

Toys for Tots raises almost \$250,000 for Halton families

Community chips in to support 4,350 families in the Region

The Halton Regional Police Service announced this week that its annual Toys for Tots holiday fundraising campaign raised \$248,810 in toys, gift cards, cash and food for local families in Halton Region.

All told, more than 4,350 Christmases were made brighter because of the generosity of area citizens, businesses, schools and sports teams.

In its 16th year, this latest drive ran from Nov. 15 until Dec. 24.

Once again, the people of Halton have gone above and beyond, said Stephen Tanner, Chief of police.

Residents, businesses and groups not only exemplified the

spirit of Christmas; they gave us all another reason to be proud to call our Region home.

For the past eight years, the Service has partnered with the Burlington Lions Optimist Minor Hockey Association (BLOMHA). This year, the organization raised more than \$60,000, bringing their grand total to over \$275,000. Their efforts are spearheaded by parent representative, Shari Caruthers.

Meanwhile, a local corporation, that wished to remain anonymous, donated \$21,000 worth of toys.

Other community partners who made significant contributions include Budds Subaru,

Burlington Cougars, Canadian Tire, East Side's Auto Group, Halton Catholic District School Board, Halton District School Board, Georgetown Raiders, G.E. Water, Halton Honda, Longo's Fruit Market, Mandarin Restaurants, Rotherglen School, Royal Bank, TD Canada Trust, Tiger Jeet Singh Foundation, True Mentality, and Woodbine Entertainment Group.

Sworn (uniform), civilian, Auxiliary and other volunteer Service members donated their time to support collection efforts at Canadian Tire locations region-wide, at each city/town Santa Claus Parade, at three Cram-a-Cruiser challenges, and



Through the Toys for Tots program, Halton Police were able to raise \$250,000 to go to Halton families. Photo from Halton Police/Twitter

at numerous other community events. All told, HRPS members raised more than \$6,400 of their own funds through individual initiatives and platoon challenges. Service volunteers were also responsible for packaging and

delivering toys to area families in their homes and in hospital.

Information about Toys For Tots is available online throughout the course of the campaign at www.haltonpolice.ca and on Twitter @HaltonPolice

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