



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

Late-Fall edition 2017

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.



From our families to yours, wishing all Block Parent families a healthy and happy Holiday Season.

Block Parent celebrates 2 years in Pointe-Claire

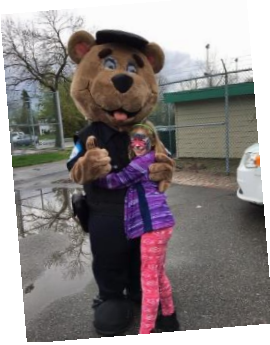
On **Saturday, May 6th, 2017** the Pointe-Claire chapter of Block Parents celebrated its 2nd year of operation. The Annual General Meeting was scheduled, at the Cedar Park Heights Chalet for **10:00am** followed by some family fun. Unfortunately, due to lack of participation, no formal AGM was completed.

The Executive Committee for 2017-2018 was acclaimed as follows:

- Tara Stainforth as President,
- Christine Latreille as Vice-President,
- Lea Capuano as Secretary
- Mark Walford as Treasurer
- Barbara Parker as Community Outreach Liaison



<http://parentssecours-pc.ca/>
<https://www.facebook.com/blockparentpointeclaire>



The weather wasn't very cooperative but the day was great fun with a face painter, inflatable castles and crafts. We were also joined by the Pointe-Claire police department and their latest mascot. A day to put on your calendars for next year!

Block Parent members

Our objective is one Block Parent per street in Pointe-Claire. Since the Committee's beginning 2 and a half years ago we have had quite a number of volunteers and can currently count on 58 Block Parent households, with a few pending files.

BECOME A BLOCK PARENT TODAY



The only volunteer job you can do from your couch!

The Committee encourages all our Block Parents to talk about the program with their neighbours, friends and family and pass on the sign-up info! *Remember, you can still be a Block Parent even if you work!*

Volunteer Opportunities

First we would like to say thank you for volunteering your time as a Block Parent; without you, there would be no program!

Volunteers are the heart of any charitable organization, and our group is no different. In order to keep up the momentum that the Committee has achieved, the Committee needs more volunteers to help out with initial home visits and interviews.

Calling all Executive Types - Join our Committee!

Positions available:

- Community Outreach Liaison
- Education Outreach Liaison
- Recruitment volunteers
- Translator

Community Events

Canada Day: We were happy to once again be invited to walk in the Canada Day Parade. Unfortunately, we were rained out again this year (3rd time is a charm?!) but we will certainly be doing it next year. Keep your eyes open for the call for volunteers in the spring!

Community Organization Day at The Pointe-Claire Plaza: On September 9th, we joined the many other wonderful organizations that are available to citizens in Pointe-Claire. We spent the day meeting great people, spread the word about our program and we signed up some new volunteers!



Thank you! We would like to thank the volunteers that helped out at the Annual Open House as well as at The Plaza. We would not be able to run any events without the generosity of you time.

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 at a booth by giving out pamphlets and informing potential

households how the program works, please let us know as we are always looking for some extra help!

Finances

We are currently in good financial standing thanks to previous initiatives and a generous grant we've received from our MNA Geoff Kelly. We continue to fundraise, however, to allow us to plan for extra events and publicity.

Fundraising

This year we once again were able to count on our community to help us out by offering goods to be sold at our 2-year anniversary party. We were able to raise enough funds to cover our expenses for the day.

Buy Gift cards – Shop for a Cause!

www.fundscrip.com

group Code: **57L5FJ**

A great way to help out is by buying gift cards through Fundscrip and this is a great time of year to support our cause and get your Christmas/holiday shopping done in one easy step! Skip the madness of last minute holiday shopping and get gift cards delivered to you instead of fighting for parking spots and waiting in long lines (with the kids in tow!). If you are still missing some gifts for people (family, friends, loved ones, teachers, service people, volunteers, yourself!, ...) on your list, you can't go wrong with gift cards! Not only is it convenient and safe to get them through FundScrip, it also allows the recipient to choose what he/she really wants! You can also order gift cards for

yourself for your daily/weekly needs or to purchase supplies and groceries to get everything you need to cook that perfect meal and prepare for family get-togethers or holiday parties!

If you need help or more information, contact Mark (our treasurer) at markhjwalford@yahoo.ca, or to make arrangements for a bigger order if needed. Ensure you order by Monday Dec 18 9:30am to ensure receipt in time for Christmas. Also to take advantage of all the retailers offering us bonus earnings this month on the purchase of your gift cards! Thank you for your ongoing support and dedication to our cause!!

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 included on École Primaire Pointe-Claire's web site and are in constant negotiations with other local schools. The position of Community Outreach Liaison being vacant has put a hold on our work with the community. Please consider volunteering and helping us in this very worthwhile area of the Committee's activity

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.

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 Reminders

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

If you plan to move (or have already), have new additions to your family, help someone in need, or have a damaged sign please let us know as soon as possible so we can make the necessary updates in system.



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/blockparentpointeclair>