Cycling Challenge reaches goal and Hospital Foundation will benefit

The Halton Hills Community Cycling Challenge has achieved its 200,000 kilometre goal thanks to the outstanding enthusiasm of participants.

"We set a crazy goal of 200,000 kms for our community, which is equivalent to five times around the planet. We didn't know if people would be engaged, but they exceeded expectations. I thought we might still be going in October. This has been a great experience and it was great fun to see it take off. Bravo Halton Hills," said Jane Fogal, Regional Councillor and chair of the Town's Trails and Cycling Advisory Committee.

nership between the Bicycle Friendly Community Sub Committee of the Town's Trails and Cycling Advisory Committee and the Epic Tour Halton.

Fogal explained the purpose of the Challenge was to motivate local residents to adopt a healthy lifestyle by riding their bikes more. To motivate and attract people from all segments of the population to the bike challenge, organizers wanted to support an activity that would have a wide community benefit. At the same time, The Georgetown Hospital Foundation was conducting the biggest fundraising drive

The project was created through a part- in their history, which provided a natural partnership.

> The Peter Gilgan Foundation was the first to accept the proposal and said they would donate \$25,000 to the Hospital Foundation if locally, organizers could also find an additional \$25,000.

> Georgetown Canadian Tire and Paul C. Armstrong Insurance Inc. answered the call. The former pledged \$20,000 and the latter \$5,000.

The Canadian Tire donation was achieved when the community reached 100.000 kms on July 3, which was 71 days after the challenge was launched. It only took 43 additional days to ride the remaining 100,000 kms. It took a total of 114 days to meet the goal.

By the end of the challenge, 803 participants had signed up. Many families signed up as well as seniors. The oldest was 85 who logged over 2,600 kms.

People can continue to log their kilometres at, http://www.haltonhills.ca/Cycling-Events/index.php#challenge.

A formal cheque presentation will be held at the August 26 Town Council meeting, at 6:30 p.m. A further cheque presentation will take place at the PwC Epic Tour Halton on Sunday, Sept. 8 at 2:30 p.m.



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