

Realtor Rocky Punia set for fourth annual barbecue fundraiser

By **KATHRYN FRASER**

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Rocky Punia, also known as Rocky da Realtor, is back and hosting his 4th Annual BBQ Fundraiser on September 19.

The event will take place at Dennison Park from 2 ? 7.30 p.m., where it has been hosted since its inception.

Punia and his wife, Neetu Singh, first came up with the idea after their family moved to Caledon in 2020 and they wanted to do something to get more involved in the community.

From starting with only a few members the first year to having close to a thousand attendees last year, Punia says he has seen how the community support around this event has truly grown.

All funds from the event will be donated to Sick Kids Hospital in Toronto.

Punia feels grateful to have the support of residents and to be able to get to connect with members of the community.

One group that Punia feels especially grateful for is their church, Kennedy Road Tabernacle as they play a large part in supporting the barbecue.

Many volunteers from both the church, Southfields and other communities have helped over the years and are part of the large success that the barbecue has become.

?This event wouldn't be possible without volunteers who are instrumental to the success of the event. We've got 30 volunteers from our church alone, Kennedy Road Tabernacle. They go to the barbeque, the barbeque is all taken care of, and then we got family and friends that have [contributed] their time to be a volunteer,? says Punia. ?We also got members of the Southfields community, who have volunteered to be a part of this event. It's been massive with all the volunteers.?

From prizes, DJs, games, a kid's zone, live entertainment to free food and drinks, there is something for everyone at the event and all are invited to attend.

Following the barbecue, the Town of Caledon will host Movies in the Park starting at 8 p.m. They will be showing Zootopia 2 for all those interested in staying.

Looking towards the event, Punia says he is hopeful that members of the community will come out to not only support those in need but to also have fun and enjoy themselves.

?I think the biggest thing is when everybody comes together, when people say it takes a village to raise a child, it takes a whole community, a whole city, to help those in need. So, we come together, as one human race, and we just put our resources together, we can make a positive impact in this in this world and community?, says Punia.

Punia and Singh hope that the barbecue will continue for many more years to come, will continue to create more partnerships, and they will be guided by faith in their work.

?None of this would be possible without God. With God all things are possible. So, if God wants us to continue doing this, which, we've continued putting in work, you can put this effort, into making this happen, and bringing the right community members, and

the right partners, to be a part of this initiative, then this will definitely continue for as long as we can,? says Punia.