



Mayor Rick Bonnette (centre, red hockey jersey) was pleased with the turnout of families at his Free Skate for Refugees on Saturday afternoon. Photo by Ray Lavender

Mayor raises funds for refugees coming to town

Halton Hills Mayor Rick Bonnette hosted a public skating event to help raise money to support local groups that will be sponsoring Syrian refugee families.

This free event was held at the Acton Arena on Saturday afternoon (Feb. 27).

The skate went very well, said Bonnette.

A lot of families came out, which what I wanted to see, as well as a few councillors donned their blades as well as (Wellington-Halton Hills MP) Ted Arnott, he added.

The event raised approximately \$630 to be donated for the Syrian refugees, who are coming to town.

We're expecting the first families to arrive in Halton Hills soon and it would be wonderful

to help them settle in. It will be difficult for these families to adjust to Canada and we are hoping that a warm Halton Hills welcome will help them, said Bonnette, in a press release promoting his event.

At least five local groups have sprung into action in Halton Hills to bring Syrian refugee families to Halton Hills.

These groups have shown great leadership in this humanitarian effort and their fundraising efforts have been outstanding. I was so impressed that this money was collected and pledged in such a short time. It's fantastic to see this kind of generosity in our community and hopefully we can raise a few more dollars to assist with the transition. We are all citizens of the world, added Bonnette.

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