



**Boys & Girls Club  
of Niagara**

A good place to be



# 2010 Annual Report Summary

## Executive Director Remarks

50 years of service is truly worth celebrating. Celebrations were also in order to mark the beginning of construction on the New Niagara Falls Centre and the Opening of the Fort Erie Centre. It was a year to remember the many volunteers and staff who have worked over the years to ensure the accessible programs and services are available and the countless people in government, corporations and community organizations who continue to believe in and make a difference in the lives of children and youth.

**JoAnne Turner**  
Executive Director

## Mission Statement

**“To provide a safe, supportive place where children and youth can experience new opportunities, overcome barriers, build positive relationships and develop confidence and skills for life.”**

## Club Profile

The Boys & Girls Club of Niagara is part of a national movement with over seven hundred community locations throughout Canada. Together with the National and Regional offices the movement provides innovative and effective programs to assist in the healthy educational, social and physical development of Canadian children and youth. For over one-hundred years, professionally trained staff and dedicated community volunteers have helped hundreds of thousands of children and youth in safe supportive environments.

The Boys & Girls Club Model is more comprehensive than prevention, recreation or educational programs alone. The development approach offers children what research says is the most needed, relationships with positive role models (adults and peers), structure and safety, access to a diverse range of programs that include recreation, play and expression, opportunity for acquiring positive behaviours, self esteem and hope for the future.

## Core Values

### Inclusion & Opportunity:

We strive to offer children and youth from all economic, cultural and social backgrounds access to the resources, supports and opportunities that will enable them to overcome barriers and achieve their positive potential in life.

### Respect & Belonging:

We provide a safe, supportive place, where every child is listened to, respected and valued in an environment of inclusion and acceptance. Our staff and volunteers model honesty, fair play, positive attitude, cooperation and respect for self and others.

### Empowerment:

We believe all young people can grow into responsible, contributing and self-reliant members of society. Children and youth are at the centre of everything we do. Through adventure, play and discovery, we encourage and empower them to develop healthy lifestyles, a life-long passion for learning, leadership and life skills, and a sense of social responsibility.

### Collaboration:

We work together with families and volunteers in each community, in partnership with the public and private sector, to create healthy community solutions to providing children and youth with what they need for optimal development.

### Speaking Out:

We speak out on behalf of children, youth and their families to reduce disadvantage, enhance their lives and enable their voices and ideas to be heard.

- Our mandate is to serve children and youth – they are our ONLY priority in programming and fund allocation.
- The ability to participate is guaranteed – NO child is ever denied access.
- 98% of former members surveyed by Ipsos-Reid for Boys and Girls Clubs of Canada credited a particular staff member for developing, helping and supporting them.
- Programs are designed to create a continuum of opportunities that build leadership and character in every child throughout every stage of their life.

## President's Report

2010 marked the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Boys and Girls Club of Niagara. The year was one of celebration interspersed with milestones for children and youth.

Starting in January 2010, with the development of a new Strategic Plan, the Board, staff and volunteers moved forward with the most ambitious plans for one year, since the first centre was built in 1960.

Throughout the year, the community supported over 30 fundraising and celebration events region wide, to raise funds and awareness for the shelter, meals, leadership, transportation, life skills, afterschool, recreation and leisure programs and services so fundamentally needed in our community.

The quality of programs and services, especially the child and youth after school programs was described on many occasions by leadership across the region as “second to none”. Continually upgrading, staff launched an enhanced curriculum which was embraced by the Boys and Girls Clubs of Canada as a valued resource, May 2010.

The opening of the new Fort Erie Center, July 2010, extensively increased accessibility to programs and services, with child and youth membership across the region topping 5,222 and program members from the greater community at over 16,000.

March – December, Niagara Falls residents watched the tremendous headway made in the construction of the new and long awaited Niagara Falls Centre. Scheduled to open July 2011, the success of this project is shared by the entire community and will be a precious resource for many years to come.

