

Accès Hockey Access

Annual Report 2010-2011



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Message from the President

Hockey Access has now completed its third year of operation and we are experiencing growth pains; most likely a very normal sequence of events for a not-for-profit organization. Although the number of kids we are helping is increasing, our volunteer base is experiencing a bit of exhaustion. With increasing equipment donations comes inventory and logistical challenges. Hockey Access needs to find warehousing space in order to better organize its operations. This will be an operational priority for the upcoming year.

The potential for expansion in the greater Gatineau region exists but until we fix our warehousing issue we will delay further developments.

Hockey Access continued to register kids into the Aylmer Minor Hockey Association (AHMA) as well as the City of Gatineau Recreational program. Both programs are perfect fits in our mission to help and encourage underprivileged Aylmer children and youth to play hockey by providing them with financial and material support.

The community continues to be extremely generous by providing more used equipment to our organization. There is no doubt that without that support our mission would be a difficult one. I must say that personally I am always amazed at the generosity of our community. Worthy of mentioning is the donations received from AHMA teams left with budget surpluses. Both parents and kids of these teams take it upon themselves to donate these surpluses knowing full well that they could use it for other personal purposes. The fact that they decide to forego personal gain to help those in need is quite impressive.

Our board of directors remained stable this year. The time and energy these individuals devote to the cause is remarkable considering the fact that they too have kids and busy lives. A warm thanks to them and all the other volunteers involved in the organization.

New for the organization this year is a Board of Director's and Liability Insurance, a necessary precaution for the future.

Financially the organization continues to carry a positive balance and operates in a fiscally responsible manner. We look forward to developing new partnerships that will enable us to continue growing and helping more youth.

Finally, although we have a formal mission statement, a comment we quite often make amongst ourselves is that if through the years we can make a difference for just one kid by enabling him or her to find an outlet to make friends, develop new skills and to basically have **fun**, in an otherwise difficult environment, we will have reached our goal.

Steve Goodwin

President, **Hockey Access**

Hockey Access Presentation

Hockey Access is a three-year-old organization that has already helped close to 200 children and youth from underprivileged families enjoy the game of hockey.

Hockey Access started when four hockey dads, passionate about the game and very aware that their own children were fortunate to be able to practice a sport where they not only learned the game but made many new friends and experienced many great things, discussed how it would be nice to be able to make a difference in the lives of less fortunate children. These four fathers also realized that they, and many other hockey parents, had a substantial amount of used hockey equipment sitting in their homes. Thus was founded **Hockey Access**. We serve the Aylmer community located in the Outaouais region of Quebec and hope to continue to increase the number of families and children/youth that we help introduce to the wonderful sport of hockey, an activity that may someday be their buoy in life.

Hockey Access has been created to help underprivileged families participate in organized hockey and allow them to live a rewarding group sport experience. During its first three years of operation, **Hockey Access** supplied used and new hockey equipment to several kids from underprivileged families. **Hockey Access** also provided for the Aylmer Minor Hockey Association registration fees and, for some of the children, team fees.

Mission

Hockey Access' mission is the following:

To help and encourage underprivileged Aylmer children and youth to join the local organized hockey league by providing them with financial and material support.

Target Population

Underprivileged children and youth residing in Aylmer.

Overall Goal

Our overall goal is to help as many underprivileged children and youth of the Aylmer community overcome the financial constraints that prevent them from playing hockey. More specifically, we wish to help them join the Aylmer Minor Hockey Association (AMHA) and recreational hockey by providing them with financial and material support.

Values

At **Hockey Access**, we believe that there should be no financial barriers to playing hockey. All kids, irrespective of their family's economic situation, should be given an opportunity to participate in an organized hockey league.

We also believe in the value of organized sports activities for health and for the social development of children and youth. Hockey can contribute to individual valorization, to an increased sense of belonging, and to the creation of solid friendships. All these elements are essential to healthy child development.

What Makes This Project Unique?

Hockey Access is the only organization in the region offering this type of support (i.e. providing not only equipment to play but also financial support to cover costs related to hockey). We have already been approached to expand our coverage outside of the Aylmer community to other areas of the Outaouais region.

