



At left, the Halton Regional Police Association (HRPA) donates \$8,500 to Rose Cherry's Home for Kids Friday. From left are HRPAs executive assistant Kathy Round, HRPAs administrator Paul Lacourse, HRPAs Golf Committee chair Barry Hughes, HRPAs Golf Committee members Mary McConnell and Sgt. John Karcz, HRPAs president Dave Atkinson and sports personality Don Cherry. Bottom left, Rose Cherry's Home for Kids program manager Diane Stewart shows Ontario Minister of Health and Long-Term Care George Smitherman and Don Cherry one of the enhancement rooms at the home for terminally ill children.

Photo by RON KUZYK

Groups donate funds

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Program Manager Diane Stewart said after one young man's first visit, his mother called the centre to tell them he would start to laugh when they talked about Rose Cherry's Home — meaning even though he couldn't verbalize his thoughts, his laughter indicated he had a good time during his stay.

Mr. Cherry had a similar story to tell about his conversation with a mother whose daughter had stayed at the home.

"When she saw the forest (on the home's property), she started to giggle because she knew there were going to be good things here," he said.

In addition to the health minister visiting, Friday also saw two more donations made to the centre — \$5,000 from Canadian Multicultural Hockey Inc. and \$8,500 from the Halton Regional Police Association.

Along with the six beds for children, Rose Cherry's Home features a spacious kitchen and living room, five bathrooms, an outdoor terrace, dining room, nursing and administrative areas and a section with sensory equipment — like fiber optics and a disco ball — designed to stimulate the senses.

Melanie Hennessey can be reached at mhennessey@miltoncanadianchampion.com.



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