

COMMUNITY

Blue Fins recognized for work possible with Trillium grant



Gayle Wadden, the Chair of the Ontario Trillium Foundation's Halton-Peel Grant Review Team presents club President Michael Zuraw with the official plaque, recognizing the work that's being done as a result of receiving a \$100,000 grant earlier this year. Also on hand is Karen Troughton, Grant Chair and Mary Jo Jans, Para administrator. Submitted photo

The Halton Hills Blue Fins (HHBF), a not-for-profit swim club and competitive swim team in Georgetown, has been busy since it received a two-year \$100,000 Ontario Trillium Foundation grant to support its plans to develop a fully integrated competitive swim program that includes young people with physical disabilities.

"My thanks go out to the Ontario Trillium Foundation for supporting the Halton Hills Blue Fins," said Wellington-Halton Hills MPP Ted Arnott. "I know this swimming club has done great work over the years. This Trillium grant will be well spent."

Halton Hills Blue Fins strives to develop a nationally recognized para-athlete program that teaches and trains all levels of swimmers, emphasizing fitness, competition, team unity and personal improvement. Funds from the grant are being used to help with the costs associated with adapting and buying new equipment, covering costs for coaching, lifeguards and pool times, helping with the salary for an administrator, adding a ceiling track lift and helping with costs for advertising.

Over the next two years, it will continue to offer a high calibre competitive swim program

under the direction of head coach, Chris Henderson. Club volunteers and administrator will be working over the next few months in meeting with and providing presentations to local agencies, parent groups and schools currently providing services to children with disabilities in the Halton Hills, Milton, Oakville, Orangeville and surrounding areas.

Anyone seeking more information can visit the Blue Fins' web site at www.haltonhills-bluefins.ca. The Ontario Trillium Foundation strengthens the voluntary sector through investments in community-based initiatives.

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