

Rotary collecting hockey equipment for First Nations

The Rotary Club of Palgrave is again joining forces with Rotarians in Etobicoke to collect gently used hockey equipment to send to First Nations young people in remote northern Ontario communities.

The clubs were involved in this collection last year, and they were able to send equipment to two schools in northern Ontario. Rotarian Susan Hicks said last year's efforts were very successful.

And the young recipients of the equipment were appreciative too.

'We were sent back a jersey that had been signed by a bunch of the students with 'Thank -you's', their names and a few player numbers too,' she reported. 'It was quite moving to read it and know what a difference it made to them.'

'This year our goal is to reach many more schools than the two we gave to last year, but we are asking the schools we gave to if they need anything more, so they know we will still be there for them,' she added. 'We want them to know it's not just a one-time gift and then we disappear. The children need to know we care.'

She added they are hoping people in the community will start their own mini drives and add them to the Rotary efforts.

Contributions can be dropped off at the barn of Rotarian Bernie Rochon at 17350 Highway 50 (use sliding door entrance) until Dec. 15.

For more information, contact Hicks at 416-417-4479.