

# 2016 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 built on friendship, trust and empowerment.

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

Last year we helped 145 children realize their potential through our Full Circle Mentoring 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 helping young people realize and share their full potential.



## Message from the President of the Board of Director

I would like to begin this message by saying a heartfelt "Thank You" to the Board of Directors, our Executive Director, Joanne Angel-Andrusiv and our very capable office Staff for their passion for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Wood Buffalo.

One year ago in May, our city was forced to evacuate due to the devastating fires that spread throughout our community. People were impacted in many different ways and without the dedicated people I have mentioned, this organization would not be where we are today. Despite the set-backs and challenges the fire brought us, I am proud to say that we have had some positive outcomes during the year. We have been able to locate funding and expand programs and staff. We continued with our planning for the 7th Annual Wine Auction despite the delay in scheduling and hosted a successful event. In all we have moved forward through to a new normal in our daily business. I am proud to be working with such a dedicated group of people.

I would also like to thank our valued sponsors and donors, volunteers and Bigs who give generously to

Big Brothers Big Sisters. Because of their commitment our Mission is being met, " Making a difference in the lives of children and youth through mentoring." For the children in our programs BBBS provides the kind of support and opportunities that make an everyday difference in their lives. Mentoring is about the power of friendship, a relationship that can be life changing.

We have been strong and risen above the ashes as we continue the work that Big Brothers Big Sisters of Wood Buffalo offers to our community.

—Rita Dizak, President, Board of Directors

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

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

## Message from the Executive Director

Big Brothers Big Sisters Association of Wood Buffalo started off 2016 on a positive note. Fully staffed, with all three programs running seamlessly. We hosted a free family skating day, created "Big Wanted" posters to help recruit more Big Brothers to mentor the youth on our waitlist, and we ran a successful Curl for Kids' Sake event in March. The organization was well on its way to a successful year. Then, as all those that live in Fort McMurray are painfully aware, a natural disaster struck the region, and everyone was evacuated. The office did not re-open until mid-July. We returned short staffed, and our programs lost many participants, and volunteers. The office spent the rest of the year making up for lost time, and trying to build back stronger for our community.

We managed to keep our board intact, and added some amazing new people to the BBBSWB staff. With hard work and a lot of passion for the Big Brothers movement together as a team we were able to execute two events in September (Duck Race and SMS Equipment Wine Auction), increase the number of youth served in the Full Circle Program by 110%, and started working on a new partnership which will see a new program opening in Janvier in early 2017.

I am proud of our board of directors, stakeholders, supporters, volunteers, and most importantly the staff without whom none of our success would have been possible. We not only picked up the pieces, but we came back stronger to help support the lives of the children and youth in the RMWB. We have great plans for 2017, as we move forward ensuring that every child in our community that needs a mentor has one.

—Joanne Angel, Executive Director

## Messages Mission & Vision



## Community Based Program



The Community Based Program matches children through the ages of 6-18 with a positive role model for 2 hours a week or 8-10 hours a month. During this time

the mentees “Littles” and mentors “Bigs” take part in fun activities like swimming, sliding, rock climbing, drawing, reading etc... Littles have the opportunity to talk and share their life experiences with their Bigs. The results of these matches are tremendous, it is a life changing experience for both the “Big” and “Little.” The matches are supported by our experienced case-

workers, referrals to the program can be made by anyone, even self-referrals are accepted.

Our longest match currently has been 5+ years and the Little will be graduating from the program this year, it has been an amazing success.

**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 (ISM)

The In-School Mentoring program provides youth with a role model, friend to talk to and share the experiences of growing up with, within school grounds. For one hour a week, mentors meet with their mentee and engage in activities such as board games, crafts, reading and learning or just hanging out around the school. In 2016 ISM opened 7 new matches and served approximately 94 volunteer hours with youth in Wood Buffalo.

### Requirements:

- Volunteers must successfully complete the Screening Process
- 1 hour a week during regular school hours for a minimum of one school year.

### Location(s)

In the Wood Buffalo Region, In-School Mentoring served two elementary schools during 2016 and successfully recruited student mentors from one local high school.

