



Big Brothers Big Sisters.ca

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**START
SOMETHING
BIG**



Big Brothers Big Sisters



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2017 Board of Directors

President – Vernon Boyd

Vice-President – Cheryl Weaver

Secretary – Sasha Huhn

Treasurer – Debbie Isley

Director – Barb Metituk

Director – Camille McLaughlin

Director – Daniel Drake

Director – Trevor Healing

Director – Corinne Patterson (resigned)

Director – Wade Pilat (resigned)

Agency Staff

Executive Director – Corinne Patterson (2018)

Community Based Mentoring Coordinator – Tiersa Rast

Site Based Mentoring Coordinator – Barbara Feltham-Brentnall

P/T Site Based Mentoring Coordinator – Derian Young (2018)



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President's Report

I am very proud to have served as President of this Agency for the past 5+ consecutive 2 Year Terms. I am also truly blessed and honored to have had the opportunity to be able to watch this Agency survive all the hurdles and grow from when we were 1 staff, 2 board members with no fundraiser, no money or presence in the community to now an engaged Board of 8 and 4 staff is truly humbling and rewarding!!

As I stated last year, one of the key things I have learned and come to appreciate over the past 10 years is that **"Life is about people, Not stuff"**. Being part of something bigger is what builds communities and changes us inside where we see the world differently. Being part of this Agency has definitely left me feeling part of the GP Community!

I would like to say a special thanks to the current Board of Directors who normally are in the background behind the scenes but you all are part of the Family at the Agency; to the frontline staff who make it all happen; Barbara, Tiersa, our newest member Derian and of course not to forget our wonderful ED-Corinne.

You all are so committed and truly believe that we can make a difference in the future of the little's in the program. Because of this, BBBS is constantly becoming more recognized in our Community which has led to more partnerships and fundraising endeavors. We are constantly receiving new opportunities for raising funds and awareness – Great Work!

BBBS Agency is successful and healthy due to the deep passion you all have. Kudos to you all!!

Every Company, Business, Not for Profit Agency, etc. have times where key players inside their organization move on to other opportunities. Some believe that their departure will be devastating and will not be able to survive or recover. I believe that is an opportunity for change. BBBS of GP Agency reached one of those forks in the road early in 2018. We embraced the opportunity that presented itself, the stars aligned and on Jan 30, 2018 Corinne Patterson, who had applied for the ED job before we hired the previous ED, landed at our front door and the rest is history. From knowing Corinne from the Rainbow Society Golf Tourney that she organized for a lot of years I could tell she was very passionate about giving back and making a difference in children's lives.

BBBS has an Amazing Team once again! We all look forward to continued growth and service to the children of our Community.

The Success, Growth and Development of this agency in the past 2 years where economic uncertainty prevailed and social needs escalated, has been encouraging and left us all with a sense that we are headed in a very Positive direction. Through all of these changes the one thing this Agency has never lost focus on was to continue to serve our community's children.

I am proud to say BBBS Grande Prairie has exceeded our goal by partnering with 7 new schools in 2017 for a total of 14 schools in our ISM Program. For the 2017/18 school year we were able to serve approximately 51 youth and 19 Teen Mentors. We are proud to have offered 2 Go Girls/Game On sessions in 2017/18 school year.



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We are proud to once again report that our major annual fundraiser, the Ultimate Escape, held on January 20, 2017, was again very successful. This event goes a long way in supporting our mentoring programs and the children and youth in our community. Thank you again to all of our generous sponsors and especially our long-standing Presenting Sponsor Canadian Tire and Hospitality Sponsor, Pomeroy Lodging. We are looking forward to another successful year!

I would like to take a moment and thank our major funders for their continued support – United Way Alberta Northwest, Government of Alberta, Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission (AGLC) and the City of Grande Prairie/FCSS. It is also very important to recognize the following generous supporters: Canadian Western Bank GIGIC Campaign, Aquatera, WestJet, Rotary Clubs of Grande Prairie, Mr. Mikes Steakhouse and the Community Foundation of Northwestern Alberta. We are grateful to the many individual donors and those that gave to us in memory of a loved one. BBBSGP is extremely fortunate to have the ongoing support of our funding partners and this great community – thank you for helping children and youth realize their full potential.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Canada along with our agency commits to Canada's young people that we will be leaders in providing them with the highest quality, volunteer based mentoring programs. Across the country, there are currently, over 40,000 children matched with volunteers in our mentoring programs. Our challenge, along with many other agencies, continues to be finding matches for the thousands of youths on our waiting lists. Having served Canadian families for over 100 years, BBBS has earned the position as one of the most well-known and respected brands in the charitable sector. With 108 local agencies operating in over 1,100 communities; together we mobilize over 21,300 volunteers and that works out to nearly: 2.2 million volunteer hours each year!

