



BIG News!

Big Brothers Big Sisters

Serving Brant, Brantford, Haldimand & Norfolk

Brant/Brantford Open House

Big Brothers and Big Sisters serving Brant Brantford Haldimand Norfolk officially opened their new Brantford office May 13th, thanks to the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF), Brant United Way, Enterprise Brant and the City of Brantford. OTF representative Delia O'Byrne, Mike Hancock, City of Brantford Mayor, Ron Eddy, Brant County Mayor, Wendy Walton, Enterprise Brant, Paul Oddi, Brant United Way, Darrell



MacInnis, Chair of the Brantford Steering Committee and Big Brother Chris and Little Brother Kodi participated in an official ribbon cutting ceremony at the open house to launch the renewal of men-

toring programs in Brant County and Brantford.

The support received has provided the financial foundation necessary for the re-establishment of mentoring programs in Brant County and Brantford. The Ontario Trillium Foundation is an agency of the Government of Ontario. For over 25 years, the Foundation has supported the growth and vitality of communities across the province. For more information, please visit www.trilliumfoundation.org.

Another Successful Bowl for Kids Sake Campaign...Share the Dream in 2009

The 2009 Wendy's Bowl for Kids Sake Campaign's theme was "Share the Dream" & from start to finish it was a "DREAM" campaign. With the expansion of the agency came an expansion of Bowl for Kids Sake & we couldn't have asked for better communities to be in...Brantford & Brant, Haldimand & Norfolk Coun-

ties stepped up to the plate this year along with our Title

Sponsor Wendy's to help us raise over \$70,000. We hosted 6 events from March 21st to April 23rd &



finished off with the Bowl for Kids Sake Wrap Up Party at the Greens at Renton on May 7th. Make sure you

check out the 2009 Wendy's Bowl for Kids Sake "Share the Dream" Campaign newsletter insert.



Summer 2009 Issue

Of Special Interest

- ☺ Bowl for Kids Sake Newsletter Insert
- ☺ Golf for Littles Tournaments
- ☺ Gord Guenther Memorial Grow a Garden, Grow a Child
- ☺ Go Girls to Kananaskis, Alberta

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Welcome Nick & Catherine

Hi, my name is Nick Baskerville and I have been hired as the summer student here at BBBSBHN. I just finished my first year of university and am looking forward to a great summer here at the office. I have previous experience with Big Brothers and Big Sisters as I took my high school coop here last year. I will be doing many various jobs in, and around the office, which includes helping with Golf Buddies and getting ready for our two major golf tournaments this summer. Hope to see you all soon!

My name is Catherine Gumbley and I am a Mohawk College student in the Social Service Worker Program. I am currently finishing my last 200 hours of placement at Big Brothers Big Sisters and plan to graduate in the fall. I am enjoying my time here; it is a very active and busy place. I had the honour of assisting the local president of BBBS with a fund raising barbeque called, "Grow a Garden, Grow a Child". There were five locations across the Brant, Brantford, Haldimand & Norfolk area and I assisted at a garden centre in Simcoe. It was a wet, windy day but thanks to the great people a Kings Garden Centre they provided us

with a dry spot that was also out of the wind. It was nice to chat with some of the customers as they went about gathering plants for flower beds and gardens. I look forward to many more experiences during my time with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Brant, Brantford, Haldimand and Nor-



Pictures of Life at BBBS



Top 10 Reasons to Join the BBBS Alumni

The following are the Top 10 Reasons to join the BBBS Alumni program (while you're still involved)

10. Stay connected with a cause you support.
9. Hear from other Alumni who share their experience.
8. Access great benefits & discounts.
7. Receive news from your local agency.
6. Be invited to upcoming agency events.
5. Inspire & encourage other to become involved.
4. Share your own story.
3. Be recognized for your role as a mentor.
2. Reunite with your Big or Little

should you ever lose touch.

And the NUMBER ONE REASON TO JOIN THE BBBS ALUMNI:

HELP SERVE MORE CHILDREN!!

Check out the BBBS Alumni Website at www.bbbsalumni.ca

Golf for Littles...Times Two!!!

It's that time of year again, the grass is green, the driving range is open & the Big Brother Big Sisters Golf for Littles Tournament is coming up....but this year, we've hit a dogleg at you....we're hosting TWO Golf for Littles Tournaments.

