



GRAHAM PAINE / CANADIAN CHAMPION

A GRAND DONATION: Kristin Horrell, manager of fundraising for Rose Cherry's Home for Kids, accepts a \$3,050 donation from Halton Paramedics hockey team members (from left) Mike Armes, Ian Sudlow and Ryan Hamilton. The money was recently raised at the fifth annual Gord Armes Memorial Hockey Tournament. The two-day event was started in 2002 in memory of Gord Armes, a Halton EMS paramedic who passed away after battling pancreatic cancer.

CRA now accepting volunteers

The Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) is currently recruiting volunteers to help prepare 2006 income tax and benefit returns for low-income individuals like seniors, students and new Canadians.

Through the CRA's program, volunteers work with community agencies in establishing tax clinics in libraries, community centres, schools, churches, seniors' residences and other central locations.

Those interested should have a basic understanding of Canadian income tax.

They can find out more about the program or sign up by visiting www.cra.gc.ca/volunteer or calling 1-800-959-8281.

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Hearing for Life

Audiology Centre & Dispensary

Who Should Have a Hearing Test?

Hearing loss, although often thought of as a condition related to aging, spans across all ages.

Some people are born with hearing loss. In Ontario, all parents are offered a hearing screening for their newborns even before leaving the hospital. This is implemented through the IHP (Infant Hearing Program). Parents may also access this program if they miss the screening or their babies are born at home. Children with factors that put them at risk for a progressive hearing loss (a loss that becomes worse over time) will be monitored up to 3 years of age. For more information on this program go online to <http://ihp.mtsinai.on.ca>.

Young children are often followed for hearing concerns if there is a history of ear infections or fluid in the middle ear. Hearing is tested to diagnose any problems and may be retested following any intervention to ensure that hearing levels are within the normal range.

Children may also have their hearing tested if they fail to develop speech adequately according to normal developmental patterns. Children may also be tested as they enter school if they show any academic delays or signs of not hearing properly in the classroom. This is usually the first step. It is very important to rule out hearing loss as a contributing factor before

exploring any classroom strategies or assistance with learning.

As adults, many will experience hearing loss. Factors such as aging (or presbycusis), exposure to noise and hereditary factors often play a role. Quite often friends or family members will notice this problem first.

They often have to repeat themselves or may comment that the television is set too high. Over time, the individual with the hearing loss will notice these difficulties as well and will seek help. The first step is a hearing test. This will provide a baseline for which other testing may be compared to. In early stages, or

when a hearing loss is very mild, basic strategies for communication may be the first course of action. If the loss is greater and cannot be treated through medical means or communication strategies, then hearing aids may be the best solution.

If you have concerns regarding your hearing then you need to have your hearing tested by an Audiologist. It is a painless procedure and will provide you with immediate information regarding your hearing levels and how this will affect your ability to communicate with others. If you have any questions or need to have your hearing tested, please contact us.

I've been helping people with their hearing concerns for over 17 years and I truly consider it a privilege to serve my patients. They've entrusted me with their care, so listening carefully to what they have to tell me is incredibly important.

Kelly Kirkwood, M.Sc., Audiologist



Over 17 Years Experience

For more information, please call us or visit our office at: 497 Laurier Avenue, Suite 3 Milton, Ontario L9T 3K8
905.693.HEAR (4327)