Looking ahead to 2017 BBBSWB has been working on a partnership with Conoco-Philips – Surmount to start a new site-based corporate mentoring program for junior high students from Janvier South, Alberta – a hamlet in the RMWB. This exciting program is underway in January 2017!

## Full Circle Mentoring Program

The Full Circle Mentoring program is designed to provide a meaningful group mentoring experience that strengthens cultural awareness and pride among Indigenous youth in the Wood Buffalo Region. The program runs for 35 weeks following the school calendar, once a week after school. The program is designed to serve youth who are typically not effectively served by the mainstream mentoring programs. This is a closed program that requires an application process.

The group setting allows mentors and youth to engage and strengthen their capacity by learning from each other. It provides an opportunity for the youth to explore and build an

understanding of their culture through creating mentorships. With the long term outcome being the building of future leaders and adult mentors.

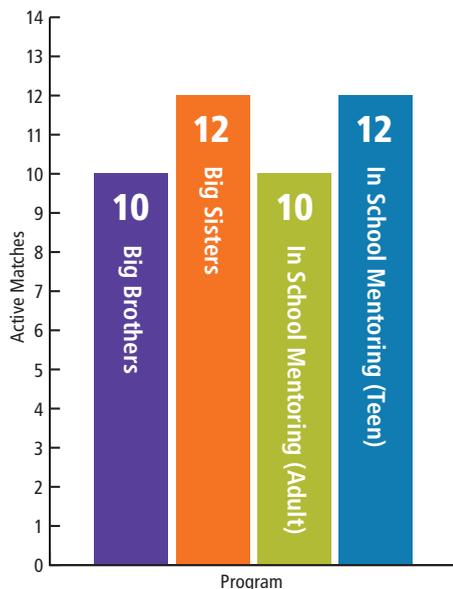


In September 2016 the program was expanded to 6 new program locations. The program runs in 11 locations including; Dr. KA Clark, Father Turcotte/ Father Beaugard, St. Paul School, St. Gabriel School, Westview School, St. Martha School, St. Anne School, St. Kateri School, Greely Road School and Anzac Community School. Serving a total of 116 youth in grades 1-6.



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

### Active Matches by Program:



# Our Programs



## Our Signature Events

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



### The EmPOURium

Seventh Annual SMS Equipment Wine Auction in support of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Wood Buffalo

Date: September 24th, 2016

Raised: \$70,000



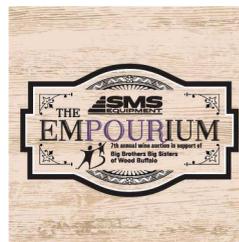
Guests who attended this signature event were spoiled with an enticing menu of delicious hors d' oeuvres created to compliment an exceptional selection of by the glass wine as they enjoyed live music among friends.



New to 2016's event was the move of the popular Tasting Stations into the event ballroom and H-Vac Solutions Wine Pull – which completely sold out.

Becca Hess was brought back to the Suncor Stage, with a new addition of Dan. And who could forget the amazing volunteers sporting their ATM Financial aprons who worked hours on end to make the event a reality.

Fund  
Raising



## Thank you to our sponsors...

### Title sponsor



### Stage sponsor



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**Big Brothers Big Sisters**  
of Wood Buffalo

Photo by Tricia Reid



**16th Annual  
Rubber Duck Race  
in support of Big Brothers  
Big Sisters of Wood Buffalo**

**Date: September 5th, 2016  
Location: Snye Point Park  
Raised: \$24,000**

BBBSWB partnered with the Wood Buffalo District Labor council to host the annual duck race in conjunction with their labor day BBQ . Support from the Canadian Red Cross allowed BBBSWB to provide all of the event activities free of charge to the community at large. Burnco designed the man-made river used for the race and the Fort McMurray Fire Department was on hand providing the water source. There were approximately 1200 rubber ducks in the race. Big thanks to all the unions, companies and local businesses that purchased a Union/ Corporate duck sponsorship.

