



**Big Brothers  
Big Sisters**  
OF SAINT JOHN

# 2019 Annual Report & Annual General Meeting

## Vision

*All young  
people  
realize their  
full potential*



## Mission Statement

*To enable  
life-changing  
mentoring  
relationships  
to ignite the  
power and  
potential of  
young people*

### Saint John Office:

Third Level  
Brunswick Square  
39 King Street  
Saint John, NB  
E2L 4W3  
506 635-1145



**United Way**  
Saint John, Kings  
& Charlotte  
Funded Partner

## Judge Tom Bell Award recipient:

*Sarah Winchester*



*'Awarded  
annually for  
exceptional  
dedication to  
**volunteering**'*

Sarah is a  
Big Sister  
and Go Girls!  
Mentor in  
Saint John  
since 2014.

## George Hitchcock Award

*'Awarded annually for youth to  
attend summer camp or  
pursue an educational interest'*



*Janhea Hogan*



*Brooklyn Vincent*

## Meeting Agenda: Tuesday, June 16, 2019

1. Call to Order  
Acknowledgements **Debbie Cooper**
2. Chairperson and Secretary Named  
**Debbie Cooper**
3. Meeting Duly Constituted  
(Reading Notice of Meeting)  
Executive Director **Laurie Collins**
4. Quorum (1/3 of Board Members: 5)
5. Approval of Minutes 2019  
Secretary **Emily Teed**
6. Executive Reports & Approvals:
  - a. President's Report  
**Debbie Cooper**
  - b. Executive Director's Report  
**Laurie Collins**
  - c. Treasurer's Report  
**Matthew Wegener**
7. Appointment of Accountants 2020  
**Matthew Wegener**
8. Election of Directors  
**Cindy Millett**
9. Mentoring Success Story
10. Presentation of Awards:
  - **Judge Tom Bell Award**
  - **George Hitchcock Award**
11. Special Presentations
12. New Business
13. Adjournment

## Youth Served in Big Brothers Big Sisters Programs 2019

### Youth Served in Mentoring Programs 253

Youth Served in Other Programs 93  
Volunteer Mentors 196

### One-On-One Core Programs:

Little Brothers 12  
Little Sisters 28  
In-School Mentees 45  
In-School Teen Mentees 58

### Group and Waiting List Programs:

Game On! (Boys) 12  
Go Girls! 100  
Extended Length Go Girls! 8  
MENTOR Links 46

### Summer Day Camps - BIG Adventure,

Kids 'n Kops, Code Makers 26

### Post-Secondary & Career Readiness

PROPEL Program: 47

## BBBS Saint John Board of Directors 2019-2020

### Board Executive

#### President:

**Debbie Cooper,**  
Retired: Boys and  
Girls Club

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President:

**Leah Straight,**  
IG Wealth

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President:

**John Theriault 2020**  
Irving Oil

#### Treasurer:

**Matthew Wegener,**  
UNB Saint John

#### Secretary:

**Emily Teed,**  
Dept. of Social  
Development

#### Past President:

**Niki Comeau,**  
Simonds High School

Volunteer  
Milestones  
2019 ★

*Congratulations  
and Thank You!*

#### 5 Years

Teena Brown  
Sharon Dunkley  
Kate Ellis  
Ashley Grant  
Macdonald  
Sarah Winchester

#### 10 Years

Mark Downey  
Cathy Halstead  
Jennifer Hunter  
Sandra McGowan  
David Moffatt  
Leah Straight  
John Theriault  
Ted Weaire

