



**Big Brothers and Big Sisters
of Calgary and Area**

Share a little Magic

Winter 2007

New Recreation Mentoring program sees mentorship in motion!

Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Calgary and Area is pleased to unveil Recreation Mentoring!

Recreation Mentoring provides young people with the benefits of participating in sport and recreation, while also providing young people with a one-to-one or group mentoring experience with a volunteer mentor. The program consists of mentors participating in sports and recreation activities with a young person who shares the same interests. Mentors and mentees get to have a great time, while building a relationship in an active and fun environment. Recreation Mentoring is beneficial to both the mentor and the child. The program provides access to recreation activities and facilities at NO COST for the duration of the mentoring match. Matches meet 1-4 hours per week for a period of one year.

The collaboration between BBBS, community organizations, community facilities and post-secondary institutions provides the foundation for a strong influential program that benefits children, creates new excitement for volunteers and encourages mentoring in the community.

Recreation Mentoring provides the opportunity for partnerships with recreational and sport facilities like the Calgary Olympic Development Association and YMCA Calgary facilities, which introduce children to sports and recreation programming where they may not otherwise have had the chance. Through Recreation Mentoring mentors and mentees are getting involved, being active and are making a BIG difference!



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"Becoming responsible adults is no longer a matter of whether children hang up their pajamas or put their dirty clothes in the hamper, but whether they care about themselves and others - and whether they see everyday chores as related to how we treat the planet."
- Eda Leshan





A Tribute to Joan Gooder

Written by Executive Director, Sharon Moore

The greatest privilege of being a part of this agency is meeting people like Joan Gooder. Joan's zeal for life was a part of her presence. Effortlessly, she made the lives of people who knew her better simply by being a part of it. Joan lived life to the fullest, truly. She was a gift, and everyone around her was a benefactor.

Joan passed away on October 9, 2007 after a brief and private battle with cancer. Though she is gone, her commitment to mentorship is etched in the history of Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Calgary and Area.

Joan first came to understand the impact of mentoring when her son Jeff was matched with a volunteer mentor. This firsthand experience propelled Joan to be a part of making that difference in the life of a child.

Joan's passion for life, her drive and her dedication continued for the next 25 years as she became involved with Uncles at Large (prior to its formation into Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Calgary and Area) where she screened and matched volunteers. When she joined the Canadian Progress Club in 1992, she became actively involved with the planning of fundraising events; taking an active leadership role as President of the Canadian Progress Club – Elbow River. She

later assumed the role of Alberta South Zone Governor at the Regional level, as was a Governor for CPC- National Charitable Foundation. She remained an active member of the Calgary Eves. During this time, the Canadian Progress Clubs became – and remains – the largest source of funding for Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Calgary and Area. Indeed, Joan was an intricate part of our foundation.



Lois Anderson, a fellow member of the Calgary Eves, described Joan as being a person who "genuinely cared for others. Her outgoing personality was contagious. She was so incredible and dynamic."

Joan's spirit of giving lives on in the contribution of her friends, her family and her fellow Progressians, who donated to our agency in her memory. Know that these funds will go to further the vision that Joan dedicated a portion of her life to: that every child who needs a mentor will have one.

"THERE ARE ONLY TWO LASTING BEQUESTS WE CAN HOPE TO GIVE OUR CHILDREN.
ONE IS ROOTS; THE OTHER IS WINGS."

- HODDING CARTER

AGM Shares a Few 'Little Stories'

On September 17, partners, supporters, and our families took part in our annual general meeting at Fort Calgary. This event celebrated the efforts of the staff, the dedication of the board of directors, the generosity of our supporters and the commitment of our families and volunteers.

Steve Peake, a returning board member, did an outstanding job as MC. He gave a wonderful speech honouring friend and board colleague Andy Lockhart as he presented him with the 2007 Founders Cup Award. Steve also had the pleasure of introducing Bryce Williams. Bryce told the story of his Big Brother Mark Hamilton with whom he was matched in 2004. Two years after their match Mark was tragically killed in a car accident. Bryce shared a story he wrote for Big Brothers:

"Even though Mark is no longer here I am thankful that I had known him for a short while rather than to never have known him at all."

A tree was planted in honour of Mark and his love for nature. The tree is a strong symbol for our agency as it represents not only our growth and strength in the community, but also the strong foundation on which we are built.

Also presented at the AGM was the "Little Book of Happy Stories" a publication created to help share our passion, our history and the impact of mentoring. The artwork inside the book originated from paintings in the office, which were created by Littles in various mentoring programs.