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

**Title sponsor:**



**Thank you also to...**

- |                   |                               |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| Burnco            | MacDonald Island Park         |
| West Jet          | Driving Force                 |
| McMurray Coin     | Fort McMurray Golf Club       |
| Western One       | Culligan Water                |
| Best Western Plus | Mix 103.7 & 100.5 Cruz FM     |
| Sawridge Suites   | Real Canadian Superstore      |
| Tim Hortons       | Fort McMurray Fire Department |
| The Keg           |                               |

**5th Annual  
Curl for Kids Sake  
in support of Big Brothers  
Big Sisters of Wood Buffalo**

**Date: September 5th, 2016  
Location: Fort McMurray Oil Sands Curling Club  
Raised: \$30,000**

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 slot players were treated to a free pizza party.

This is a theme based event and this year our theme was Pirates, teams were encouraged to come out and participate dressed up in their best Pirate costumes.

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

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**Presented by:**



**Fund  
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## Statement of Financial Position

As at December 31, 2016

	2016	2015
<b>Assets</b>		
Current Assets		
Cash	\$ 270,421	\$ 210,311
Term deposits	38,875	38,861
Accounts receivable	13,315	9,221
Prepaid expenses	5,306	1,700
	<b>\$ 327,917</b>	<b>\$ 260,093</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Current		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 25,934	\$ 27,989
Deferred revenue	36,000	-
Deferred contributions	38,689	75,715
	<b>100,623</b>	<b>103,704</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>		
Internally restricted	\$ 60,000	\$ -
Unrestricted	167,294	156,389
	<b>227,294</b>	<b>156,389</b>
	<b>\$ 327,917</b>	<b>\$ 260,093</b>

## Financial Statements

## Statement of Operations and Net Assets

Year Ended December 31, 2016

	2016	2015
<b>Revenue</b>		
Donations	\$ 162,777	\$ 98,296
Casino	85,204	17,564
Wine auction	70,534	100,649
Full Circle Mentoring	41,000	41,000
Curl for Kids	23,282	38,704
Duck Race	24,000	22,676
In School Mentoring	8,000	-
Interest	84	1,093
Bingo	-	287
	<b>\$ 414,881</b>	<b>\$ 320,269</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Salaries and benefits	\$ 245,307	\$ 236,616
Rent	24,397	23,213
Dues and memberships	10,037	11,246
Office	9,321	12,838
Professional fees	8,441	7,311
Insurance	5,573	7,324
Big 'N Little activities	5,329	14,312
Training and education	5,270	7,622
Utilities	4,322	5,544
Goods and services tax	4,095	2,762
Telephone, fax and internet	2,981	5,442
Advertising and promotion	2,784	2,285
Volunteer appreciation	617	216
	<b>328,474</b>	<b>336,731</b>
<b>Excess (Deficiency) of Revenue Over Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 70,905</b>	<b>\$ (16,462)</b>
<b>Net Assets - Beginning of Year</b>	<b>\$ 156,389</b>	<b>\$ 172,851</b>
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses	70,905	(16,462)
Transfers	-	-
<b>Net Assets - End of Year</b>	<b>\$ 227,294</b>	<b>\$ 156,389</b>

# 2016 Board of Directors



## Board of Directors

<b>Rita Dizak</b> .....	President/Chair
<b>Eunice Reichstein</b> .....	Vice Chair
<b>T.J Carabeo</b> .....	Secretary
<b>Monica Ball</b> .....	Treasurer
<b>Brianne Oke</b> .....	Director
<b>Katie Walker</b> .....	Director
<b>Lois Potvin-Gibson</b> .....	Director (September 2016 – Present)
<b>Donna-Marie Hamilton</b> .....	Director (Until September 2016)

## Staff

<b>Joanne Angel</b> .....	Executive Director (July – Present)
<b>Samantha Collins</b> .....	Mentoring Coordinator (Until July 2016)
<b>Vanessa Stanley</b> .....	Full Circle Mentoring Program Manager
<b>Jenna Gould</b> .....	Mentoring Coordinator (August – Present)
<b>Ashley Stovall</b> .....	In-School Mentoring Coordinator (August – Present)
<b>Francesca Grisonich</b> .....	Administrative and events coordinator (Until February 2016)

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

 BBBSWB  @BBBSWoodBuffalo

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