



Recognition of a Volunteer

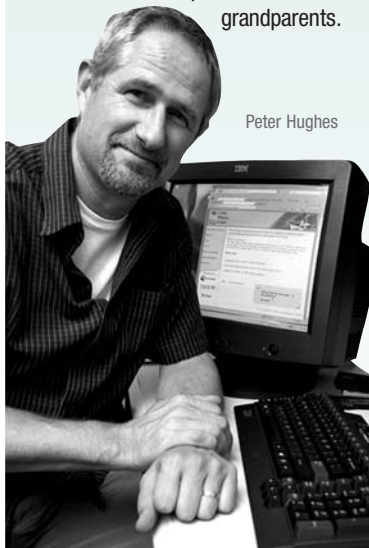
Peter Hughes is our longest serving volunteer — 27 years to be exact!! Without Peter, the Child Witness Centre would be in the dark ages — technologically that is. Peter is our expert computer techie. He ensures our emails work, our system networks, our computers are running smoothly, along with anything else that is computer/technology related... which is practically everything these days!! Peter is also invaluable with his a/v help at our annual youth symposiums.

Peter worked at IBM for 28 years, and during that time, was able to arrange a new computer for the agency every two years, through IBM's very generous volunteer employee program.

Peter helped design our Child Witness Program database back in the 90s, and now that we require a new one, Peter is once again creating the database to suit our needs.

Peter also volunteers as a referee for Oldtimers Hockey. He lives in Kitchener with his wife, Jo-Anne, who happens to be our longest serving staff member — at 27 years too!! They have two grown children, and very recently became proud new grandparents.

Peter Hughes



3,000 Students Benefit from Child Witness Centre Youth Symposium

... Thanks to Support from Sertoma, Cooperators Insurance and Rotary Club of Guelph-Trillium

In April, 300 grade 8 students attended the 7th annual one-day Child Witness Centre Youth Symposium... a very unique and potentially life-changing event....1,000 from Wellington County at the Galaxy Theatre in Guelph, and 2,000 from Waterloo Region at the Empire Theatre in Kitchener. This was the first time for holding the event in Guelph...closer to home for schools in that region and it avoided having to turn a large number of students away as we did in 2009.

The event is made possible through the very generous financial support of the Sertoma and La Sertoma service clubs in Kitchener-Waterloo, Cooperators Insurance in Guelph, and the Rotary Club of Guelph-Trillium who share our vision of the value of such an event for the youth in our community. We fund this event separately...we don't use donations that come to us otherwise to support our child witness program.

A distinguished line-up of twelve speakers from Canada and the U.S. challenged, educated, and motivated students at a critical time in their life, to make the right choices, stand up and make a difference, and to be leaders.



Some of the many volunteers who assist us during the symposium.

To see a full list of the speakers and topics, visit our website.

Teacher and Student Feedback

The feedback from teachers and students is always hugely positive...comments such as:

- Everything was excellent. Thank you for putting on such a motivational and entertaining day.
- This is an excellent way to help grade 8 students transition to high school.

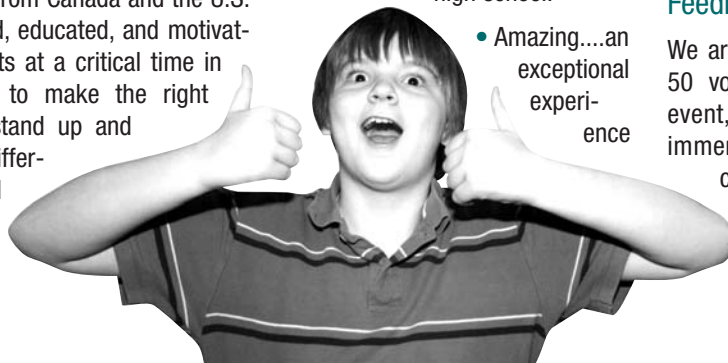
for our students.

- Well organized and informative...thank you for such a great day.
- Well organized and purposeful for students; not just a day away from school; good tie-in to character education.
- Wonderful, and organized well
- I feel the program ran really well; I am always impressed with the organization.

