

# TOMLINSON FAMILY FOUNDATION CLUBHOUSE 2020 YEAR IN REVIEW

REPORT TO THE OTTAWA POLICE SERVICES BOARD



# OVERVIEW

2020 was a very unusual and challenging year for BGC Ottawa. The pandemic had a deep impact on our staffing, programs, and fundraising. In March 2020, we closed all clubhouses, suspended programs, and laid off part-time staff.

With flexibility and careful planning, BGC Ottawa staff were able to pivot very well to eventually reopen the clubhouses for programs and services. A substantial amount of time was spent on training staff and adapting programs for safe delivery.

In an effort to maintain connection and meet the needs of members during periods of closure, we launched a virtual clubhouse and the Neighbourhood Ambassador Program, a new partnership with the City of Ottawa.

Our outreach programs were also expanded, so that staff began to connect directly with families at home or in the neighbourhood for wellness checks and to provide activity and meal kits.

Despite these challenges, Tomlinson Family Foundation Clubhouse members and all BGC Ottawa members benefitted from a rich variety of programs across BGC Ottawa's four programming pillars: Education, Creative Arts, Physical Activity and Healthy Lifestyle, and Leadership and Social Skills.



# 2020 STATISTICS

<b>BGC OTTAWA TOTAL</b>	<b>TOMLINSON FAMILY FOUNDATION CLUBHOUSE</b>
<b>30,242 Member Visits</b>	<b>5,109 Member Visits</b>
<b>2,309 Unique Members</b>	<b>519 Unique Members</b>
<b>127 Active Volunteers</b>	<b>13 Active Volunteers</b>
<b>4,462 Volunteer Hours</b>	<b>1,340 Volunteer Hours</b>



# 2020 HIGHLIGHTS



- Relaunched in-person programming in July 20, 2020 following the pandemic enforced closure in March
- Successfully transitioned from summer in-person programming to Fall reopening in September 2020
- Tomlinson Family Foundation Clubhouse placed in the Top 5 for an Eastern Ontario Employer's Choice award for providing many placements the prior year.



# 2020 HIGHLIGHTS



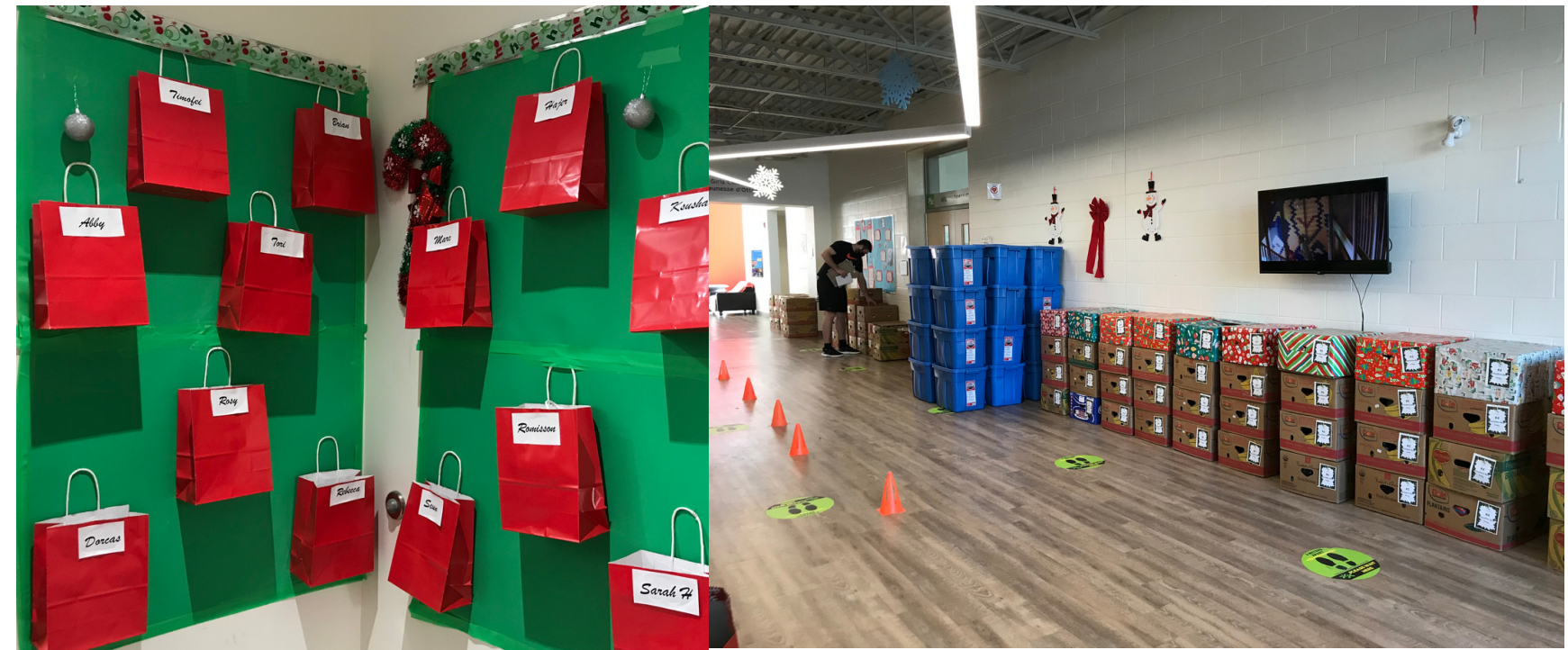
- 50 members attended an Ottawa Senators game at the Canadian Tire Centre (pre-COVID)
- Members participated in an Annual Halloween party (adhering to COVID protocols)
- Rugby Ottawa facilitated an activity on empowerment and personal development for members