We also believe that what makes this project unique is the fact that each one of us is directly involved in minor hockey (either as a parent, a coach, a team manager or a combination of these roles) and has a very clear understanding of the costs involved and the equipment required, i.e. of the potential barriers for children and youth of low-income families. Not only is this project unique because of our direct involvement, but also because we maintain that involvement throughout the hockey season by keeping track of the participants' development as the season progresses.

Our ultimate dream is to keep encouraging these young people to pursue hockey for as long as possible and perhaps thus giving them a source of happiness, belonging, friendship and a solid foundation to build upon for the rest of their lives.

Team

Here are the people who form the **Hockey Access** team:

President	Steve Goodwin
Treasurer	Luc Boyer
Vice-President	Jean Delisle
Secretary	Conrad Venne
Special Projects	Aline Trudeau
Special Projects	Rick Toppa

Many more volunteers helped the above team from time to time and we want to thank them all for their contribution.

Operations

Hockey Access must accomplish two main tasks to fulfill its mission:

- raise funds to help young people financially;
- assemble and maintain a hockey equipment inventory.

Funds are essential to buy new equipment and to pay for association and team fees.

Hockey equipment is not given to young people but rather lent to optimize use. **Hockey Access** participants receive equipment for the season while participants in the Recreational Hockey Program (RHP) receive equipment every time they play hockey and return it right after.

To build the hockey equipment inventory required for our operations, **Hockey Access** collects used equipment in a special container located at the Duchesnay arena in Aylmer. Some new equipment is also purchased with funds raised by the organization.

Hockey Access operations include the following activities:

- Collection of used equipment
- Cleaning and repair of used equipment
- Assembly of complete equipment sets
- Equipment loan management
- Fundraising and finding partners
- Other administrative tasks required by the organization



Year 2010-2011 Activities

In this chapter, we present Year 2010-2011 objectives and main activities.

Year 2010-2011 Objectives

- Organize the collection of hockey equipment
- Start collecting equipment
- Store equipment appropriately
- Dress and register 10 to 20 kids in the Aylmer Minor Hockey Association (AMHA)
- Dress and register 30 to 60 kids in the City of Gatineau Recreational Hockey Program
- Establish partnerships
- Find sponsorships
- Advertize **Hockey Access** to the Aylmer community
- Obtain a Board of Director's and Liability Insurance Policy

Year 2010-2011 Main Activities

- 19 players dressed and registered with the Aylmer Minor Hockey Association (AMHA)
- 47 players dressed and participated in the City of Gatineau Recreational Hockey Program (RHP)
- Substantial collection of equipment
- Hockey Access now has a Board of Director's and Liability Insurance

Equipment

- A large-sized container located inside Duchesnay arena was emptied 6 times during the year.

Partnerships

NHLPA, Ottawa Senators, Aylmer 30+ Hockey League, AHMA, City of Gatineau, Youth Centers, Canadian Tire Foundation, True Sport Foundation

Sponsorships

Hockey Wash, 3M.

2010-2011 Income Statement

Opening Balance at 1 April 2010	\$7,884.78
Revenue (1 April 2010 to 31 March 2011)	\$3,948.81
Expenses (1 April 2010 to 31 March 2011)	\$4,264.98
Net Income (Loss)	(\$316.17)
Closing Balance as of 31 March 2011	\$7,568.61

Vision for 2011-2012

Hockey Access is in dire need of a better place to store its inventory. This will need to be resolved sooner than later.

Operational Objectives

- Find a good location to store the collected equipment

Major Risks and Potential Hurdles

Rapid growth is still the biggest risk for the organization at the moment. Currently, the whole organization is run by volunteers with limited time and resources. Increasing demand and increased visibility will likely require more effort to ensure the organization's success.

Annex 1: Hockey Access in the Media



Accès Hockey : un programme pour aider les jeunes démunis à obtenir de l'équipement de hockey

Entrevue du mardi 26 janvier 2010

Accès Hockey : un programme pour aider les jeunes démunis à obtenir de l'équipement de hockey

Il y a trois ans, quatre papas de Gatineau ont décidé d'unir leurs forces pour permettre à des enfants de leur communauté de jouer au hockey. Ils ont recueilli de l'équipement de hockey usagé qu'ils ont remis à des enfants de milieu défavorisé désirant ardemment pratiquer ce sport. Cette année, c'est une soixantaine de jeunes âgés de 6 et 12 ans qui ont bénéficié de l'aide des papas d'Accès Hockey. Steve Goodwin président de cette association nous parle de cette initiative.

