

# 2015 ANNUAL REPORT



Building a Foundation for the Future



**Big Brothers Big Sisters**  
of Wood Buffalo

For more than 100 years Big Brothers Big Sisters has been making a positive difference in the lives of Canada's youth developing and implementing a wide range of evidence based mentoring programs.



Our work is done one-on-one and in groups, in school and outside of school and online. Serving role models, our mentors teach by example the importance of giving and giving back, of staying in school, and of having respect for family, peers and community.

Our mentor enrollment process and thoughtful matching process lead to powerful connections between our "Bigs" and "Littles". Each time we pair a child with a mentor or introduce a group of students to an in-school program, we start something incredible – a life-changing relationship build on friendship, trust and empowerment.

Research has demonstrated that our mentoring programs have dramatic and measurable impacts on the lives of young people, including decrease in risky behaviour and violence and increases in positive civic engagement.

Last year we helped 60 children realize their potential through our Full Circle Program, Community Based and In-School Mentoring Program.

## About Us

Whether it's in the form of time or money we believe there is no more important investment we can make than in helping young people realize and share their full potential.



## Message from the President of the Board of Director

As I look back over the last year I want to begin by thanking the Board of Directors and Staff of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Wood Buffalo. I am proud to be working alongside this group of dedicated people and want to thank you for your tireless efforts in reaching out to the children of this community. This year was filled with unique challenges, demanding much from all of us, but we have risen to the occasion.

Throughout the early part of this past year we saw a significant turnover in staff. I am now happy to report that we have a full office, with Joanne Angel as our new Executive Director as of July 2015. We entered our new offices in the UNIFOR building in August and are so pleased with the space and work environment it has afforded us.

Despite many changes we have continued to partner and work with our sponsors in the funding of our programs and agency. We have hosted 6 successful years with SMS Equipment for our annual Wine Auction. I would like to thank Canadian Tire for many years of sponsorship with Curl for Kids and prior to that Bowl for Kids. The title sponsor for our Duck Race this year was AMP, and I would also like to mention our thanks to the RMWB and Conoco Phillips/Surmont Project for their direct support of our programs. We appreciate all those who support BBBSWB in our efforts to reach out in mentorship to the children of this region. In doing so we are fulfilling our Vision, "Every child who needs a mentor, has a mentor."

Thank you once again for your dedicated support, whether time given or financial. We may not see the fruits of our time and effort but know that what you do enables us to change a child's life by making them feel valued and motivated to do good things with their life. I am excited for the future of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Wood Buffalo, for being strong and rising above the ashes onto a fresh new path this coming year.

—Rita Dizak, President, Board of Directors

## Message from the Executive Director

I joined the organization as the Executive Director in July 2015 – as no stranger to the organization, being previously on the Board of Directors since 2008. Moving into the non-profit sector full time was a big change, but one that am grateful for every day. As an avid volunteer in the community, working in the non-profit sector doesn't feel like work at all, as I love what I do each and every day. Being closer to the programs, it has been a delight to hear firsthand the good news stories from our matches. We received a donation from H.O.G, our local Harley Davidson Chapter, and we were able to provide money to the families we support for the holidays. One man even explained, that this will be the first year that he can finally afford a Christmas tree for his family. There have been a number of ups and downs during the 2015 year, but BBBSWB came out on the positive side of things. Our Stakeholders have stood by us, the teamwork and commitment shown by our Board of Directors has been unmeasurable, and the staff that continued to provide services through all the change and uncertainty can only be truly thanked by knowing the impact they are having on the youth in our community. I am proud to say that I work for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Wood Buffalo – and I am looking forward to what we can achieve together in the New Year.

—Joanne Angel, Executive Director

**Our Mission: Making a difference in the lives of Children and Youth through Mentoring**

## Messages Mission & Vision

**Our Vision: Every Child who needs a Mentor has a Mentor**



## Community Based Program



The Big Brothers Big Sisters Mentoring program provides boys/ girls and young men/ women with an adult role model and a friend to talk to and share the experiences of growing up with. Through regular outings, a relationship is developed between the "Big" and the "Little", that is built on trust and common interests, and is supported by our experienced case-workers. The result is a life-changing experience for

both the "Big" and the "Little". It requires 8-10 hours monthly and is a minimum of a 1 year commitment. We ended the 2015 year with 20 actives matches, which is the highest amount of community based matches in a few years. Our longest match was able to celebrate their 5 year anniversary this year, and we are amazed at their success. Referrals to the program can be made by anyone, even self-referrals are accepted, so if you would like to volunteer, or know a child who could benefit from having a mentor- contact our office.

