

The Extra Scoop



Dovercourt
Boys & Girls Club

SUMMER 2015

DOVERCOURT BGC

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR



Our Afterschool Programs have given way to the many adventures and delights that Club members enjoy during Summer Day Camp activities. Club employees, volunteers and Board

of Directors have already begun the process of planning for fall 2015 and beyond.

We are deeply committed to remain "The Club that beats the Streets." This means strategically working with and for children and youth, our members: ages 4 to 17 years old. We also teach them to play sports, the drums, steel pan, engage them in Media Arts, and provide homework help. And Leanne Pepper of the U of T Faculty Club reminds them about the benefits of good manners in her etiquette classes. Our reputation holds true to the fact that the Dovercourt Boys and Girls Club seriously prepares the next generation of leaders and citizens.

Most of what we do require dollars and cents. All of our tasks involve committing energy and a willingness to make a positive impact on the communities we serve. So the next time you hear of a Club event and you are asked to purchase a ticket, please know

that without your support, our job becomes much more difficult.

Our Club is not in a position to solve all of the world's problems. However, its mandate includes contributing to the goal of reducing poverty. This means we look to our funders and corporate donors whose logos appear on our website for support. Your contribution is important to us. Whatever the contribution, we gratefully accept it, knowing that the recipients are better served with our combined efforts.

We encourage you to give within your financial means, and won't shy away if your gift is a small monetary contribution. For we know only too well that the ten and twenty dollars received adds up. When men and women from our community remember us by donating, this is a positive check mark in our report card.

With the many tens of thousands of boys and girls who have passed through the Club's doors since 1957, the Dovercourt Boys and Girls Club continues to be a change agent in the society it serves. If we are to build on this legacy, your support is vital. In your daily rush to meet a host of obligations, please remember our members' home away from home. In turn, we promise to continue to do the best we can for them.

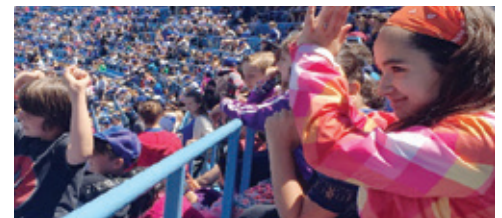
– Eddie Aiello, Chair, Board of Directors

MAPLE LEAF GARDENS LOBLAWS



On Friday June 5th, 30 of our members from both locations visited the new Maple Leaf Gardens Loblaws for a cooking experience. Children had the opportunity to learn how to make their own dough in order to construct their own personalized pizzas. The Loblaws nutritionist also took our members through a tour of the facility and exposed them to healthy eating choices.

BLUE JAYS EXPERIENCE



Both Junction Triangle and Dovercourt Clubhouses exposed 40 members to the ultimate Blue Jays experience at the Rogers Centre on Saturday June 6th. The kids enjoyed a sunny day with friends and staff watching the Blue Jays take on Houston. The Jays won 7-2.

Dovercourt Girls' Soccer Team



Dovercourt Boys and Girls Club (DBGC) is the proud recipient of a Canadian Tire Jumpstart "Get in the Game" Community

Grant. Jumpstart's sponsorship means our Club is able to put together a girls' soccer team, which provides an opportunity for girls to get active and build team leadership skills. The focus of the team is centred on skills, teamwork, friendship and fun for the 10- to 12-year-old female participants. The team practices on Thursday evenings from 6:30pm to 8:00pm with a trained instructor, Dexter Gilmore, from Benfica F.C. Toronto.

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JUNCTION TRIANGLE CLUBHOUSE (JTC) EVENTS

WE ASKED JTC MEMBERS WHAT THE CLUBHOUSE SIGNIFIES TO THEM....



MOST POPULAR ANSWERS ©

JUNCTION TRIANGLE CLUBHOUSE BLACK HISTORY SHOWCASE



GENERAL MERCER AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM CELEBRATES CHINESE NEW YEAR



MUSIC MAKERS AT JTC



STAFF TRAINING

Dovercourt Boys and Girls Club has made an important commitment to ensure all Afterschool Program employees are properly trained. This includes being able to professionally handle issues relating to conflict resolution, disclosure and confidentiality.