In closing, a Huge THANK YOU to all the National Partners for BBBS of Canada. Here are the top 8.

Chairs Circle \$250,000 +:

BMO since 1996-2011 \$750,000 in support of our Go Girls; **Boston Pizza** 2013 5 years over 1.5 million; **Immigration, Refugees & Citizenship Canada** 2013 3Yrs \$1,580,000; **Manulife** 2009 renewed in 2012 \$1,125,000 to the already \$1Mil; **Ontario Ministry of Education** 2008 huge impact on ISM; **RBC** 2013 3Yrs for Newcomer Canadian Youth Program; **Rogers** 2017 Scholarship Fund funding brightest young leaders; **Westjet** 2007.

Thank you,

Vernon Boyd



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Executive Director's Report

I would first like to thank the Board for their confidence in offering me this position. I started with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Grande Prairie & Area in January 2018 after a briefly serving as a board member. The past 5 months have been very enjoyable for me, even with the steep learning curve when I began. I have reviewed the files and events from 2017 to compile the information for this report, attempting to make it as comprehensive as possible. From the knowledge I have gained over the past 5 months, including some great seminars provided through Big Brothers of Canada, I come to realize how important a mentoring program can be in our community. According to a recent Harvard University study, mentoring is #5 of 30 factors that were deemed as critical intervention areas to steer youth away from entering our criminal justice system. In my short time here I have marvelled at the time and commitment that our volunteer mentors and board members are willing to give to this organization. I feel like they too understand the importance of kids having positive role models in their lives. I have been lucky enough to work with 2 very dedicated and passionate Mentoring Coordinators, Barbara and Tiersa. We take our work very seriously but we also make sure that we remember to have fun as well.

Much praise needs to be directed towards our Board of Directors for 2017. The guidance and effort they have made in recruitment, fundraising and helping with community contacts has been invaluable. I am proud to have you all as ambassadors of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Grande Prairie & Area: Vernon, Cheryl, Sasha, Trevor, Dan, Barb, Debbie, Wade and Camille.

2017 seemed to be a transitional time for our agency. We were lucky to have such a dedicated ED in Amy Mohr, I know everyone was sorry to see her leave our local agency in Grande Prairie. Thankfully she has stayed within the BBBS organization to continue to lend us her talents in Saskatchewan. During the remaining 9 months of the year we had 2 different ED's trying to fill Amy's position. Again, I think we need to thank our Board of Directors for pulling us through that challenging time.

In spite of those challenges, we also had great success! We had a record setting year for our Ultimate Escapes Fundraiser, with appreciation to our title sponsor for their ongoing support, Canadian Tire of Grande Prairie. We are fortunate to live in a community that values volunteering and 'giving back'. We would be no where without the commitment of our valuable mentors and volunteers. On behalf of the staff, the Board of Directors and all of our Little Brothers and Sisters, we send out a huge thank you to all for you that gave us you time and your compassion. Thank you all for helping us **Start Something**.

With gratitude,

Corinne Patterson



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Our Vision

Every child who needs a mentor will have a mentor.

Our Mission

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Grande Prairie and Area strives to enhance the healthy development of children, youth and their families through positive mentoring relationships.

Hang Out.
**Change
a Life.**
Yeah.
It's That Simple.



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About Us

We're Big Brothers Big Sisters

We believe every child should have the opportunity to reach his or her full potential – both as Individuals and citizens – that by doing so, they will not only do well, they will also do good.

We believe that by changing the course of young lives we can in turn be changing the course of a community's future. That it could lead to a reduction in poverty and unemployment, to safer schools and neighborhoods and to a renewed optimism for growth. That it could even lead to change on a broader, more far-reaching scale.

We believe that opening a child's eyes to what is – opens their mind to what could be.