**A large portion of the Community Based program is sponsored by the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo.**



REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY  
OF **WOOD BUFFALO**

## In School Mentoring

The In School Mentoring Program provides girls and boys with a role model and a friend to talk to and share the experiences of growing up with, within school grounds.

For 1 hour a week, mentors meet with their mentee and engage in activities such as board games, crafts or just spending quality time together. The In School Mentoring Program requires a weekly visit of 1 hour for the duration of the school year. Matches do not meet over the summer break or during other school holidays. In 2015 our biggest success came from matching youth in Westview Elementary with Teen Mentors from Westview High School, we are looking forward to expanding into more schools in the new school year.

# Our Programs

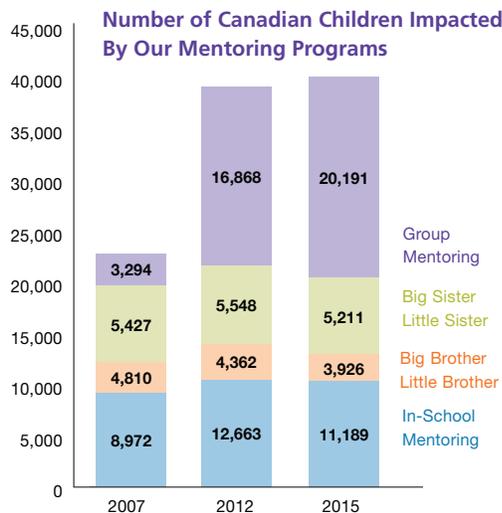
## Full Circle Mentoring Program

The program is designed to serve youth who are typically not effectively served by mainstream mentoring programs.

The youth are encouraged to explore and build an understanding of their culture through creating mentorships in a after school program setting. Group mentoring can be particularly effective model for Aboriginal youth because groups are so fundamental to the Aboriginal Culture.

This group setting allows mentors and youth to engage and strengthen their capacity by learning from each other. The program runs for 35 weeks, once a week at four different program locations.

Conocophillips and Total 's Surmont Project funds the Anzac portion of the program.



## Our Signature Events

The money raised through our events stays in the community to support our free programs in Wood Buffalo. Thank you to all our sponsors for helping make this happen.



### You Had Me at Merlot Sixth Annual SMS Equipment Wine Auction in support of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Wood Buffalo

**Date: September 26th, 2015**

**Raised: \$90,000**



Big Brothers Big Sisters of Wood Buffalo receives funding through various sources such as grants, however the main revenue source comes from fundraising. BBBSWB's largest event for the past six years has been the SMS Equipment Wine Auction. In 2015, the net total was over \$90,000, which has been a great benefit to the organization.

This year the Wine Auction took on yet another theme inspired by the line, "You had me at Merlot". Guests were spoiled with an enticing menu of delicious hors d' oeuvres created to compliment an exceptional selection of by the glass wine as they enjoy live music among friends and colleagues. The Tasting Room provided an exclusive tasting experience unique to the wine auction, set apart in its own designated space. The guests enjoyed several different and impressive wine tastings in a more intimate atmosphere.

## Fund Raising

## Thank you to our sponsors...

### Title sponsor



### Stage sponsor



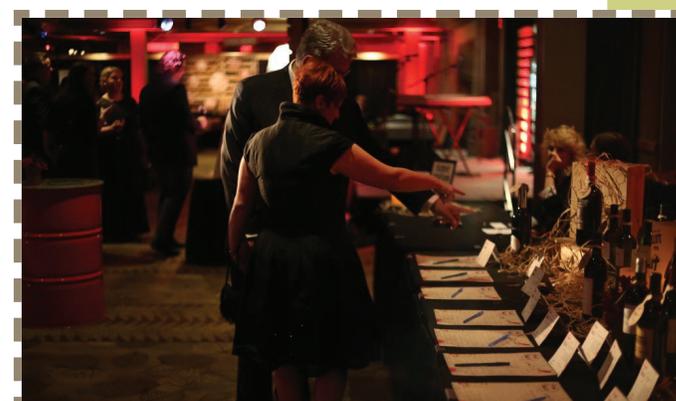
### Thank you also to...



