



# Parents-Secours Pointe-Claire Block Parents Bi-annual Newsletter

Spring edition 2016

Greetings!

Twice a year we will be sending out a newsletter to update all of you wonderful volunteers about what the committee has been up to, future events, financials and any other news. Thanks for taking the time to read our newsletter.



## Block Parent celebrates 1 year in Pointe-Claire



On **Saturday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016** the Pointe-Claire chapter of Block Parents officially celebrates its 1st year anniversary. A general meeting will be held at the Cedar Park Heights Chalet at **10:00am** followed by some family fun.

All current members are invited for the general meeting as well as some fun activities before we open the festivities to the rest of Pointe-Claire citizens. Please keep your eyes open for an email in the near future for more details.



This is also a great time to get anyone else you know that may be interested to join us and find out more about the program.

## Block Parent members

Our dream is to see at least one Block Parent per street in Pointe-Claire. In our first year, we had set a goal of signing up 100 households throughout Pointe-Claire. We came close with approximately 75 interested applicants and we can currently count on 51 households with a sign in their window.

**BECOME A BLOCK PARENT TODAY**



We encourage all of our Block Parents to talk about the program with their neighbours, friends and family and, hopefully, pass on the sign-up info!

## Community Events

**Halloween Event:** Block Parent Pointe-Claire was invited to participate in Pointe-Claire's annual Halloween party at Parc Arthur Séguin on October 31st. With our table positioned at the entrance, we were able to greet parents and their little princesses, ghosts, and pirates. We handed out glow sticks and trick-or-treating safety tips, and passed out brochures outlining our program and objectives.



Two raffles were drawn with two very enthusiastic winners of the prizes, including Lakeshore Players tickets and a basket of Beanie Boos and other goodies.

With about a dozen new households interested, we counted the day as a great success.

## Community Events (cont.)

**Bingo Day:** We began the new year with a visit to the Senior Bingo day, where we were given the opportunity to discuss how seniors can become Block Parents as well as how Block Parents are also available to seniors in distress. We also took the opportunity to invite them to share the Block Parent information with their children and grandchildren.

## Upcoming Events

**City celebrations:** Keep an eye open for our booth at various city events and please point any interested parties our way to get more information about the Block Parents' initiative. If you are interested in helping out at a booth by giving out pamphlets and informing potential households how the program works please let us know; we are always looking for some extra help!

## Workshops

**CPR:** Last fall we were very lucky to be working with Stacy Baker, pediatric RN, who offered her services to us free of charge. She gave 12 of our Block Parents a CPR course, to much acclaim. We will be running this course once again should any other Block Parents be interested in brushing up on their skills. Please contact us to let us know if this is something you'd like to participate in and once we have enough volunteers we will organize dates with Stacy.



## Finances

Since our last newsletter, we have raised \$506 through two fundraising initiatives. We have also received \$700 in donations: \$500 from Geoffrey Kelley, MNA; and \$200 from Fuller Landau.

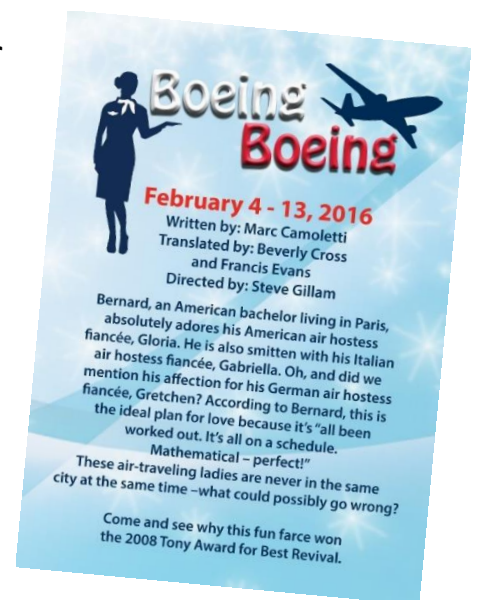
Our set-up and operational costs in 2015 totalled \$690.14. This money was mainly used for photocopies, postage, and office supplies (binders, a filing cabinet, etc.). Although we will need less money for office supplies in future years, we expect to spend more on photocopies and postage as we sign up new Block Parents throughout Pointe-Claire.

Thanks to our fundraising efforts, the donations we have received, and the money raised at our launch party last spring, we currently have \$1630 in our savings. This will help cover our operational costs this year, and our “One Year Anniversary Party” this spring.

## Fundraising

At our booth at the City of Pointe-Claire’s Halloween Party in 2015, we sold raffle tickets for two prize baskets, which raised \$140. In February 2016, our ticket sales for the production of *Boeing-Boeing* by The Lakeshore Players helped raise an additional \$366.

We sincerely appreciate all of the help that our fellow Block Parents have offered in our fundraising efforts. Thank you to everyone who stopped by our table at the Halloween Party and bought tickets for our raffle prizes. Thank you to all of you who helped sell tickets for the production of *Boeing-Boeing*. We hope that those of you who attended the performance enjoyed it as much as the committee members did!



## Fundraising (cont.)

As a charitable organization, we rely heavily on fundraising campaigns to support our operational costs. We recognize all of your efforts in helping us raise the money required to keep Block Parents running within our community. Please keep an eye open for future emails / posts on our Facebook page about our upcoming fundraisers.

## Community Outreach

**School community:** Our target clientele are school-aged children and therefore creating relationships with local schools is vital to the success of Block Parents. We have been positively received by most of the sector's schools and have given them an information pamphlet to be distributed to the school clientele.

**Elderly community:** Did you know that Pointe-Claire has the largest senior population on the island of Montreal?! Yet another reason it's so important to involve this community in our initiative. Our head of Senior Outreach has been working with various city employees as well as Cynthia Homan, city councillor, to create ties with the senior community and distribute information to them. Would you be interested in visiting a local seniors' home to talk about the program? If so, let us know, we'd love to get you involved!

## Friendly Reminder

Please remove window signs when you are not available! We like to keep ours in a window we can see from the car!

Thank you for reading and stay tuned for more announcements over the coming months. You can also stay up-to-date by visiting our web site <http://parentssecours-pc.ca/> or Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/blockparentpointeclaire>