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COFFEE TIME: The time clock at the soon-to-be twinned Acton arena will be named for Tim Hortons after the Acton owners donated \$15,000 to the Town's Stay Home and Play in Halton Hills arena fundraising campaign. Owners/operators Jill, Brooke and Noah Malinosky presented the donation to arena booster Finn Poulstrup on Monday, kick-starting the Acton campaign to raise \$2.1-million. — Frances Learment photo

'Significant' donation to Acton arena twinning from Tim Hortons

Like the jolt from a good cup of coffee, a \$15,000 donation from Acton's Tim Hortons to the *Stay Home and Play in Halton Hills* will hopefully prime the pump for future donations to the \$2-million fundraising campaign to help twin the Acton arena, a \$10.3-million project.

The generous donation made last Tuesday by Tim Hortons' owner/operator Noah Malinosky means the new Acton ice pad score clock will be branded Tim Hortons. Writing the cheque was an easy decision Malinosky said to support the community that supports Tim Hortons. "Being able to twin the arena is going to affect the economy, we'll be able to support more tournaments and meet the local (recreational) demand," he said.

The Acton arena twinning includes an additional NHL-size ice pad, six new dressing rooms with showers and washrooms, two new fully equipped referee rooms, 150 to 200 individual seats.

Stay Home and Play campaign co-chair Finn Poulstrup said after 10-years of not having the ice and court time needed in Acton and in Georgetown, now they are getting "caught up" with

a \$29.2-million arena program to quad Georgetown's Mold-Master SportsPlex by this fall, close Memorial Arena, and twin Acton for the Fall 2015 season.

More Acton ice time will mean more family time Poulstrup said, noting economics are also important. "I think a lot of the money being spent out of town is by parents who must drive their kids to Brampton or Milton — we want our families to shop and play at home," Poulstrup said, gratefully accepting the "very significant" donation from Tim Hortons, which he hopes will kick start Acton donations.

A dramatic shortage of playing time was well documented by the Halton Hills Arena User Group that found users forced to buy approximately 1,000 hours of ice time outside Halton Hills every year. The lion's share, \$24.8-million, of the total \$29.2-million price tag for three ice pads comes from the Town, there's \$2.4-million in user surcharges, and \$2-million User Group fundraising campaign.

For more information call campaign director Chris Hobbs at 905-877-9612 or stayhomeandplay@gmail.com

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