[javascript:RadioCanada.Lib.oSrc.oPlusX.toggleHelp\('0'\);](javascript:RadioCanada.Lib.oSrc.oPlusX.toggleHelp('0');)

Annex 2 : Support Letters



Association du Hockey Mineur d'Aylmer

C.P. 501, Bureau chef, Gatineau (Québec) J9H 5E7

Tuesday February 24 2009,

**Re: Access Hockey
NHLPA Goals & Dreams**

To whom it may concern,

The AHMA has assisted the Access Hockey program since its public unveiling.

The AHMA supports Access Hockey in its common goal and provides a positive reference in their application to your program.

If your organization requires additional information, I can be contacted either by email at registraire.ahma@gmail.com or on my cell at 613-295-3517.

Sincerely,

Mark Martin
Secretary/Registrar AHMA
(819) 685-1810
registraire.ahma@gmail.com



February 25, 2009

National Hockey League Players Association
20, Bay Street
Suite 1700
Toronto, ON
M5J 2N8

SUBJECT: Support - Access Hockey Program

The City of Gatineau is proud to support the Access Hockey Program.

Since last year, the Aylmer Youth Center has been involved by helping the volunteers make this program a success story.

We believe that the Access Hockey Program answers all the selection criteria of The National Hockey League Players Association.

If additional information is needed, do not hesitate to contact me.

Luc Gélinas

Aylmer Community Services for Sports & Leisure
City of Gatineau
gelinas.luc@gatineau.ca



Dear Steve,

On behalf of the members of the National Hockey League Players' Association (NHLPA), it is my pleasure to inform you that your organization, Hockey Access, will receive 25 complete sets of hockey equipment from **NHLPA Goals & Dreams**. This donation is worth approximately \$15,000 – an amount NHLPA Members are proud to invest in this organization because of your commitment to helping children participate in the great sport of hockey in the province of Quebec.

Please read through the attached Grant Recipient Information Letter and notify us of your plans to publicize this equipment donation from **Goals & Dreams** - whether through an event, the media or any other initiatives.

Since its inception in 1999, the **NHLPA Goals & Dreams** fund has been successful in contributing more than \$17-million to grassroots hockey programs around the world. The players' program has donated more than 9,000 complete sets of hockey equipment to deserving children in 18 different countries.

Please fill out the attached equipment sizing form and send to Michelle Stajan at michellestajan@nhlpa.com and return before June 1, 2008, in order to receive the equipment.

Please feel free to contact either of us with any questions that may arise.

Best Regards,

Devin Smith
Director, Marketing & Community Relations
Chairman, NHLPA Goals & Dreams
National Hockey League Players' Association (NHLPA)
Direct: 416.313.2381 / Fax: 416.313.2301
devinsmith@nhlpa.com



Congratulations, the True Sport Foundation and the J.W. McConnell Family Foundation are pleased to inform you that your application for a True Sport Community Fund grant in the amount of \$5000 has been accepted. We are contacting you directly as the applicant and will give you the honour of sharing this wonderful news with your group/program.

**** Please note that the official announcement of these grants will take place in February of 2010. In the interim we would appreciate it if you keep this information confidential so as not to impact the official announcement plans.***

Annex 3 : Awards



MÉRITE ORGANISME DE LOISIR COMMUNAUTAIRE OU SPORTIF

RECONNAISSANCE DES BÉNÉVOLES 2009 - SECTEUR AYLNER

Cette catégorie s'adressent aux organismes qui, par la création d'un événement ou d'un programme d'activités, ont contribué à l'avancement du loisir communautaire ou sportif dans le secteur Aylmer. Ils auront ainsi fait accroître la reconnaissance du loisir communautaire ou sportif dans la région. Les attributs d'accessibilité, de qualité, d'innovation, d'importance et d'excellence sont les critères principaux de sélection.

Félicitations

Accès Hockey Access