For over 100 years, Big Brothers Big Sisters has been making a positive difference in the lives of our nation's youth by developing and implementing a wide range of mentoring programs – One-to-one and group programs – for both in school and outside of school.

Serving as 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. Each time we pair a child with a mentor, we start something incredible – a life changing relationship built on friendship, trust, and empowerment.

Witnessing the transformation of a child into a confident, concerned and motivated young person is a remarkable thing. Ushering them into adulthood, seeing them grow into a successful, responsible member of their community and society at large is even more satisfying. Proudly, it's something our staff, volunteers and donors help bring about every day, and we are very grateful for their generosity and support.

Whether it's in the form of time or money there is no more important investment we as individuals can make than in helping our nation's children realize – and share – their full potential.

We're Big Brothers Big Sisters and we believe in the value and the values of mentoring.



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What if ...
every child fulfills his or her potential?

What if ...
every child is set on the right path today?

What if ...
every child in Canada finishes high school,
goes to college or university, gets a job and
gives back to their community?

Wouldn't that be something?



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2017 – A BBBS Grande Prairie and Area ‘Year in Review’

The 10th Annual Ultimate Escape kicked off 2017 and once again the event exceeded everyone’s expectations. All funds raised that evening stay in our community and directly help match children and youth with positive, safe and quality mentors.

April 9th marked our 2nd annual Curl for Kids’ Sake event. A BIG thank you to the Grande Prairie Curling Centre who hosted the event and truly went above and beyond to make the fundraiser a success. This year’s theme was Canadian Pride in keeping with Canada’s 100 Anniversary. There were some great costumes! Thanks to the generous businesses who donated great raffle and balloon pop prizes.

Quickly June is always a busy month for our agency. Our family barbecue is a yearly favorite for mentors and families involved with the agency, another great turn out this year!



Suzette Fowler represented the agency at the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Canada’s National Convention in Toronto. She returned with great ideas, mentoring best practices and new friends.

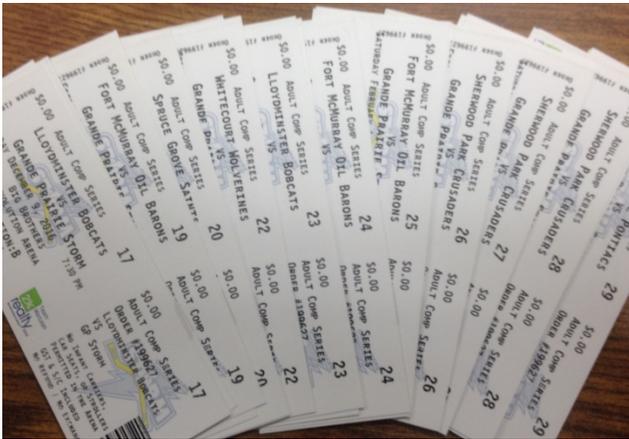
We were pleased to be able to participate once again in the KMSC Law Charity Golf Tournament. Kudos to KMSC Law for supporting so many local and deserving charities. The summer drew to a close with our annual WestJet Cares for Kids Summer Getaway Raffle.

The return of the successful ‘10 Mentors in 10 Days’ volunteer recruitment campaign in September had an exciting partnership with Morguard Properties. Prairie Mall and the agency worked together to launch BeYou Girl – a campaign aimed at increasing the self-esteem and self-confidence of young girls; a perfect complement to our Go Girls! Mentoring Program. We were excited to host ten days of diverse and fun events for girls from the community to participate in. The campaign resulted in a lot of fun, some new friendships, the learning of new skills and several new mentor applications.



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When September arrived, we received two sets of season tickets to the Grande Prairie Storm. Many Bigs and Littles had a great time cheering on the Storm! We were once again able to participate in the Air Canada Foundation's Dreams Take Flight program. Two really lucky Littles had the adventure of a lifetime as they went on a free one-day trip to Disneyland. Magical Memories were created that day!



September & October saw the kick off of the annual United Way campaign, Big Brothers Big Sisters is grateful to be a recipient of their generous support.

The holiday season came up rather quickly and it's a busy time for many of us. The agency's staff, Board members, families, and volunteers once again joined together to sell tickets at the Prairie Mall to help make the Cars for Christmas lottery fundraiser a success. Many volunteers also helped wrap their hearts out at the Prairie Mall's gift-wrapping station. A special year-end treat for our agency is the annual holiday party in which gifts, generously donated by the Big Toy Box, were handed out by Santa himself.

