

More than half a million reasons to love CRIC

The Tottenham Community Recreation Improvement Committee (CRIC) is pleased to announce that CRIC has donated over half a million dollars to the Tottenham area to date. In addition to the numerous community groups and schools that receive ongoing financial support, CRIC has funded countless projects over the years. Some highlights include: Keogh Park/Tennis Courts lights (1980); Tottenham Tennis Courts resurfacing (1980, 1993, 1997, 1998, 2010); Tottenham Community Centre soccer field (1981); Tottenham Library Building Fund (1981-1983); Father F.X. O'Reilly track and soccer field (1984); Conservation Area Park Pavilion (1985); Tottenham Community Centre ball lights (1988); Tottenham Legion Building Fund (ongoing); Coventry Park baseball fields and Pavilion (1995-1996); Mel Mitchell Soccer Clubhouse (2009); Keogh Park re-build (2008), Tottenham Community Centre Kitchen Renovation (2012). CRIC is currently working on a number of new projects and the Committee welcomes ideas from the community.

CRIC Chair Wayne Caldwell is happy with the on-going success of CRIC since 1978. Tottenham has grown and changed a lot over the last 36 years and Caldwell acknowledges the continued support of the people in the community. "CRIC is a great organization and the Annual Car Draw and Dance is a great event. People who have lived in the Tottenham area for years know this. But the challenge has always been to educate the new people moving to Tottenham about CRIC and encourage them to support CRIC by buying a ticket and coming out to the Draw."

CRIC Secretary Chris Ross is most impressed with the generosity of the CRIC sponsors. "We have the best sponsors going. Last year CRIC gave away over \$40,000 in prizes at the Draw and this is possible because of the countless businesses that sponsor CRIC every year."

Tom Perry, Co-founder of CRIC, fondly remembers the day many years ago that he and Jay Feehely decided to hold a car draw to raise funds because the Town did not have the money to resurface the tennis courts and put in lights at Keogh Park. Both Perry and Feehely were involved in the community fundraising project that built the Tottenham Community Centre in 1977. "We needed an arena so we worked together as a community to build one. Then we needed lights at Keogh Park and the tennis courts needed to be resurfaced. So we did what had to be done" Tottenham pulled together again and raised the funds" said Perry. Feehely is happy with the succession of CRIC. "I'm glad that the children of the founding members have seen the value in CRIC, how it has helped build this community, and become supporters. To experience the satisfaction of running a successful event" or perhaps the relief" is so worthwhile" Feehely reflects. His daughter, Mary Nordstrom, is the current Vice Chair of CRIC. Perry and Feehely have since retired from the Committee after decades of dedicated service but continue to be huge CRIC supporters.

In the early days, the people of Tottenham always knew it was CRIC time again when the grand prize of the elimination draw" a brand new car" went on display in the Tottenham Mall. One of the best memories Kerry Worrod, a founding CRIC member, has about the early days of CRIC is a handful of members trying to get the car into the mall and positioned perfectly for ticket sales at 9 a.m. sharp every Saturday leading up to the draw. The 2015 CRIC Car Draw & Dance will take place on May 2, 2015 and tickets will go on sale early in the new year. Mark your calendar and get your tickets early! For more information about the projects, organizations and community groups that CRIC supports, or for more information about the 2015 CRIC Car Draw & Dance please visit the website www.tottenhamcric.ca and like CRIC on FB www.facebook.com/tottenhamcric