These many accomplishments cannot be achieved by any organization alone. Unprecedented levels of funding and in-kind support from every level of government, many caring corporations and community organizations spanning over 8 municipalities made these 2010 milestones possible. The Niagara Region is truly a good place to be. Thank you on behalf of Niagara's children and youth.

Respectfully submitted by

William Walters

President

## Core Programs

**Membership Program** - 5,222 Children and Youth held full memberships in 2010. Children and youth of all ages are eligible for membership. The full cost of a membership is \$20.00 annually per child and \$50.00 annually per family in a Club Unit and \$5.00 annually in a Satellite Unit. A youth membership provides access to age specific Club Programs including gymnasium and aquatic activities, computer labs, craft areas and leadership development opportunities. No one is denied access due to financial constraints.

**Family Resource Programs** - Childcare programs licensed through the Ministry of Family and Children's Services offered from Niagara Falls provides families of preschool and school aged childcare programs with quality care from 7:00 am to as late as 10:00 pm. Meal programs provide nutritious snacks, breakfasts, lunches, and dinners. Transportation ensures accessibility. The Family Resource Centre offered in Niagara Falls provides families with opportunities to participate including Brighter Futures as well as linkages to many other community family support systems. Holiday Camp Programs offered from Niagara Falls, Fort Erie and St. Catharines provide Christmas Break, March Break and Summer Camps. Full day activities with during the school breaks.

**Sports and Recreation Programs** - Participation in recreation and physical activity is an important part of a child's overall physical and social development. Research suggests that these benefits can stretch well beyond childhood into adulthood. Sport and Recreation Programs for children and youth offered in Niagara Falls are delivered with the assistance of community partners to offer a seamless delivery approach. This program model opens opportunities for children to specialize in an area of their choice at a time of their choosing. Adventure Programs provided over 1,463 opportunities in programs that included Gymnastics, Golf, Jazz, Ballet, Karate, House Leagues, Hip Hop Dance, and Rock Climbing Courses. The Boys and Girls Club of Niagara is an authorized provider of Canadian Lifesaving Society. The variety of water activities for all ages includes a complete learn to swim program with the focus on Water Smart®. In 2010 there were 1,331 registrations in Swim Lessons, provided by certified instructors and guards. Over 250, Niagara youth benefited from attendance in the Leadership Programs. Programs included Aqualeaders, Bronze Star, Bronze Medallion and Bronze Cross, Emergency First Aid, Standard First Aid, National Lifeguard Service, Boat Operators, and Instructor's Courses.

**Outreach Programs** - Torch and Keystone Clubs are nationwide Boys and Girls Clubs of Canada programs that provide opportunities for children and youth to contribute to their local Club and community. Through volunteerism children and youth have the opportunity to influence programs and services, fundraise, participate in advocacy roles on Boards and Councils and qualify for Scholarship opportunities through the Future Leaders program. Weekly meetings are organized and supervised by our Club staff. This program is designed to give youth a place to make a difference. Shelter Programs are designed to provide temporary housing, shower and laundry facilities and meals for youth without secure housing. The average age of members is 17 -19 years of age. During the average stay of 10 days, Shelter and Regional staff work to support the youth in their efforts to secure affordable housing. In 2009 the shelter had 224 youth intakes.

**Transportation and Meal Services** - The transportation and meal services are a critical piece to accessibility. Without these programs, participation for many children and youth would be impossible. The Meal Services are available providing supper club for Zone program participants; three meals daily for childcare and shelter participants; and nutritious breakfasts and snacks for Before and After School participants. Staff and volunteers served an average of 828 meals and snacks weekly to children and youth throughout the Region. Utilizing a fleet of vehicles, Transportation Services are provided to increase access to the Kids Zone Programs, Teen Zone Programs, Childcare Programs, and Shelter services. In 2010, children and youth received an average of 644 rides weekly.