Matches – They are a BIG deal at Big Brothers Big Sisters and the staff and Board work hard to support each match in the best ways we can. Several new matches were made throughout 2017 including the introduction of the Jr. Mentoring program partnership in various schools through our area.



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The Mentoring Effect

Changing the course of young lives changes the future of communities. By every measure, Big Brothers Big Sisters returns positive results in the mental health, employment and civic engagement of the recipients of our mentoring programs.

Social Return on Investment Study
To assess the economic benefits of our programs, The Boston Consulting Group undertook a multi-stage study that compares the outcomes of children who participated in community 1-on-1 programs with those that did not.



work life community



SOCIAL RETURN ON INVESTMENT

Increased Taxes & Spending From Higher Income + Increased Volunteering & Donations

\$ 18:1 \$1 invested in mentoring by Big Brothers Big Sisters returns \$18 to society *

* Among economically disadvantaged groups, \$1 invested in mentoring by Big Brothers Big Sisters returns \$23 to society.

start something



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2017 Statistics Summary

	Matches Made						
	BB/LB	BS/LS	Cross Gender	ISM	ISM Teen	Go Girls	Total
Year Total	6	7	1	24	9	1 group	47

	Children Matched From Waitlist					Children's Applications Approved				
	LB	LS	ISM	Go Girls	Total	LB	LS	ISM	Go Girls	Total
Year Total	6	7	24	4	41	6	8	24	4	42

	Volunteers Matched From Waitlist					Volunteer Applications Approved				
	BB	BS	ISM	Go Girls	Total	BB	BS	ISM	Go Girls	Total
Year Total	4	7	4	4	19	4	11	4	2	21

	Multi-Year Matches					
	BB/LB	BS/LS	Cross Gender	ISM	Total	
Year Total	4	8	2	7	21	

2017 Financial Statements

The financial statements for the agency are attached to this report.



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Major Sponsors & Funders

100 Women Who Care
 Air Canada Foundation
 Affordable Elegance
 All Peace Petroleum
 Aquatera
 Arc Resources
 ATB Financial
 Aurora Eye Care
 b.fick Photography
 Bear Creek Golf Club
 Better Than Freds
 Birchcliff Energy Ltd.
 Black Stone Mountain Lodge
 Bone and Biscuit
 Builders Electric Co
 Canadian Tire
 Canadian Western Bank
 Canfor
 Cardon Homes
 City of Grande Prairie
 Community Foundation of Northwestern Alberta
 Costco
 County of Grande Prairie No. 1
 Encana Events Centre
 FYI Doctors
 Grande Prairie Golf and Country Club
 Grande Prairie Live Theatre
 Grande Prairie Stompede
 Hansen Ford Lincoln
 Happy Trails RV
 Health Hut
 Holiday Inn & Suites West Edmonton
 Holloway Lodging Corporation Inc.
 HUB International
 Huron Resources
 Ignite Marketing and Productions Ltd.
 Investors Group Financial Services
 Jasper Chamber of Commerce
 Keddies Tack & Western Wear
 Ken Sargent GMC Buick Ltd.
 Keurig Canada

KMSC Law
 Madhatters
 McGovern RV
 Morguard (Prairie Mall)
 Morningview Park Golf Course
 Mr. Mike's Steakhouse Casual
 Nevada Bob's
 New-Horizon Co-op
 Nine 10
 Northern Doors
 Off-Track Motorsports
 OK Tire
 Pasco Maintenance
 Pomeroy Lodging
 Q99
 Recycle Plus
 Sawmill Prime Rib & Steakhouse
 Sawridge Inn & Conference Centre
 Servus Credit Union
 SGB Law LLP
 Snowy Owl Sled Dog Tours
 Sparkling Hills Resort
 Splatter Paintball
 Strasdin Sangha Orthodontics
 Stryker Energy Services
 Swan City Rotary Club
 Tangled Bobbin
 Teepee Creek Stampede
 Tenille
 The Dunes Golf and Winter Club
 The Keg Steakhouse & Bar
 The Print Shop
 Uniglobe Total Travel
 Unique Home Concepts
 United Way
 Westcan Feed and Grain
 Westkey Graphics
 Weyerhaeuser
 Willsey Davis & Co. LLP