

## CPCC celebrates 30 years of service to Caledon families

Caledon Parent-Child Centre (CPCC) marks an important milestone Nov. 27, as it celebrates 30 years of service to the families of Caledon.

CPCC began as a grass-roots response to a fire that claimed the life of a caregiver and the children in her care. An inquest into the tragedy later revealed that support services for those caring for young children in Caledon were insufficient. Originally, it was not known how an organization offering supports to young families would be received, as at the time, the public was more familiar with resources which offered programming aimed directly at the children in the community. CPCC's model of focusing on supporting the parents and childcare providers first and then, through them, the children in their care was trend-setting.

Incorporated in 1989, CPCC became an independent charitable organization and over the years, grew from a toy-lending library and drop-in centre for less than 40 families to a full-service family resource centre and Ontario Early Years Centre.

'We had quite humble beginnings,' CPCC Program Manager Ailsa Stanners-Moroz noted with a smile. 'On November 27th, 1987, we arrived at the Alton Legion with little more than a van, an assortment of toys and a firm commitment to serving Caledon's young families and caregivers. We've grown and changed along with the needs of our community and we are now seeing second and third generation CPCC families come through our doors. I'm incredibly proud to say we have lived up to our tag line of 'Strengthening Families for a Brighter Tomorrow.' That initial vision and commitment to supporting the young families and caregivers in Caledon has never changed or diminished.'

In the last year, close to 4,300 parents, caregivers and children were supported through a variety of free programs and services that strengthen families and offers early learning experiences that encourage healthy and optimal child development.

'We are very fortunate that our Centre has a long history of bringing together individuals who are passionate and committed to our work,' CPCC Executive Director Teresa Colasanti said. 'They are true champions of children and families. I would like to express our sincere appreciation to our team - past and present - for three decades of supporting families and nurturing generations of children.'

CPCC is holding a 30th anniversary celebration at the CPCC's main site (Albion Bolton Community Centre) Nov. 27. In addition to regular family time drop-in all day long, the morning will feature a variety of celebration themed children's activities, including a story time with popular children's author Carolyn J. Morris, cupcake decoration and more. From 5 to 7 p.m., a meet-and-greet reception and cake cutting will be held and the entire community is invited.

For detailed information, call CPCC at 905-857-0090.