**Community Programs** - Working in partnership with several organizations, the Boys and Girls Club of Niagara created opportunities for an estimated 16,307 members of the community. Programs were accessed primarily at the Culp Street location, where program space was utilized to provide diverse programs to meet public needs. The community participated in aquatic programs, recreational and educational programs and special event activities. In partnership with the District School Board of Niagara, the Boys and Girls Club housed two Alternative Education Programs at the Culp Street location. These programs are designed to provide youth the opportunity to earn credits toward reaching their high school diploma. In partnership with the Niagara Catholic District School Board, the Boys and Girls Club of Niagara operated a satellite site for the Ontario Early Years Programs. The Club continued a successful partnership of 10 years with the Ministry of Community, Youth Justice Services to work with youth through the Community Service Order Program. Staff provide leadership and assist the youth with completing their required community work.



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## Past Presidents

- 1959 – 1960 R.G. Christopher
- 1960 – 1961 R.G. Christopher
- 1961 – 1962 R.S. Griffin
- 1962 – 1963 D. Elsley
- 1963 – 1964 F.C. Cullimore
- 1964 - 1965 B.L. Walker
- 1965 – 1966 J.P. Matthews, Q.C.
- 1966 – 1967 A.A. MacBain
- 1967 – 1968 A.H. Neal
- 1968 – 1969 D.E. Nash
- 1969 – 1970 Rev. H.B. Stokreef
- 1970 – 1971 G.E. Martin
- 1971 – 1972 K.H. Lindsay
- 1972 – 1973 J.G. Hallworth
- 1973 – 1974 C.W. Wasbinder
- 1974 – 1975 Archdeacon N. Standish
- 1975 – 1976 Emma Bearss
- 1976 – 1977 W.M. G. Overs
- 1977 – 1978 Vin Johns
- 1978 – 1979 Paisley Janvary
- 1979 – 1980 Donald G. Robertson
- 1980 – 1981 Brian Merrett
- 1981 – 1982 George Bailey
- 1982 – 1983 George Bailey
- 1983 – 1984 Glenn Gandy
- 1984 – 1985 Nicholas Minov
- 1985 – 1986 Glenn Gandy
- 1986 – 1987 Glenn Gandy
- 1987 – 1988 Paul Heath
- 1988 – 1989 Don Graham
- 1989 – 1990 Bob Gale Jr.
- 1990 – 1991 John Sirianni
- 1991 – 1992 Patricia Weston
- 1992 – 1993 Jim Rocca
- 1993 – 1994 Don Graham
- 1994 – 1995 Dennis Bowers
- 1995 – 1996 Dennis Bowers
- 1996 – 1997 Brian Pellow
- 1997 – 1998 Brian Pellow
- 1998 – 1999 Bill Walters
- 1999 – 2000 Bill Walters
- 2000 – 2001 John Russell
- 2001 – 2002 John Russell
- 2002 – 2003 Larry Warden
- 2003 – 2004 Larry Warden
- 2004 – 2005 Dan Nywening
- 2005 – 2006 Dan Nywening
- 2006 – 2007 Sharon Salci
- 2007–2008 Elaine Wallis
- 2008 – 2009 Elaine Wallis
- 2009 – 2010 Bill Walters
- 2010 – 2011 Bill Walters

## REACHING MORE CHILDREN AND YOUTH

### 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations

The Boys and Girls Club reached a major milestone in 2010, celebrating 50 years of serving Niagara's children and youth. Sponsored by the Tim Hortons Owners of the Niagara Region, 7 celebrations were held from July – November 2010. To mark the occasion Club child and youth members released 50 balloons containing 50 club memberships hoping they made their way to deserving youth. The final celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary the Boys and Girls Club of Niagara was hosted at the Culp Street centre, Niagara Falls which would be the last event held at the Club before the programs and serves are relocated to the New Niagara Falls Centre on McLeod Road...

