



Winter Carnival has a big heart

By Nancy Hopkins
Stouffville This Month

Hundreds of people, dressed in their warmest winter outfits, spent the afternoon enjoying outdoor activities at the Valentine's Day Musselman's Lake Have a Heart -- Love the Lake winter carnival held at Cedar Beach Pavilion

Saturday, Feb. 14.

Snow was shovelled to create a heart-shaped rink on the icy surface of the lake in anticipation of the countless families who showed up with skates, toboggans, snowmobiles and smiling rosy faces. Ward 2 councillor Phil Bannon was thrilled with the turnout and said he had resurrected the carnival after a five-year absence "to bring attention to the lake community so people know we are part of Whitchurch-Stouffville."

He extended special thanks to the Stouffville Community Policing Centre, the volunteer firefighters of Ballantrae and the firefighters' EMS crew, whose assistance made the carnival possible. In particular he acknowledged the support of deputy fire chief Paul Stover and chief Tim Beckett.

In addition to serving hundreds of free hot dogs and providing a roaring bonfire for a taste of warmth, the police and firefighters were on hand to ensure safety at the event. They provided a water and ice safety demonstration, which included the promotion of safe snowmobiling techniques. Visitors were treated to free hot dogs

and hot chocolate compliments of Sobey's, A&P, No Frills and Tim Hortons.

With hot chocolate in hand, visitors took time out from the activities to take in the music of The Slime Dogs as they performed at

Cedar Beach Pavilion. Councillor Bannon said that a festival at the Ballantrae Community Centre and Park, featuring local community groups, businesses and organizations, is being planned for this summer.



Above: Ray Gott, Phil Bannon, Mayor Sue Sherban, Dep. Fire Chief Paul Stover, Andrew Burdette, Officer Ben Schell, Fireman Kent Armstrong and Officer Deb Stevens join the winter carnival fun.



Left: Olivia Clarke, with her mother Amanda.

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