Many staff members demonstrated how serious these issues are by showing up for a scheduled workshop on Sunday, May 03, 2015. Lisa Marie Peña-Sabanal from Ryerson University, School of Child & Youth Care, Faculty of Community Services provided staff members with vital information that will also be of benefit for those who will work during the 2015 Summer Camp. The training session is a continuation of the Senior Management Team's promise to also equip junior staff with a vital set of skills to enable them to be fully prepared for the world of full-time work.

COOL SUMMER



Ana Bailão, Councillor for Ward 18 (Davenport) kicked off the Dovercourt Clubhouse's Summer Day Camp with a ribbon cutting ceremony for the new air-conditioner in the gym. Ana was instrumental in ensuring that City of Toronto Council supported the project. Since the Club opened in 1957, there has never been air-conditioning in the gym. On hand were over 200 boys and girls, along with management, staff and volunteers. Three characters from the movie Hotel Transylvania 2 - Drac, Mavis and Frank visited the Clubhouse on behalf of Sony Pictures Canada. The much anticipated sequel to Hotel Transylvania, opens in theatres on September 25, 2015.

BASEBALL EQUIPMENT DONATION

Police Service Division 11 Superintendent Heinz Kuck invited the Dovercourt Boys and Girls Club to take part in a call for baseball equipment that was donated to the Moosonee, Ontario First Nations Youth Recreation Program. Some of the collected equipment was shared with other northern communities.



FIFA WOMEN'S WORLD CUP



On Thursday, April 30, 2015, the Dovercourt Boys and Girls Club hosted the Unveiling of the FIFA Women's World Cup by Coca-Cola. In attendance was Hon. Michael Coteau (MPP Don Valley East, Minister of Tourism: Culture



Hon. Michael Coteau giving opening remarks

and Sport), who is also responsible for the 2015 Pan and Para Pan Games. The event, organized by the Boys and Girls Club (CAN), featured children and youth who had the opportunity to have a photo taken with the FIFA Women's World Cup Trophy. Steve De Quintal (a teacher at St. Mary's CSS) and his students were in attendance. As well, Cristina Martins (MPP, Davenport) donated gifts of mini soccer balls.

DRAMA - GIOVANNI SPINA

The theatre room is a place where children explore how to express themselves through imagination. Every day we focus on a different skill through scenes and theatre games. Recently, the focus was improvisation, or better known as "improv". It is unscripted acting, where the actors must create scenes and characters in the moment, building on skills such as teamwork and creativity. Before this group picture was taken, we had just finished a game of "What's in the Box?" where one after another, the children look inside an imaginary box gradually increasing their reaction compared to the previous participant. This is an engaging game where even the most shy children break out of their shells and everyone enjoys how intense the expressions can get.



MIKE AND NICOLE TEVLIN

Mike and Nicole Tevlin's quiet generosity has helped to enrich the lives of many of our Junction Triangle Clubhouse (JTC) members. As responsible parents and citizens in good standing within the community, they understand that by giving back, much-needed financial support is being provided for those among us who are less fortunate.

Living up to their belief, in 2010, the Tevlins supported the establishment of the JTC Technology Learning Centre by supplying 8 flat screen computers with keyboards and other accessories.

Their willingness to help never wavers. In the past five years, Mike and Nicole have also supported 200 boys and girls, including 65 of them in 2015. Since some families are without sustainable financial resources, the Tevlins' thoughtfulness ensures these children have access to a rewarding and enjoyable summer experience.

Although Mike and Nicole are just a phone call away with their support for JTC, they do not sign their names on the dotted line and walk away. They show up in person, are pleased to hear of the progress the Clubhouse is making, and find delight that they continue to make a difference in the lives of so many young people.



Mike and Nicole Tevlin accepting award of appreciation for their Computer Donation.

CLUB RESPONDS TO STUDENTS' DECLINING MATH SCORES

Parents continue to voice their concerns about their children's math scores. And while it's true that some students do very well with in-class tests and on EQAO scores, it is no secret, for the media and general literature remind us, Math offers up particular challenges for many children in both the TDSB and TCDSB systems.

Attuned to the need to do more, Club administration at both sites: Dovercourt and the Junction Triangle Clubhouses are rallying to provide enriched math tutoring for members requiring such support. We have offered up such support during the Clubhouses' Afterschool Programs and also in small group sessions on Saturdays at Perth Public Library.

Recently, the Club teamed up with three U of T students: Chris McFaul who is entering his second year of the MD/PhD program, and Michael Osmond and Carrie Han who are both entering their second year as medical students. Carrie Han has assisted with math tutoring strategies, program development and enhancement at our Junction Triangle Clubhouse.