New Wheels for 20 Littles

September 8th was a very special day for 20 of our Littles. Once again, BBBS Calgary was selected to be a part of the 2007 annual Spokes for Little Folks event. This event, put together by XI Technologies, is a great day for not only our children but also deserving children from Hull Child and Family Services and Calgary Family Services Inner City Community Resource.

Children gathered early Saturday morning and were treated to a feature presentation of "Ratatouille" before receiving their brand new bicycles! Then it was out to the parking lot where children and their parents took part in a safety clinic and helmet fitting from the Calgary Paramedic's Charity Society.

Our children are delighted with their new bikes. We thank Robin Brandt and the entire XI Technologies team for their generosity all that was done to put this great event together!



Rain or shine, ATMCC a BIG success

Written by Jennifer Sanford

I don't think any of us could have imagined the rains that came three days before the Alberta Treasury Management Charity Classic (ATMCC) golf tournament. With only days to spare and a roster full of players, dedicated committee members worked to change plans and move the tournament to a new and drier August 29th date.

It was cold, but the rain was cooperating when we finally met to hit the links in support of Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Calgary and Area.

Jenifer van Meenen and I, BBBS' Development and Communications Team, helped the foursomes stay warm by commandeering a beverage cart filled with hot cups of coffee. Golfers did their best, yet none yielded a hole-in-one at one of the four \$15,000 hole-in-one holes.

Golfers arrived back into the clubhouse to enjoy the hospitality of the Canmore Golf and Curling Club before prizes were announced. Participants had an opportunity to better understand why they braved the cold as Chris Moore and his Little Brother Jordan drove from Calgary just to talk about how their lives have changed for the better since being matched together.

Executive Director Sharon Moore accepted a cheque for \$35,000; a record high in ATMCC's annual history!

Big Brothers and Big Sisters would like to thank sponsors, prize donors, golfers and most especially all of the members of the ATMCC tournament committee who worked so hard to organize such a great event in support of mentorship.



Generosity of Spirit honours Gary Nissen



Co-nominated by Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Calgary and Area and The Safe Haven Foundation, Gary Nissen was recently recognized as the 2007 Generosity of Spirit Outstanding Individual Philanthropist of the Year by the Association of Fundraising Professionals.

A philanthropic mentor to those who know him and an inspiration to those whose lives he has touched, Gary is a truly remarkable example of the spirit of generosity. Selflessly and tirelessly giving of his time and resources to BBBS and The Safe Haven Foundation, among several other charitable organizations, Gary's commitment to the children of our community is making a significant difference.

As said by Gary, "It is my personal passion to support the great organizations in which I am involved, so that more children have the opportunity to grow into happy, productive adults who can then make their own mark in the world." He goes on to say "I hope this recognition will provide me with the opportunity to leverage my own giving and to persuade others to open their hearts to see what a difference they can make in this world."

Indeed, we are certain that Gary's spirit of generosity and philanthropic leadership serves as a model and inspiration for others. As such, we congratulate Gary on being the recipient of this meaningful honour and thank him for all that he has done and continues to do to help the children of Calgary realize their full potential.

Touchdown for 13th Annual Luncheon

A group of nearly 300 sports fans gathered at the Westin Calgary on October 29 to attend CPC Bow River's 13th Annual Calgary Stampeders Quarterback Luncheon. While the roast beef was great, the speeches were even better. Host and CPC Bow River President, Jonathan Hector, introduced owner Ted Hellard, former coach Tom Higgins, and Quarterbacks Barrick Nealy and Ben Sankey who all expressed their appreciation for the work of BBBS staff and the volunteers who give their time and energy. QB Henry Burris was the last Stampeder to speak and took the opportunity to express his belief in mentorship and his appreciation toward the work of BBBS Calgary.

This event was a very special one for Big Sister Jennifer Forbes and her Little Brother Alex. Alex represented our agency as the Little Brother of the Year, a distinction he will hold until September of 2008. He addressed the crowd, with his Big Sister in tow, and shared with the audience about the first time he met Jennifer and how he was amazed to watch her play soccer in high heels. Alex also posed with Henry Burris in a shot featured in the next day's Calgary Sun.

BBBS Calgary wishes to thank CPC Bow River and the Stampeders Football Club for their passion and dedication towards our agency and for all the work they put into making the 2007 Quarterback Luncheon a terrific success!





Bowl for Kids Team Registration Starts Now!

Register today for the 17th Annual Bowl for Kids!

Be a part of the fun! Register your co-workers, your family and your friends. Bowl for Kids is all about having fun and raising funds for Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Calgary and Area. The pledges you acquire go directly our agency in support of our mentorship programs.

