

October 10, 2017

Halton Hills Cyclists Successfully Meet the 2017 Challenge

HALTON HILLS, ON – For the fifth year in a row, local cyclists have successfully met the Halton Hills Bike Challenge and raised \$45,000 in support of the Georgetown Hospital.

After a great season of cycling despite unprecedented rain in the spring and summer, Halton Hills Bike Challenge participants completed their epic task of cycling the equivalent of all the paved roads in Canada. The 2,174 cyclists successfully took a virtual tour of Canada from Whitehorse Yukon to St. John's Newfoundland.

“Logging 416,000 kms is a tremendous achievement for a community the size of Halton Hills. There are other bike challenges but no one else uses this format. We are truly unique and leaders in this regard.” said Committee Chair, Councillor Jane Fogal.

The Halton Hills Bike Challenge is a community event with a community reward. The collective effort of all the cyclists raised a total of \$45,000 for the Georgetown Hospital Foundation which is donated by the following generous sponsors:

- CN \$25,000
- Georgetown Canadian Tire \$5000
- PwC Epic Tour Halton \$5,000
- Superior Glove \$2,500
- Generations Physiotherapy \$1,500
- Giant Tiger 1,500
- Georgetown Chevrolet Buick GMC \$1,000
- Young Dentistry \$1,000
- CPI \$1,000
- Betty D'Oliveira \$500
- HealthSpan Wellness \$500
- Dynamic Bodies \$500.

A celebration event with cake and refreshments is open to all as the generosity of sponsors is recognized at a cheque presentation ceremony on Wednesday October 18th at 5 pm at Ollie's Cycle and Ski at 30 Main Street S. Georgetown. The event also provides the opportunity for well-wishers to say good bye to owner Ollie who is retiring at the end of October following 30 years of servicing the cycling needs of the local community.

"The 2017 Bike Challenge raised \$45,000 for the hospital and over the past 5 years it has raised an impressive \$308,500." said Jennifer McNally, Director of Development, Georgetown Hospital Foundation. "These funds are used to upgrade equipment to provide the best possible healthcare in our local community. The Bike Challenge has become one of our most important fundraising events."

The Halton Hills Bike Challenge is a project of the Bicycle Friendly Community Committee whose mission is to get more people on their bikes and inspire them to ride farther than ever before. The first bike challenge attracted 800 participants and by 2016 attracted 1800 participants. This year the participants numbered 2,174 -- a clear indication that the event is meeting its goal of inspiring cycling in Halton Hills.

Comments about the Bike Challenge may be posted on its Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/Halton-Hills-Bike-Challenge-468954559840473/>

Members of the Halton Hills Bicycle Friendly Community Committee and Marketing Team include Councillor Jane Fogal, Jennifer McNally (Georgetown Hospital Foundation), Susan Wery, Ramona Hendry, Ryan Carney, Marnie Rojo Torres, Maja Ristic, Ola Jiskra, Betty D'Oliveira, Dan Ridgway (Town) and Michael Merrell (Halton Epic Tour).

New members welcome. Contact hhcycling@haltonhills.ca for more information. Cycling information can be found at www.haltonhills.ca/cyclingevents

About the Town of Halton Hills

The Town of Halton Hills, with a population of approximately 60,000, consists of two urban centres, Georgetown and Acton, with three hamlets – Glen Williams, Stewarttown and Norval – and several smaller settlements. Halton Hills has long been recognized for its natural beauty, active agricultural community, high quality of life and proximity to major centres, including Brampton, Mississauga and Toronto. The Town is ranked as one of the top small communities in Canada by a national magazine.

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