### New Niagara Falls Centre

The Boys and Girls Club of Niagara held a ground breaking ceremony March 2010 to launch the construction of a new Niagara Falls Centre at 8800 McLeod Road, Niagara Falls. The new centre will replace the aging facility on Culp Street and provide sufficient space for growth to meet the future needs of Niagara. The \$12 million project is supported by both the federal and provincial governments with matching funds from the City of Niagara Falls and the Boys and Girls Club. The 41,000 sq ft facility will house the City's first indoor 25 meter, 6 lane pool, a double gymnasium and several activity spaces and is scheduled to open its doors July 2011 for summer camp programs.

### Grand Opening Fort Erie Centre

The Boys and Girls Club of Niagara with the assistance of grants from the Ontario Trillium Foundation, the United Way of Niagara Falls and Fort Erie and the Boys and Girls Club of Niagara Foundation made significant improvement to the building at 20 Lewis Street, Fort Erie. Upon completion of renovations a Grand opening was held July 2010. The building currently houses offices for the Boys and Girls Club, Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Fort Erie and the Friendship Festival and a community centre supporting 600 children and youth.

## Board of Directors 2010/2011

### Executive Committee

President	Bill Walters
Vice President Operations	Blake Merritt
Vice President Human Resources	Tim Sirianni
Vice President Programs	Louise Murphy
Past President	Elaine Wallis

### Directors

Peter Conradi	Dan Nywening
Sandy Hetherington	Margaret Pirosko
Flory Massi	Richard Slater
Diane McLean	Shannon Valenti
Carrie Morris	Larry Warden
Carolynn Ioannoni (City of Niagara Falls)	
Barbara Greenwood (Boys and Girls Club of Niagara Foundation)	



Now more than ever...

## Volunteers

In 2010, 804 adults and youth committed 3,670 combined volunteer hours to programs and fundraising events. These dedicated individuals offered their services to run specialty programs, cook for the Supper Club and supervise various program areas. Fundraising volunteers assisted with many events including the Golf Tournaments, Bonspiels, Partners in the Sky and other various initiatives.

## Outstanding Contributors 2010

### Builders - Leaders

Boys & Girls Club of Niagara Foundation	City of Niagara Falls	City of St. Catharines	Government of Canada	Kiwanis Club of Stamford	Ontario Trillium Foundation	Niagara Prosperity Initiative	Province of Ontario	Regional Municipality of Niagara	River Realty Inc.	United Way of Niagara Falls and Greater Fort Erie
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### Partners and Champions

Boys & Girls Clubs of Canada	Canadian Niagara Power Inc	CIBC	COGECO TV	Crystal Beach Public School	Estate of Annie Kathleen Haine	Giant Tiger	Intact Foundation TV	Meridian Credit Union	Maid of the Mist Steamboat Company Ltd.
Niagara College	Niagara Peninsula Energy Inc.	Port Colborne Hydro Inc.	RBC Foundation	Rotary Club of Niagara Falls	Salit Steel	Tim Hortons Owners of the Niagara Region	Vince Kerrio	Walker Industries	Young's Insurance Brokers

### Benefactors

Al Reid Memorial Tournament	Bill & Barbara Greenwood	Bill Roach & Anne Pederson	Bruce Henning	Canadian Fraternal Association	Canadian Tire Foundation for Families	Casino Niagara	Centennial Fish and Game Club	Chippawa Lions Club	Dumont's Specialty Meats	Durward Jones Barkwell & Co. LLP
EllisDon Corporation	Gales Gas Bars LTD.	Foodland	Gord & JoAnne Turner	HOCO Ltd.	Independent Order of Foresters	In Memory of Lloyd and Betty Kirkby	Johnny Rocco's Italian Grill	The Keg Spirit Foundation	Lions Club of Niagara Falls	The McLean Family
Niagara Falls Community Outreach	Niagara Falls Review	Part Source	Princess Margaret Public School	Rev. Monsignor Vincent J. Ferrando	Sears Canada	Sleep Country Canada	SportChek	Stamford Lions Club	Telus Corporation	Vic Teso Memorial Tournament