Bowl for Kids 2008 runs from March 7 to April 12, 2008. There are 20 different theme nights to choose from at two Calgary bowling alleys. For more information, please visit www.bowlforkid-scalgary.com. Ready to register? Call (403) 338-1192 to register your team today.

So come and join us for Calgary's largest bowling party and support our Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Calgary and Area!



Ghosts and goblins attend BBBS Halloween Party

There was plenty going on during the BBBS Halloween party at the Forest Heights Community Centre on October 28. The day started off with a magic show by magician Shawn Maloney who got everyone into the Halloween spirit. After the show partygoers toured around to a variety of stations, doing everything from a rowdy game of spooky bingo to trying to pin the wart on the witch. People took a break from games to enjoy a slice of pizza and look at the wide array of costumes. There were pirates and princesses, and plenty of scary ghouls and goblins.

Everyone had the chance to carve a pumpkin outside in the sun. Pumpkins were very creative, from glasses with noses and mustach-


es to pumpkin seed sneezes! A 50-dollar certificate to Kart World was awarded for the most creative costume and most unique pumpkin. The pumpkin award went to Big Sister Carrie and Little Sister Samantha. Sisters Emily and Kayla went home with the creative costume award: they dressed as Belle and Lumiere from Disney's Beauty and the Beast.

We would like to thank the Sanford family for generously donating the cost of the facility, Shawn Maloney for offering his time to put on such a great show, and to CPC Bow River for donating 50 pumpkins for everyone to carve. Everyone had a great time at this event and we are already looking forward to next year!



Kananaskis Nature Hike

The Calgary Field Naturalists Society hosted a full day of exploration along the paths of Jumping Pound Loop in Kananaskis on September 8th. Eleven of our Littles and their Bigs had the opportunity to learn from the enthusiastic guides about the plants and animals they saw along the way. There were plenty of birds and neat bugs to see. The great guides explained a lot about the plants and fungi that surrounded the trails. One group swore they saw a moose, but a closer look revealed that it was only a horse. Maybe next year they really will see a moose!



Tim Horton's Ranch Camp Day

It was an action packed day for many matches on November 17th. They arrived at the Ranch Camp just after breakfast and were quickly enthralled by playing group games and mastering the indoor climbing wall. After a break to refuel at lunch, the race was on to be the first team to complete the scavenger hunt. While some matches practiced their aim at the archery station, others took a walk down by the river. After a nice dinner and a big thank you to all the wonderful Tim Horton's staff, it was a quiet bus ride home full of tired Bigs and Littles!



Hitman Game

The Calgary Hitmen had a loud cheering section on December 5th! Thanks to CPC Bow River, eleven Littles had the opportunity to watch the game from the BMO box at the Saddledome. There were all the fixings for a great game including an abundance of food, great seats and high-energy hockey! There were a few sore throats the next day from all that cheering!

Zoolights

The Calgary Zoo was brightly lit on December 7th for their Zoolights display. BBBS, together with the Calgary Police Service Cops for Kids Program, took 15 Littles to see what it was all about. There were ice sculptures and light displays, and even some of the animals were still on display on the cold winter evening. Everyone kept warm with some delicious hot chocolate as they toured around to look at the displays and listen to the festive carolers.



New Mentoring Matches

June 2007 - December 2007

BIG SISTERS

Kayla Bablitz & Julie-Anna
Leah Barnes & Emily
Melanie Benoit & Dorothy
Tracey Bissett & Anna
Lynn Bosomworth & Rochelle
Stephanie Button & Emma
Mary Ann Ceccarelli & Hayley
Pamela Cheng & Tasha
Kate Dooks & Alanna
Regan Dougherty & Searra
Judy Dych-Delmarr & Rebecca
Bernadette Gounder & Catalina
Angela Hartman & Katie
Lisa Hendrickson & Anise
Susan Henwood & Melinda
Tara Lang & Christina
Pamela Lazar & Emily
Krysta Lewis & Kayla
Nichole L'Hirondelle & Jazmine
Kelly Marcotte & Cristina
Erika Martens & Sharon
Kimberley Miller & Randi
Donna Rapp & Victoria
Angelina Rizzuti & Michelle
Eileen Salinga & Lydia
Amy Seward & Bryana
Karyn Smith & Angelita
Leanne Sommerville & Alicia
Amandeep Tahim & Sarah
Manpreet Uppal & Shelby
Tarina White & Lauren
Laura Lee Whitlow & Shania
Janelle Woo & Talia

TEEN MENTORS

Maryam Begum & Inara
Navdeep Bratch & Cody
Rhiannon George & Amarjeet
Anusha Hirji & Sukh Preet
Melissa Lee & Caitlyn
Cindy Luong & Savannah
Lana Quach & Ashlyn