Join us June 17th at the Greens at Renton for 18 fun filled holes of sunshine, summertime & birdies, and if you decide you want more...join us again on August 12th at the Northridge Public Golf Course for our first ever Golf for Littles in Brantford & Brant County.

We've been lucky enough, once again

to have Scotiabank on board as our tournament sponsor, so of course this year is once again the Scotiabank Golf for Littles, but the staff at Scotiabank doesn't golf little, they golf BIG, as last year's top overall team was the mixed Scotiabank Team.

Each tournament is being offered at a price of \$100.00 per golfer, or if you want to golf in both, \$175.00.



The Greens at Renton Tournament offers: 18 Holes, Golf Cart, Lunch, Prime Rib Dinner & Great Prizes/Contests, with tee times beginning at 11am.

Northridge Public Golf Course offers: 18 Holes, Golf Cart, Conti-

ental Breakfast, Chicken/Beef Meal & Great Prizes/Contests, with an 8:30am Shotgun Start.

"Fore" more information, give Carrie a call at the office...See You on the Golf Course!!!

Gord Guenther Memorial Grow a Garden, Grow a Child

This year's Grow a Garden, Grow a Child Campaign was held in memory of former Big Brother & Board Member Gord Guenther. Gord's death in November of last year didn't just stun us, it devastated us, but for us there was no better way to remember Gord than to host Grow a Garden in his memory!! Gord was an avid outdoorsman who among other things was

President of the Haldimand Woodlot Owners Association. Gord loved nature & it was a big part of the time he spent with his Little Brothers.



This year we hosted BBQ's at Verrip's, King's, Ryerse's, Kalis' & Walter's Greenhouses in memory of Gord. The memories he left with us will last a lifetime.

From Your Service Delivery Team

Ashley Cordier-Mentor Coordinator

Spring has finally arrived and Summer is just around the corner! Shake off the winter blues and enjoy the sunshine! I just want to remind all the traditional matches interested in having an overnight visit to please call the agency prior to planning the activity and get approval from myself to proceed. Above all, please stay safe through the summer holidays. There are many different activities that can be done throughout the warmer months that do not cost a lot of money, if any at all. This is a great opportunity to get out on your bikes, play catch in the local baseball field, go for hikes through trails in your communities or spend the day at the beach. Remember, activities do not need to cost a lot of money! If you

have any questions about certain activities that you are unsure on doing, don't hesitate to call me at the office.

I would like to welcome all of our new matches in the Brant-Brantford area. I take great pleasure in seeing all the new faces within our agency and watching the agency grow. I would like to personally thank B/B Chris S & L/B Kodi C for participating in our Ribbon Cutting Open House in Brantford. Chris S & Kodi C were matched in March as the first official new match to Brantford. Chris and



**Anna, Ashley & Diane
Hard at Work**

Kodi have been going to the gym on a weekly basis together and are continuing to build their friendship together.

I would like to congratulate B/B Doug S & L/B Justin C for their 6 year match anniversary in April. Justin has graduated from our

program. I wish all the best to the both of them and hope they remember all the special times they shared together.

Diane Corbett-In School Mentor Coordinator

It's that time of year again when the tulips and daffodils remind us that those lazy days of summer are just around the corner. Soon it will be time to say good bye to your Little Buddies for the summer break. Here are some helpful tips to help make the transition a positive one.

Talk with your Little Buddy about his or her feelings regarding breaking for the summer vacation and also about the feelings of coming back in September.

Talk about how it feels to miss a friend and also how it feels to be back together with that friend

Let your Little Buddy know that it's okay

to think of each other over the summer. You can still be friends in your thoughts and remember fondly the things you did together even while apart.

Show enthusiasm in the fact that the Little Buddy will be doing different things in the summer away from school and that you will be excited to hear all about his or her experiences when September comes.

A visual item, such as a count down calendar that you mark together, will help your Little Buddy conceptualize how much time is left in your visits. This will help them prepare for their good bye and feel more comfortable with the transition.

Make a summer craft such as a kite or windsock together to help your Little Buddy build interest towards summer time.

