

Halton Hills Bike Challenge reaches the moon

The 2015 Halton Hills Community Bike Challenge has reached its astronomical goal and recorded its 384,000 kilometre cycled this season, which is the equivalent distance of the Earth to the Moon.

This milestone was reached on Oct. 3 by the 1,038 participants who signed up for the Challenge.

As a result of this extraordinary effort, sponsors are donating \$62,500 to the Georgetown Hospital Foundation.

Everyone is invited to the 2015 Bike Challenge Celebration and Cheque Presentation event on Saturday, Oct. 17 between 10:30 a.m. and noon for cake and coffee. Cheque presentations will be at 11:30 a.m. in the foyer of the Halton Hills Cultural Centre, 9 Church St., Georgetown.

The celebration will be hosted by the organizers of the Challenge,

the Halton Hills Bicycle Friendly Community Committee (BFC), which is working in a variety of ways to make cycling safer and more enjoyable for all ages in Halton Hills.

The Bike Challenge is a part-

ner and enthusiastic to occasional and hesitant. This is our third year and we really wanted to increase participation from our previous total of 800 to at least 1,000. Achieving that degree of buy-in was very important to us."

want Halton Hills to be an active, healthy community and the Bike Challenge shows that it can be a lot of fun to get outside and be active by simply riding a bike," said Halton Hills Mayor Rick Bonnette.

Sponsors of the Bike Chal-

enge include: The Peter Gilgan Foundation/Mattamy Homes \$25,000, Georgetown Canadian Tire \$20,000, Halton Epic Tour \$5,000, Georgetown Terminal Warehouse \$5,000, Superior Glove \$2,500, CPI \$2,000, Ollie's Cycle and Ski \$1,000, Young's Dentistry \$1,000, HealthSpan Wellness \$500, Betty D'Oliveira Realtor \$500.

Many businesses, organizations, schools and individuals promoted the Challenge in a wide variety of ways such as sending information to their distribution list or sponsoring Reach for the Moon lawn signs in the case of Genera-

nership with the principals of the Halton Epic Tour who donated the website as well as webmaster and graphic design services.

"The main objective of the Bike Challenge was to inspire our residents and employees to ride their bikes more than ever before and to inspire non-cyclists to at least give it a try," said committee chair & Regional Councillor Jane Fogal.

"We wanted a project that would be friendly and interesting for all levels of cyclists from hard

"We are grateful that the BFC chose the Georgetown Hospital Foundation as the beneficiary of the Bike Challenge Sponsorships. Over its three years the Bike Challenge has raised \$178,500 which is outstanding and is very much appreciated by the Foundation," said Jennifer McNally, Georgetown Hospital Foundation's Manager, Annual Giving & Special Events.

"I am very proud of how our residents and employees got on board with the Bike Challenge. We



HALTON HILLS COMMUNITY BIKE CHALLENGE

COMMUNITY GOAL
384,000 km

CYCLED KILOMETRES
394,145 km

12,612,643
BURNT CALORIES (CAL)

90,653,368
SAVED CO₂ (G)

1,041
PARTICIPANTS

17
DAYS LEFT

As of Oct. 14

tions Physiotherapy. Without this degree of community support the Bike Challenge could not have succeeded.

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RTO/ERO is a non-partisan organization.

RTO/ERO and its members believe that the two most important issues facing all Canadians, and especially seniors, are healthcare and pensions.



Healthcare

RTO/ERO is seeking from the Federal Government and the provinces a commitment to a phased-in, managed approach to universal healthcare that combines prevention and remediation. This would include a campaign to encourage all Canadians to adopt healthier lifestyles, as well as a Pharmacare program that leaves the provinces responsible for the management of healthcare through an integrated, funded agreement between the provinces and the Federal Government.

Pensions

RTO/ERO believes it is imperative that our political leaders address the absence of pension plans for 75% of private sector workers who constitute the majority of the workforce. The matter of assisting Canadians to plan for their retirement, and thus to be more self-reliant in their senior years, is an opportunity to raise the quality of life of Canadians.

RTO/ERO's Recommendations

- 1 That the Prime Minister convene a meeting of Premiers and Provincial Finance Ministers to work out a time frame for a phased-in universal health care program, and that such a program include a cooperative Federal-Provincial Pharmacare Program.
- 2 That the Federal Government undertake an expansion of the CPP in conjunction with the Provinces and Territories to ensure that Canadians can continue to maintain a reasonable standard of living in their retirement years.



Above all, RTO/ERO encourages members and the general public to exercise their democratic right and VOTE!

For information about joining RTO/ERO, please visit www.rto-ero.org/join-us or call 416-962-9463 (Toronto area) 1-800-361-9888

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