

BUSINESS

Canadian Tire hands over \$20,000 Residents reach first milestone of 200,000 km Cycling Challenge

The Halton Hills Community Cycling Challenge has successfully reached its first goal of 100,000 kilometres. As a result of this community achievement Canadian Tire-Georgetown is donating \$20,000 to the Georgetown Hospital Foundation.

"Reaching the mid-point of the Challenge in just over 10 weeks is wonderful news for our community. I never doubted that Halton Hills would be up for the challenge," said Mayor Rick Bonnette.

The Halton Hills Community Cycling Challenge was launched on April 22 as a project of the Bicycle Friendly Community Committee, an off-shoot of the Town's Trails and Cycling Advisory Committee.

Councillor Jane Fogal, who chairs the committee said, "when we launched the Challenge we didn't know how long it would take to reach our goals. However, we have rapidly attracted more than 700 residents who are all contributing to the community goal. We wanted to engage people of all ages and abilities, and it appears that we have been successful at that as well."

"The main purpose of the 200,000 KM Challenge is to encourage all our residents to be more active," said Fogal, chair of the Halton Hills Bicycle Friendly Communities Committee,

"and linking it to the Hospital Capital Campaign will hopefully inspire more people to jump on board."

K.C. Carruthers, the Georgetown Hospital Foundation's executive director, was enthusiastic in his praise of the community.

"We are thrilled to be a partner in the Community Cycling Challenge and are very pleased to see how the community has stepped up to achieve goal number one. We are also grateful for the generous gift from our local Canadian Tire store," he said.

The Halton Hills Community Cycling Challenge will continue throughout the cycling season until the second goal of 200,000 kilometres has been reached. Once that milestone has been achieved The Peter Gilgan Foundation (Mattamy Homes) will donate \$25,000 and Paul C. Armstrong Insurance Brokers will donate an additional \$5,000 to the Georgetown Hospital Foundation.

"We've got \$30,000 on the line, so keep riding," urged Fogal.

The Cycling Challenge is open to anyone who wants to contribute to our Halton Hills goal.

"Although our focus is on local residents, we also recognize that a lot of people from out of town work here and would like to contribute. The only



The Halton Hills 200,000 kilometre Cycling Challenge reached a milestone mark earlier this month when it reached the halfway mark— 100,000 kilometres. As part of the Challenge, Canadian Tire-Georgetown had agreed to donate \$20,000 to the Georgetown Hospital Foundation campaign for the expansion and renovation of the Georgetown Hospital if residents cycled the first 100,000 km. At the July council meeting, Canadian Tire-Georgetown Store Manager Tracey Craig (left) happily handed over a \$20,000 cheque to Georgetown Hospital Foundation director Paul Armstrong and Jennifer McNally, campaign assistant. All ages and abilities can still sign up, go to www.bikechallenge.ca. As of July 23 768 participants had signed up and ridden 144,047 km with 45 days left.

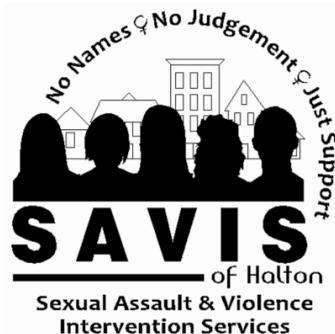
Photo by Cynthia Gamble

condition is that the cycling has to be in the great outdoors," said Fogal.

To register with the Halton Hills Cycling Challenge or to receive current information, please go to [\[challenge.ca\]\(http://www.bikechallenge.ca\).](http://www.bike-</p>
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For information on other Town cycling initiatives be sure to visit www.haltonhills.ca/community/CycleProgram.

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