BIG BROTHERS

Dave Bear & Joey
Michael Bell & Logan
Ian & Jairece
Rocky Cash & Austlyne
John Casuga & Michele
Jonathan Huyer & Iain
Jason Long & Colton
Kerry MacDonald & Dale
Daniel Mendoza & Tyler
Andrew Mensah & Caise
Ryan Mischiek & Cody
Robb Price & Cory
Paul Rozek & Austin
Robert Scott & Eric
Deniss Velikodnrijs & Brian
Julius von Bieberstein & Julian
Jonathan Young & Ethan

BETWEEN GENERATIONS MENTORS

Connie Dorigatti & Shane
David Eaton & Spencer
David Eaton & Zachary
Christa Huthmann & Drew
Christa Huthmann & Elliott
Jane Katan & Griffin
Elizabeth Malcolmson & Ivy
Madelynn Munteer & Sage
Lynn Nishimura & Sheadene
Ruth Smillie & Aidan
Ruth Smillie & Juana
Wendy Suggitt & Elyjah
Wendy Suggitt & Tyler
Gerry Ward & Raegen
Delia Whissell & Jesse

IN-SCHOOL MENTORS

Nadine Beaucage & April
Randy Beaudoin & Brayden
Chad Boswell & Jayden
Lauren Brown & Gabrielle
Shivani & Chaudhry & Crowder
Eunice Chung & Camilla
Britta Dixon & Connor
Cody Glaser & Raven
Robyn Goplen & Mackenzy
Sara Hughes & K.C.
Gurvir Johal & Kyesha
Karen Keveryga & Sommer
Logan Kube & Austin
Dianne Kubinec & Junaid
Rebecca Martin & Ruhulamin
Stephanie Otteson & Marchela
Jennifer Pasiciel-Chalmers & Daniel
Victor Quaye & Skylar
Clarissa Rayner & Cameron
Hayden Rubensohn & Brandon
Rachael Young & Johnson

CROSS GENDER MENTORS

Susan Cannon & Matthew
Hilda Highmoor & Jordan
Noreen Lowe & Michael
Carla MacLeod & Matthew
Shayla McCann & Dayne
Tara Nickason & Jake
Connie O'Malley & Robert

BIG COUPLE MENTORS

Melissa David & Greg Stanley & Connor
Phillip & Jacasta Norman & John
Megan Roach & Jeremy Fidelack & Qweci
Dave & Lisa Duncan & Aaron

Recruitment Re-cap

Written by Community Resource Coordinator Sabrina Maschmeyer

Recruitment at Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Calgary is well on its way for 2007 - 2008. Through mall booths, volunteer fairs, speeches in post-secondary classrooms, and in various presentations we have been recruiting wonderful caring individuals to become volunteer mentors with Big Brothers and Big Sisters. If you keep your eye out, I am sure you will see us in the community, sharing the wonderful experiences mentoring provides. With determination, we are poised to meet our recruitment goals for this year.

Our Between Generations program is definitely moving along well, however we are still looking for caring volunteers in the North West area of town. Our Teen Mentoring program has hit its target and it is still growing! Our exciting new Recreation Mentoring programs at the COP and YMCA are gaining awareness and with every passing day more and more prospective volunteers are coming forward. Our In-School Mentoring program is still in need of additional volunteers.

We continue to look for caring men and women who can spend one hour a week with a child at an elementary school in their community. The search continues for Big Brothers for our community program as there are still many Little Brothers on our waitlist.

In the coming months you will continue to see us at Calgary's shopping malls, in our post-secondary schools, at Heritage Park, at Calgary trade shows and festivals, in restaurants, cafes, perhaps even at a presentation at your place of work! Overall, this year's recruitment has started with a BIG bang!

If you would like to learn more about becoming a mentor yourself or would like us to make a recruitment presentation at your workplace call us at 777-3535 and we will happily work with you to grow mentorship.

Special Feature: Saluting our Supporters

Our donors and supporters have a BIG impact at Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Calgary and Area! Their financial contributions, gifts of tickets to various events for our Bigs and Littles, commitment to the children and families of our community, and belief in the work we do results in mentoring magic and brings countless smiles to the faces of the children we serve.

It is with heartfelt gratitude and appreciation that we recognize the following for their generous support and contributions to BBBS during the period of May 1 to November 15, 2007.