**ATB Financial**<sup>™</sup>

Acklands Grainger  
 Alves Development  
 B&A Spray Foam Inc  
 Black Cat Blades  
 Bob Barrett's  
 Boomtown Casino  
 Caribou Flowers  
 Chez Dube  
 Connect  
 Cruz 100.5 & Mix 103.7  
 Don Scott Law Office  
 Driving Force  
 Helen Arong Fine Fashion  
 Kaos Radio  
 The Keg  
 Layers Wellness  
 Leviatte Machinery  
 MacKenzie Kennels  
 McMurray Law Office

Mark Ward  
 Morrison Dental  
 Northland Forest Products  
 Original Basket Boutique  
 Peter Read &  
 Carna Macarchon  
 Phoenix Heli flight  
 Printing Unlimited  
 Richo Canada  
 Rock 97.9 & Country 93.3  
 Sawridge  
 Seko Construction  
 The Post Hotel  
 The Wine Cellar  
 Vines  
 Western Truck Body  
 WB Federation  
 of Chefs & Cooks  
 Your McMurray Magazine





**15th Annual  
Rubber Duck Race**  
in support of Big Brothers  
Big Sisters of Wood Buffalo

**Date: Sunday August 16th, 2015**  
**Location: Howard Pew Park**  
**Raised: \$22,000**

Due to the flooding in the river a few year ago Burnco came on board and helped us do the race a little differently, by shooting the ducks out of a cement mixer into a manmade river. The Duck Race is a fun way to do a traditional raffle – the first 3 ducks to cross the finish line win community baskets made up of donated items, and the last place duck wins two tickets to anywhere WestJet flies, as a part of the Big Brothers Big Sisters national partnership with WestJet.



Thank you to our sponsors...

Title sponsor



Thank you also to...

- |  |                         |  |  |
|--|-------------------------|--|--|
| Achieve Wellness Spa                               | Denny's                 | McMurray Coin                              | Royal Bank of Canada                   |
| Burnco   | Domino's Pizza          | McMurray Law Office                        | Servus Credit Union                    |
| Clean Harbors Energy and Industrial Services Corp. | Driving Force           | Marble Slab Creamery                       | Sysco                                  |
| Chateau Nova                                       | Enbridge Inc.           | Mix 103.7 & 100.5 Cruz FM                  | TD Canada Trust                        |
| Chinese Flavor                                     | Extreme Pita            | North Star Ford                            | The Keg                                |
| CNRL   | Fort McMurray Gold Club | OPA! of Greece                             | Tim Horton's                           |
| Construction & General Workers Union Local 92      | Jugo Juice              | Printing Unlimited                         | Unifor Local 707A                      |
| Culligan Water                                     | Laird Electric          | Proserve Cleaning and Restoration Services | Western One Rentals                    |
|  | MacDonald Island Park   | Quality Hotel                              | Wood Buffalo & District Labour Council |

**4th Annual  
Curl for Kids Sake  
in support of Big Brothers  
Big Sisters of Wood Buffalo**

**Date: Saturday, March 28, 2015  
Location: Oil Sands Curling Club  
Raised: \$35,000**

This event is a fun filled day of curling, prizes and a free pizza party for all participants. It is a family/community activity but is also great for companies as a team building activity.

The event has 6-2hr time slots. Teams consist of 4-6 players with each player collecting pledges of at least \$100.00. At the end of each time slots players are treated to a free pizza party.

This is a theme based event and this year our theme is "pyjama party", so players are encouraged to come and curl in their PJs.