- Members actively participated in *Pink T-shirt or Anti-Bullying Day* activities (pre-COVID)
- Placement students did presentations on various topics such as mental health and the power of privilege
- ~15 youth aged 14-18 participated virtually in the *Raise the Grade* program beginning in October 2020, benefitting from homework help and post-secondary school preparation



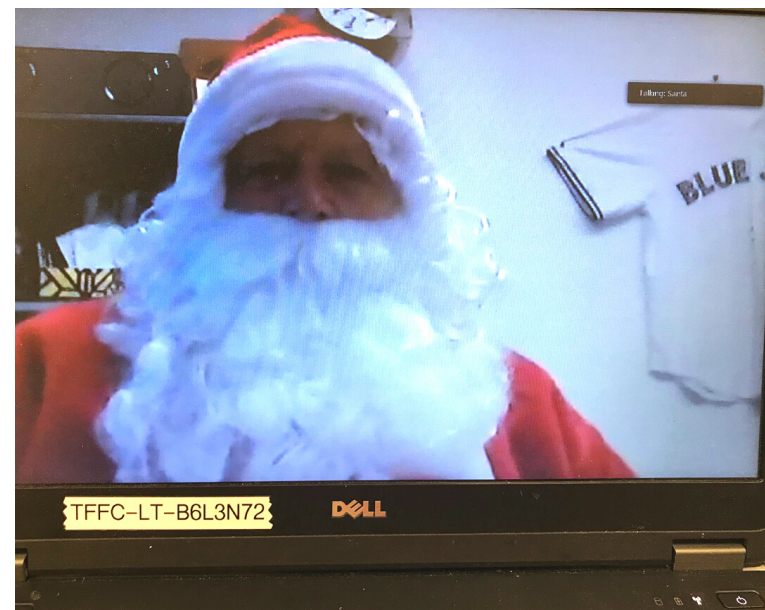
# 2020 HIGHLIGHTS

- Created or strengthened relationships with Carleton Heights and Area Residents Association; Nepean, Rideau, Osgoode Community Resource Centre; and St. Augustine's school
- We responded to the pandemic-enhanced needs of our communities by offering more than our regular programs and services. The clubhouse provided the following to members and their families :
  - 18 kits which included educational supplies, PPE, and community resource sheets
  - 45 Halloween packages that had special crafts in them for members
  - 200 Angel Tree Gifts
  - 72 Holiday Hampers



# 2020 HIGHLIGHTS

- Succeeded in filling two time-slots of *Basketball Skills & Drills* with senior members (12 members each). This helped to increase our numbers which had declined due to COVID-19
- Increased capacity for the *Art Now* program by adding a staff position to run a Dance program year round
- Launched several successful Virtual Programs throughout the year, including Dance Lessons, *Discovery Lab*, *Raise the Grade*, virtual Art, fitness, and more.
- Installed bleachers for sport viewing in anticipation of full resumption of sport programs



