

McMahon powers up Halton Youth Robotics

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A local teenager who started a business last year to teach kids about robotics and coding has another round of fun-filled classes starting on May 30.

Halton Youth Robotics (HYR) is the creation of 18-year-old entrepreneur Aidan McMahon, an avid lacrosse player. He would like to stage an extended summer camp but will be employed part time job with the City of Brampton's construction and engineering department upon graduating from Christ the King Secondary School in late June.

McMahon said he has been interested in robotics since age five and got the idea to get HYR up and running last year with the help of friends Colin Dock-er and Brayden O'Connell.

He added that the focus of the program is to give the participants a head start on learning the fundamentals of STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) principals. There are three age groups - four to seven, seven to 10 and nine to 14 - with classes taking place on Tuesdays in Acton and



Eamonn Maher/photo

Eighteen-year-old Aidan McMahon is running a six-week summer session for his Halton Youth Robotics program for kids age 4-14 beginning May 30 in Acton. Taking part in one of the recent sessions, in which an iPhone is used to control a Dash & Dot, are (from left) Kingsley Tomlinson, Mason McInerney, Kaleb Kovacs, Connor Yong, Hayley Kovacs.

Wednesdays in Glen Williams.

"We started with just one class of 15 kids, and now we've opened it up for an older age group, so every week we have four classes of the younger groups and an older bunch," said McMahon, who plans to take mechanical or electrical engineering at either Fanshawe College or Conestoga College beginning in September.

"Generally, we divide

everyone into groups of two or three or four. They get together on building the robot first and then program it."

The spring sessions had close to 50 participants, and it's not too late to register for the next segment of the program, which begins May 30 and runs for six weeks.

For more info, visit the website www.haltonyouthrobotics.com or call 416-919-4573.



GETTING THEIR KICKS ON GSC'S OPENING DAY

The Georgetown Soccer Club marked its 50th anniversary with the annual Opening Day on Saturday at Trafalgar Sports Park. House league teams began their seasons in a festive atmosphere and Town of Halton Hills Mayor Rick Bonnette, along with local MP Michael Chong, stopped by with commemorative plaques to present to executive members. Pictured are Aidan MacDonald of Grant Thornton Insurance under-12 boys' team tries to outrun Agent Ross defender Ryan Ramirez on Opening Day.

Ray Lavender photo

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