children were able to see what goes on inside the police department including demonstrations from the Tactical and K-9 units and sessions on internet safety and bullying. Some of the other activities included mini golfing, movies, bowling, team sports, swimming and loads of fun and fooling around. The Reptile Man showed up on Wednesday with lots of slithery, slimy, many legged creatures and following, the Games Workshop held a massive gaming workshop.

Temperatures soared throughout the week but on Thursday the weather threatened to take over the day. This of course turned out to be our charm as many of the boys had not experienced fishing and with the help of the weather, all were able to catch some fish, including a few whoppers! The rain continued however everyone had so much fun, it was not even noticed. The week ended with celebrations and ice cream cake, grab bags and loads of laughs. Many thanks go out to all of our sponsors, volunteers and the Halton Regional Police Services for their continued support of this valuable program.



Tim Hortons Earn-A-Bike



You may wonder why ten Little Sisters and Brothers ranging from 6 to 15 years spent 30 hours this summer picking up litter in Oakville parks and streets! The answer is that they were motivated by knowing if they completed the 30 hours they would receive a brand new bike, helmet, kickstand, bell and lock from **Tim Hortons**. They earned 15 of their hours at our Earn-A-Bike camp in July and did the remaining 15 on their own.

Even knowing a new bike awaited them at the end, picking up smelly garbage on 40 degree days was not always fun! We inserted as many fun activities and games into the camp as possible, such as garbage relays, scavenger hunts, fill-a-bucket game, free throw contests, etc. And we relaxed and cooled off running in the park splash pads, throwing water balloons at each other, making crafts, playing soccer, snacking and having some great lunches in air conditioned restaurants. We also had a police officer tell us some important facts about bike safety and a staff member from the Town of Oakville tell us about all the work that goes into keeping the parks so clean.

New friendships were made and the importance of finding a trash-can for garbage instead of throwing it on the ground became ingrained in all of us.

The big moment came on the evening of September 7/06 when the kids were presented with their shiny new Raleigh bikes by Tim Hortons. It was an exciting and celebratory event! The Little Brothers and Sisters who participated are to be congratulated for their perseverance and hard work in picking up bags and bags of litter to earn their new bike. And Big Brothers Big Sisters of Halton wish to express our genuine appreciation to **Tim Hortons** for running this very worthwhile Earn-A-Bike Program.

The Club—After-school tutoring program

The Club, an after-school tutoring program for kids, will soon be up and running once again at 12 Oakville elementary schools. Preparations are also underway to open 2 new Clubs in Milton schools in November, one at Our Lady of Victory and the second at J.M. Denyes.

Volunteer tutors are still required at most locations-tutors must be in grade 9 or above-adult tutors are also welcome. There is also a need for adult supervisors with teaching or other-related experience.

Call Anne-Marie or Janet at 339-2355 (Oakville) or Cathy at 878-8840 (Milton). Visit our website www.bbbshalton.ca for application forms and more information.

First Mentors — 2006-07

First Mentors programming will be making the wait much easier for children again this year! In partnership with the students and faculty at Appleby College, we will continue to offer programming in Art/Crafts, Drama Games and Recreational Sports. This specific mix of programming promises to challenge children and youth in ways that are fun and often quite humorous for all.

The focus of providing programming that challenges and offers new experiences in a supportive environment helps to strengthen participants and empower them with skills they can use throughout their daily life. Volunteers can also benefit from the program through participation and have the opportunity to interact with many of the wonderful children waiting to find their Big Brother or Big Sister.

First Mentors will set sail for adventure and fun in October and continue with sessions in November, February and April.

Thanks to our donors!

American Women's Club of Oakville
Michael Banks
Dr. Lowell Berger
Lu Cacioppo
Canadian Tire Foundation for Families
Dave Tomlin
Connie Dorval
Mark Edwards
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Pesach Goldman
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Trevor Torzsas
United Way of Oakville
Charles Winograd - RBC Capital Markets

Something for Everyone

FREE TICKETS FOR MATCHES & VOLUNTEERS— From time to time we are fortunate to receive free tickets to sporting events, movies, circuses, and concerts etc. Please be aware that we may not be given a lot of notice from the donor, but the case managers always strive to find someone who can enjoy them. If you wish to be on a "Hot" email list to receive up-to-date bulletins about available tickets, please send an email to your case manager.

HALTON FAIR GUIDE— Fair Play Guide- "A guide to assist parents in finding low-cost and no cost recreation for their children in Halton". Halton's Fair guide is available on the Choices 4 Health website at:
<http://choices4health.org/pages/Be%20Active.html>

HALTON REGIONAL POLICE—BICYCLE AUCTIONS—Check out these auctions for great bike deals. Usually March, August and October. Call 905.825.4747 ext 2209 for info.

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