- Hosted a successful virtual Holiday Party for members with the Rochester Satellite location. Santa even showed up on Zoom!
- Members participated in a city-wide Holiday Card Exchange

# EVALUATING OUR IMPACT

The BGC Ottawa has been serving the Ottawa community for almost 100 years. Today, we follow an evidence-based and research-backed approach to give young people the best possible head start. Our four program pillars of Education, Physical Activity & Healthy Lifestyle, Leadership & Social Skills, and Creative Arts are proven to increase the chances that a child will thrive over the long term. We have a transparent evaluation methodology that allows us to improve our approach and monitor results continually. BGC Ottawa successfully completed a rigorous process in 2019 and achieved HIGH-FIVE evaluation credentials. We are committed to the highest standards of programming for children and youth. We use a *Positive Youth Development Framework* that identifies specific assets we seek to grow in the children and youth we serve.

According to a recent independently funded Canadian research study\* from January 2020, the Club approach makes a statistical difference and correlates with positive outcomes for kids.

Before beginning programs at the Clubhouse, members participated in a poll about their home life. The answers were revealing; 44% had a mom who was a teenager when she had her first baby, 49% had a mom who had seen a Doctor for a mood or anxiety disorder, and nearly 49% had received help from child and family services.

From these and other findings, we can see that Clubhouses are serving the children and youth most in need of programs. Members experience, sometimes for the first time, a safe and supportive after-school place away from potentially challenging home lives. The conclusions of the study backed up these claims. There were measurable improvements in education, health outcomes, and a reduction in justice system involvement. Your support of BGC Ottawa programming does change the lives of children and youth in our city, now and well into the future.

\*Enns, Jennifer. *Setting Kids on A Path to Success: Participation in Boys and Girls Clubs of Winnipeg*. Manitoba Centre for Health Policy. January 2020. \*\*Name changed to protect privacy of child.

**Participating in the Clubs was associated with doing well in math in grade 3 and being highly engaged in learning in grade 7 in a statistically significant way.**

**The more a young person participated in the Clubs, the lower their risk of having a teen pregnancy or getting an STI (Sexually Transmitted Infection).**



# MOVING FORWARD: OUR STRATEGIC GOALS (2019-2024)

**We have an ambitious vision to double our impact for children and youth in Ottawa by 2024.**

As part of our overall strategic approach, we are focused on the following high-impact areas:

- New programming focused on developing resilience and youth mental health.
- New initiatives to encourage entrepreneurship and employment for our members.
- Increasing our capacity for data usage and program evaluation.
- Extending hours to match the needs and interests of older youth.
- Securing new program locations through key partnerships.

## **Priority 1: Strong Community**

Be the premier child and youth services provider for vulnerable communities in Ottawa through high-quality engagement, evaluation, and program design and delivery. Focus on increased youth programs and access through new sites and partnerships, re-engagement of youth and alumni, increasing opportunities in employment, education through scholarships, trades, and entrepreneurship for youth.

## **Priority 2: Anti-Black Racism, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion**

We are committed to being an anti-racist organization that actively works in allyship with racialized and new Canadian Clubhouse members, and their families. We have developed an Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Action Plan that will increase our capacity to specifically address concerns of our diverse Black, Indigenous and People of Colour community.

## **Priority 3: Strong Clubs**

We are exploring and creating, foundational and innovative ways to support staff and members by building our technology systems, infrastructure, and revenue diversification for long-term sustainability.

## **Priority 4: Strong Voice**

We are building new, integrated communications and branding plans, with significant stakeholder engagement, so we can be best-in-class at communicating our mission and elevating our profile to multiple audiences. We commit to measuring our impact using a systematic, data-driven methodology.

## **Priority 5: Strong Together**

We are actively convening and engaging with all levels of government, partner organizations, and the BGC Canada to advocate on behalf of the needs of youth, and vulnerable neighbourhoods in Ottawa. We will expand program offerings in the areas of education and leadership, especially to attract older youth and increase positive impacts in their lives.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!**