Sponsored by:



**Thank you to our sponsors...**

- |                   |                        |
|-------------------|------------------------|
| Aluma Systems     | Fort McMurray District |
| Atco Gas          | Labour Council         |
| Atco Electric     | Printing Unlimited     |
| Boomtown Casino   | Thompsons Brothers     |
| Boston Pizza      | Construction           |
| Unifor Local 707A | Pizza Hut              |
| CNRL              | Oil Sands Curling Club |
| Cougar Fuels      | Mix 103.7 and 100.5    |
| Culligan          | Cruz FM                |
| McMurray Coin     | WestJet                |

**Fund  
Raising**



## Statement of Financial Position

As at December 31, 2015

	2015	2014
<b>Assets</b>		
Current Assets		
Cash	\$ 215,071	\$ 263,552
Term deposits	38,861	37,996
Accounts receivable	10,961	6,459
Prepaid expenses	1,700	6,700
	<b>\$ 266,593</b>	<b>\$ 314,707</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 22,314	28,291
Deferred revenue	-	20,000
Deferred contributions	96,215	93,566
	<b>118,529</b>	<b>141,857</b>
Net Assets	<b>148,064</b>	<b>172,850</b>
	<b>\$ 266,593</b>	<b>\$ 314,707</b>

## Financial Statements

## Statement of Operations and Net Assets

Year Ended December 31, 2015

	2015	2014
<b>Revenue</b>		
Wine auction	\$ 101,676	\$ 66,971
Donations	81,796	34,998
Full Circle Mentoring	41,000	95,914
Curl for Kids	38,704	58,197
Duck race	23,066	29,414
Casino	17,609	49,055
Interest	1,093	1,691
Bingo	287	10,756
In School Mentoring	-	63,000
	\$ 305,231	\$ 409,996
<b>Expenses</b>		
Salaries and benefits	\$ 231,303	\$ 277,771
Rent	23,213	28,989
Office	14,435	17,014
Big 'N Little activities	14,312	30,137
Dues and memberships	11,246	11,046
Telephone, fax and internet	10,476	2,837
Training and education	7,622	16,382
Insurance	7,324	6,525
Professional fees	7,311	20,239
Advertising and promotion	1,485	2,197
Goods and services tax	1,074	6,459
Volunteer appreciation	216	980
	\$ 330,017	\$ 420,576
Deficiency of Revenue Over Expenses	(24,786)	(10,580)
Net Assets - Beginning of Year	172,850	183,430
Net Assets - End of Year	\$ 148,064	\$ 172,850

# 2015 Board of Directors



## Board of Directors

<b>Rita Dizak</b> .....	Board President
<b>Eunice Reichstein</b> .....	Board Vice Chair, June 2015 - Present
<b>Joanne Angel</b> .....	Board Vice Chair, June 2015
<b>Ken Kapustiak</b> .....	Treasurer
<b>Brianne Harris</b> .....	Secretary, June 2015
<b>TJ Carabeo</b> .....	Secretary, June - Present
<b>Monica Ball</b> .....	Director
<b>Donna-Marie Hamilton</b> .....	Director

## Staff

<b>Joanne Angel</b> .....	Executive Director, July - Present
<b>Amanda Herbert</b> .....	Interim Executive Director, March 2015
<b>Farah Jamal</b> .....	Executive Director, March - July 2015
<b>Samantha Collins</b> (nee Nicholas) .....	Mentoring Coordinator
<b>Vanessa Stanley</b> .....	Full Circle Mentoring Coordinator, July 2015 - Present
<b>Lynda Burns</b> .....	Full Circle Mentoring Coordinator, April 2015
<b>Ann Eigner</b> .....	Marketing and Communications, March 2015
<b>Francesca Grisonich</b> .....	Admins and Events Coordinator, June - Present

What we do for young people today makes a difference tomorrow.



**Big Brothers Big Sisters**  
of Wood Buffalo

Suite 5B-10019 MacDonald Ave (lower level in Unifor 707 Downtown)  
Fort McMurray, Alberta T9H 1S9

Telephone: 780-791-2447 • Fax: 780-743-0995

[bigbrothersbigsisters.ca/woodbuffalo](http://bigbrothersbigsisters.ca/woodbuffalo)