A study was done of EQAO students' math scores. Osmond and McFaul discovered that in the schools from which Dovercourt Boys and Girls Club draws its members, only half of the students are meeting the provincial standards in mathematics.

There's a sharp decrease in performance in mathematics between grade 3 and 6.

Students' attitudes toward mathematics may have affected performance.

Gender, demographics, strategies used and access to resources may also have an influence on student outcomes.

HOW HAS THE CLUB RESPONDED?

- In addition to supplemental instruction in numeracy and literacy, a focused mathematics program is being offered this summer.
- Math tutors will be taught how to use various tools and strategies to teach the same problem in many ways in order to maximize total student understanding of concepts.
- Both classroom instruction and curriculum materials will be closely evaluated for effectiveness.
- The process will allow for a reorientation of Club mathematics instruction starting in fall 2015.
- Club staff will work more closely with mathematics teachers to improve students' scores.

It's Planting Week in the MacGregor Park Teaching Gardens!

If you are passing by Lansdowne Avenue north of College Street, you will notice two new garden installations - a Native Species Garden at the north end of MacGregor Park and an Edible Garden at the south.

Please stop and say 'Hello' to Garden Director Maria Solakofski and her staff Elise and Isaac.

Their enthusiasm for all things Green is catching!! They want to share their knowledge, and will invite you to participate in the Garden Programs which are running throughout the season.

Here we see Maria with students from Ecole Secondaire Toronto Ouest planting salad greens in the Accessible Raised Bed which they built themselves with eco-Artist Morgan Zigler and his team.

People of all ages and abilities are welcome to come, put their hands in the earth, and experience the wonder of Nature's awakening in our urban environment.

Kristen Fahrig
Director
MacGregor Park Art Club
Botanicus Art Ensemble



The designs of **Edible Teaching Garden** draw on innovations both ancient and modern.

Stone Mason Kris Kozolanka, from the historic Village of Merrickville, came to build this beautiful Stone Herb Spiral.

The raised spiral shape creates different microclimates - dry & moist, shady & sunny. The most-used herbs are planted at an easy height so they are reachable from all sides of the planter, for young and old alike.

The **Native Species Garden** is designed to be a 'viewing garden', accessible from the sidewalk along Whytock Avenue.

Last week it was planted with Dogwood, Witch Hazel and and Elderberry bushes. This week more than 500 native species plants will find their home in this garden.

A special 'Thank You' goes out to **Toronto Parks, Forestry & Recreation** Staff and Management, as well as to our many generous funders and supporters.



DATES TO REMEMBER

After-School Programs begin
Tuesday September 8th 2015

P.A Days, 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Friday November 13, 2015
Friday January 22, 2016
Friday February 12, 2016
Friday June 10, 2016

Journée Pédagogique
novembre 13, 2015
janvier 15, 2016
janvier 29, 2016
juin 10, 2016

Christmas Concerts
Dovercourt Club House
Wednesday December 16, 2015

Junction Triangle
Thursday December 17, 2015

Last Day of School Before Christmas Break
Friday December 18, 2015

PROGRAM CLOSED:

Monday October 12, 2015	Thanksgiving Day
Monday February 15, 2016	Family Day
Friday March 25, 2016	Good Friday
Monday March 28, 2016	Easter Monday
Monday May 23, 2016	Victoria Day
Friday June 24, 2016	Last Day of after-school programs

WESTJET LOTTERY

July 31, 2015 - \$250 Grocery Gift Card
October 23, 2015 - \$500 Gas Card
December 16, 2015 - WestJet Voucher,
two tickets, \$500 cash

MEMBERS' MILESTONES

Nick Manzo, Junction Triangle Clubhouse Operations Manager is the proud grandfather of twins: a boy and a girl.

Engagements

Cristina Alves and Nicolas Renda
Samantha Provenzano and Stefano Strangis
Samantha Aiello and Marco Severino

SAVE THE DATE
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2015

FOR THE

Dovercourt
2015
Gala

AT THE MONTECASSINO HOTEL

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CALL

416-536-4102 OR VISIT www.dovercourtkids.com

The Club welcomes DONATIONS for its Christmas Hamper Program.
416.536.4102

For information on Dovercourt Boys and Girls Club Programs, or to volunteer, please contact:

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