Thank you to all of the In School Mentor Volunteers for you dedication and belief in our young friends. Your positive attention to them and their individual needs gives them the gift of self confidence and empowerment. You make a difference! Have a fun filled and safe summer.

Fond regards,
Diane Corbett

In School Mentoring Coordinator

Anna Reu-Senior Caseworker

Our agency was one of six agencies across Canada to have the opportunity to send one caseworker plus five girls (aged 12-14 years) to the Tim Horton Children's Camp in Kananaskis, Alberta. So ... I gathered my five girls - Skye, Amanda, Angel, Jennifer, and Jessica - and headed to the Rocky Mountains from April 27-30th. What an amazing time we had, once we overcame the six inches of snow and the snowy, cold days! This was a Go Girls camp where they each earned their G.R.E.A.T. beads - "Goal Setting & Achievement; Responsible Leadership; Care for the Environment; Adventure, Creativity & Discovery; and Teamwork, Friendship, Community".

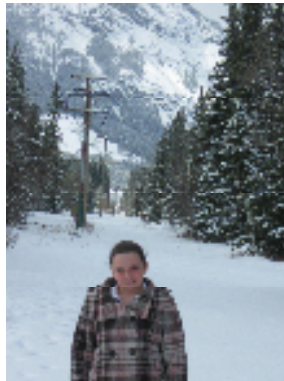
This opportunity was made possible because of the generous partnership that Big Brothers Big Sisters of Canada have with West Jet and Tim Horton Children's Foundation. Thank you to the girls for sharing in such a great experience!

Our group programming has just come to an end for another school year. Two Go Girls have just concluded - one at Elgin Avenue P.S. and one at Central P.S., Brantford and a Go Guys has just concluded also at Elgin Avenue P.S. Thank you to our Go Girls Mentors - Rachel, Brianna, Sarah, Kaley - and thank you to our Go Guys Mentors - Adam and Aaron!!!

The five high school co-op students - from Pauline Johnson Collegiate, St. John's College, Holy Trinity Catholic High, and Delhi District Secondary - will be winding down from their semester of duties at our agency. A huge thank you ... and goodbye ... goes to Kori, Tara, Brianna, Kaley, and Sarah!!!

Welcome to our Mohawk College, Hamilton, Social Services Worker student, Catherine to our agency to complete her co-op placement. Catherine began in May and will conclude in July. Thanking you in advance Catherine, for all your hard work and dedication to the work we do!!!

Go Girls Pics from Kananaskis, Alberta



New Matches & Match Anniversaries

New Matches

B/B Matt J & L/B Josh T
B/S Valerie V & L/S Madison A
B/B Chris S & L/B Kodi C
B/B Colin L & L/B Justin F
B/B Daniel H & L/B Michael K
B/B Michael T & L/B Cedeno G
B/S Stephanie D & L/S Toni Lynn A
B/S Lesley L & L/S Cassandra S
B/S LeeAnn L & L/S Georgea R

Match Anniversaries

March

B/S Krysta E & L/S Lori S - 1 yr

April

B/B Doug S & L/B Justin C - 6 yrs
B/S Roxanne J & L/S Ashley S - 2 yrs
B/S Jami C & L/S Jessica L - 3yrs

Match Anniversaries

June

B/S Jenny B & L/S Tia L - 4 yrs

July

B/B Leeroy F & L/B Michael P - 2 yrs
B/S Keri H & L/S Angel T - 5 yrs

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Our Vision Statement

Every child in who needs a mentor, has a mentor.

Our Mission

We commit to Canada's young people that we will be leaders in providing them with the highest quality, volunteer based mentoring programs.

Program Philosophy

Children who spend time with a mentor gain confidence, acquire new skills & competencies, and develop an enhanced capacity to care for others. Mentors experience a sense of discovery & enjoyment as they see the world of possibility open up through a child's eye.

We're on the Web!!

www.bbbshn.ca

Our Core Values



We Believe...

- ⇒ The healthy development of every child is enhanced by positive, nurturing, mentoring relationships.
- ⇒ In working with others to promote healthy & safe environments for children
- ⇒ That collaboration between staff & volunteers in service delivery is our strength
- ⇒ That all BBBS programs must maintain the highest standards to ensure positive outcomes for the children & their families.

