Residents are challenged to cycle 100,000-200,000 km to aid Hospital

Regional Councillor Jane Fogal wants everyone in the community to hop on their bikes this spring and summer for some exercise and to raise funds for the Georgetown Hospital at the same time.

Fogal announced the Halton Hills 200,000 KM Community Cycling Challenge at Halton Hills council meeting last week.

"We are looking to our residents, regardless of age, to ride their bicycles as much as possible during the 2013 cycling season and submit their achievements to a website designed especially for the Halton Hills Challenge, www.bikechallenge.ca," said Fogal, chair of the Halton Hills Bicycle Friendly Communities Committee, and an avid cyclist. "200,000 kilometres is a huge number and so we have arranged for some special community rewards when we reach the halfway point and again when we conquer the challenge."

At 100,000 km Georgetown Canadian Tire will donate \$20,000 to the Georgetown Hospital Foundation and at 200,000 km The Peter Gilgan Foundation and Mattamy Homes will donate an additional \$20,000.

"The main purpose of the 200,000 KM Challenge is to encourage all our residents to be more active," she said, "and linking it to the Hospital Capital Campaign will hopefully inspire more people

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to jump on board."

This is a great idea and we are very honoured to be chosen as the benefiting charity for the Community Challenge" said K.C. Carruthers of the Georgetown Hospital Foundation.

The website has been created and donated by HP Marketing (Epic Tour Halton) especially for the Halton Hills Challenge. Participants can register as an individual or as a family. The site will keep track of your personal achievements and let you watch as you and others make the total grow in real time.

Community cycling events have been planned too, including:

• Epic Tour Halton, Sept. 8, open to cyclists of all ages and abilities with distances of 140km, 80km, 50km and Family 10km, beginning at Kelso Park in Milton. Organizer Michael Merrall describes it as a touring/lifestyle experience- not a race. It is also a Georgetown Hospital fundraiser.

• Bike to Work Day on Monday, May 27. • Bike It To The Market on Saturday, June 15, from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

• Bike It To the Leathertown Festival on Sunday, Aug. 11.

See www.theifp.ca for more details



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