Private Foundations & Government Grants

Alberta Children's Services
Alberta Orange Foundation for Children
Best Buy Canada
Canadian Tire Foundation for Families

Catholic Charities
NHN Fund at The Calgary Foundation
Parnigan Fund at The Calgary Foundation
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Our agency extends a BIG thank you to Concorde Entertainment Group, who through their involvement with the CPC-Bow River Club, generously donated 990 tickets to Calgary Stampeder home games. These tickets were given to Bigs and their Littles, as well as families whose children are a part of our mentoring programs. For our matches, this was a great opportunity to connect and have a great time. Many of these tickets went to families who may not otherwise have had the opportunity to see a live football game. We thank the Concorde Entertainment Group for their contribution to our agency. We look forward to next year...when the Stampeders win the Grey Cup...

PartSource stores across the country annually host barbeques to spread awareness and raise funds for Big Brothers and Big Sisters. On Saturday, August 18, five Calgary PartSource stores around the city fired up the grill with plenty of hamburgers and refreshments to help support Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Calgary and area. All proceeds from the BBQs were donated to mentorship programs and services. This year the 17th Avenue location went all out with plenty of music and hot rod cars on display to draw the crowd. Other locations included McLeod Trail, 52nd Street SE, 32 St NE, and Goddard Ave NE. These barbeques are made possible through a combination of BBBS volunteers and PartSource staff; a big thank you goes out to everyone who made this year's barbeques a great success!

"IF A CHILD IS TO KEEP ALIVE HIS UNBORN SENSE OF WONDER, HE NEEDS THE COMPANIONSHIP OF AT LEAST ONE ADULT WHO CAN SHARE IT, REDISCOVERING WITH HIM THE JOY, EXCITEMENT AND MYSTERY OF THE WORLD WE LIVE IN."

- RACHEL CARSON

New Mother Wins BIG

It's a BIG congratulations we extend to Jordi Hemsing who was our 13th Annual Dream Home Lotto winner! Jordi, pictured with Executive Director BBBS Sharon Moore, Jordi's son Ewan and David Seymour, took home a cheque for \$500,000 after being drawn as the big prize winner on November 15.

After an exciting trip to the bank, Jordi and family planned to celebrate their mortgage retirement with pizza and champagne.

Jordi purchased a ticket for the annual lottery because she wanted to support the agency. We thank everyone who, like Jordi, purchased a ticket to support our lottery partners BBBS Calgary, BBBS Edmonton, Kid's Kottage and Children's Cottage.



Ho Ho Hoopla a Success

The Acadia Recreation Complex was buzzing with excitement on December 2nd with our annual matched and wait-list Holiday Party. While some battled to be the top team on the mini golf course, others put careful thought into assembling the ultimate gingerbread house.

Winter portraits were taken, and even with his busy schedule, Santa made an appearance to listen to everyone's wish lists and to hand out gifts that were generously donated by Cisco Systems.

CPC North supplied plenty of food and refreshment to keep everyone energized for the activities throughout the day. Indeed, everyone was full of holiday spirit!



Raceway Sprints to the Finish Line for BBBS Calgary

Super 'B' Sprint Driver Pierre Guyon promoted Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Calgary and Area in BIG way this year by placing our logo in a very prominent position on his racecar. The entire team at Rocky Mountain Raceway Park sprinted at the chance to build on Pierre's enthusiasm for BBBS and gave us free passes for our matches to attend the dirt track races, as well as held 50/50 draws throughout the season in support of our mentorship programs and services. We are very thankful to Pierre, Brian and Sharon McCaughan, owners of RMRP, and the entire team at the raceway for promoting BBBS and raising more than \$3,740 for our kids!



Upcoming Events

Below are just a few of the upcoming matched and waitlisted events we have planned for this year. If you interested in one of these events or would like more information on upcoming events, please contact Volunteer Activities Coordinator Caylee Villett at 777-3535.

Laser Tag
A matched activity
Date to be announced

Tim Horton's Ranch Camp Day
A waitlist activity
April 12, 2008

Big Blast 2008
An event for everyone!
June 13, 2008

Yes I want to support Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Calgary and Area. I know that my donation will directly help children in my community.

Name: _____ Phone number: _____

Address: _____ Postal Code: _____
_____ Email: _____

A gift of any size will truly help:

\$20 \$50 \$100 \$250 \$500 \$ _____

Monthly Giving Club (Please indicate amount in the field above and include a void cheque)

Annual Gift

I would prefer to use

Visa MasterCard Enclosed is my cheque

Card Number: _____ Expiry Date: _____

Signature: _____

Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Calgary and Area is a registered Canadian charitable organization (R14015 1259 RR0001) that relies on donations to support its programs. All donations over \$20 will receive a receipt for income tax purposes.

Please take me off the mailing list

Winter 2007

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