Feedback from our Volunteers

We are truly grateful to more than 50 volunteers who assist at the event, and we thank them immensely for their time and commitment to ensure that the event runs so smoothly and successfully.

continued on next page



- Amazing....an exceptional experience

A Successful Symposium

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Their feedback is equally positive...comments such as:

- Well done. The three speakers we saw were excellent. Arranging something for that many young people is quite an undertaking.
- It was great to see a program so suited to the students and some fun at the same time. You can count on my support.
- Congratulations on another great youth symposium. I think once again it was a great success and it was indeed a pleasure to participate.
- Thank you for the opportunity to be part of such a great program. You must be very proud of what you have built there. If you need any other volunteer help anytime please let me know. I thought the staff from the CWC were great and I would enjoy helping if I could.
- It was my pleasure. I hope you invite me to participate again next year. You do such important work for the kids at the Child Witness Centre. I told one of the volunteers that my corporate job involved securing speakers for conferences and conventions and we often paid a big fee for a two hour presentation. Both Scott and Stu were as impressive and dynamic as anyone we ever had. It was a great day. Congratulations!!
- It was a great day Thursday, and we want to help out whenever we can. We both feel what you are doing is so worthwhile.
- I love volunteering at this event.
- Congratulations! Your symposium seemed to run really well and certainly the students in the theatre I was in were very engaged. Congratulations to you and your staff for another amazing event! It's fun to be



(Top) Students arriving and greeted by RCMP officer, Cam Croal; (Middle left) Presenter Mike Pearse interacting with the students; (Middle right) Guinness World Record Holding Magician Scott Hammell juggling over a student; (Bottom) Motivational speaker/singer/songwriter Sara Westbrook.



apart of it.

Why We Do It

There are great risks for youth today—drug and alcohol use; harassment and bullying; broken homes and dysfunctional families; self image and confidence problems; coping with the demands of school; and other barriers and challenges. Some deal with these issues better than

others, but there is a high risk for all young people to make bad choices or have difficulty coping in today's social climate. Daily, they are inundated with bad examples and influences.

The Symposium addresses many of these issues, at a key time (i.e., grade 8). Through inspirational and well-informed speakers, who can engage an audience of

students and serve as good role models, the Symposium provides a strong positive influence on youth. The goal of the Symposium is to equip students with ideas, tools, motivation and confidence to cope effectively with their daily challenges, make better choices in their life, and to grow to become better citizens in our community.

During the day we also tell students about the work of the Child Witness Centre, and we let them know that we'll be there for them if they ever fall victim to a crime. For us, this is also prevention work—we hope that in various ways the Symposium results in fewer crimes against children, and that the messages to students attending enables them to cope more effectively if they are ever victimized.



Launch of “Evening of Entertainment” A Success

As part of our fundraising efforts, the Child Witness Centre traditionally holds a gala. In 2010 we replaced the gala with a new venture...something new, exciting, and affordable. We held an “Evening of Entertainment” on Friday May 7th at the Pavilion in Kitchener’s Victoria Park. Festivities began at 8 p.m. and featured a night filled with music from local favourite waterstreet blues band, silent auction tables and, of course, great food provided by local restaurants/businesses, including Boston Pizza, M&M Meats, KeyBrand Foods Inc., Classic Indian Restaurant and Moose Winooski’s.

More than 175 attended the event, and with over 50 businesses donating silent auction items, the event raised over \$6,500 for the agency. Thank you to everyone who attended and donated to the event — you are the reason it was so successful!!



12th Annual Pancake Luncheon

The 12th annual pancake luncheon held on Tuesday February 16th at the Delta Kitchener was another great success. It provided an opportunity for people to enjoy a delicious buffet lunch of pancakes, bacon, ham, sausages, fresh fruit and tea/coffee/juice for only \$11. More than 200 people attended, many who make this a yearly tradition for getting together with colleagues and friends, while helping a worthy cause.

Sincere thanks to M&M Meats and downtown Delta Kitchener for sponsoring the event.

Thank you



Child
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