#### Notable Milestones (June 2020)

#### 15 Years

Niki Comeau  
Paul Maillet

#### 25 Years

Cindy Millett

#### 33 years

Betty Hitchcock

### Board of Directors

**Susan Eisner,**

Credit Counselling Services of Atlantic Canada

**Betty Hitchcock,** Retired Nurse

**Andrew Holmes,** ICS Creative Agency

**Jim Jordan,** Retired Executive (2019)

**Cindy Millett,** Irving Oil

**Erin MacKenney,** Saint John Learning Exchange

**Paulette Nickerson,** Aviva

**Norah Surcon,** RBC Quispamsis

**Jeff Williams,** Comeau's Sea Foods Ltd.

#### Honorary Life Members

**Darrell Scribner,** Retired Police Detective

**Robert Vincent,** Stewart McKelvey

## Agency Staff in 2019

Executive Director **Laurie Collins ★★**

Mentoring Coordinators **Kimberly Fawkes**

**Lori Hall**

**Meagin Huisman ★**

**Charlene Perry**

**Amy Tanner ★**

**Sarah Taylor-Weeks**

Special Projects Coordinator

**Rhoda Welshman**

Office Manager

**Patricia Chareka**

Summer Grant Students **Erin Acheson**

**Gregory Kean**

**Emily Lodge**

**Will von Richter**



*L to R: Our students: Gregory, Will, Erin and Emily*



*Our staff L to R: Charlene, Meagin, Amy, (Santa), Kim, Laurie and Rhoda host the Agency Christmas Party.*

## 2019 Agency Activities

### January-February

- National Mentoring Month
- The Chamber – Hosted Monthly Mixer
- Winterfest
- 3rd Annual 'Dress Down for a Big Cause' Day
- Canada Jobs Fair
- Strategic Planning Session
- New Office Space Painting and Move In

### March-April

- ASDS Mental Health Expo (many locations)
- Big Brew – Round One
- Amazeatorium
- Big Deals Night
- McDonalds McHappy Day
- Uptown Shop the Block

### May-June

- Bowl for Kids' Sake Events
- Day on the Hill (Ottawa)
- Tim Horton's Camp Day
- NB Soap Box Derby
- BIG Book Sale Collections
- Annual General Meeting
- In-School Mentoring and Go Girls! Closing Parties
- BBBSC National Convention
- Ticklebelly Hill Barn Party
- Community Foundation Anniversary Grant Luncheon
- 'Teens Who Care' Awards

### July-August

- Summer Day Camps (BIG Adventure Camps, Kids 'n Kops, Code Makers Camp)
- 14<sup>th</sup> Annual BIG Book Sale and Collections
- Summer Family BBQ
- Annual Martinon Boat Trip
- Boxing for Bigs Event

### September-October

- National Big Brothers Big Sisters Day/Month
- In-School Mentoring & Group programs begin
- National Rebrand Awareness Campaign
- Big Brew Round 2
- Grant Thornton Making Steps Count Walk
- Halloween Karaoke: Matches & Mentor Links
- St. Stephen Chamber Breakfast: Premier Higgs
- BBBSC National Board Reception, NS

### November-December

- 3rd Annual Inspire Mentoring Awards
- United Way Luncheon
- BBBS Atlantic Regional Conference, NS
- Canadian Women's Foundation Meetings, MB
- Agency Christmas Party
- Board/Staff Holiday Dinner
- Uptown Sparkles and Gingerbread Trail
- Holiday Gift Wrapping Campaign
- Propel Level One Graduation (2<sup>nd</sup> intake)
- Scotiabank 'Day of Caring'

## President's Report



*Debbie Cooper  
President,  
Board of  
Directors*

*"I look forward to continuing my involvement as Past President on the Board, a Big Sister and an In-School Mentor."*

Time waits for no-one and my second year as Board President has flown by this past year and will end in June, 2020. To say the least, it has been a fast two terms, full of opportunities, growth and change. I look forward to continuing my involvement as Past President on the board, a Big Sister and an In-School Mentor.

**Gratitude:** a sincere and heartfelt expression of deep appreciation and Thanks to the following for their dedicated and committed service and volunteerism to the children and youth of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Saint John.

**J.D. Irving, Ltd., Mr. James K. Irving and Deborah Fisher** – Your undying commitment to BBBS and Bowl for Kids Sake cannot be overstated for the sustainability of mentoring for children and youth. Our deepest condolences to Mr. Irving and family with the passing of **Mrs. Jean Irving**. Her brilliant Light will continue to glow to enlighten the children whom she so loved. Thank you.

**Volunteers, Each and Every One:** We could not positively affect hundreds of children and youth without you. Thank you.

**Laurie Collins and Staff Team:** for their kindness, caring, professionalism, and fantastic commitment to affecting change in the lives of children and youth through mentoring programs and for their sincere compassion on display in all situations. Thank you.

**The Board of Directors:** comprised of a diverse range of talents and skills from the communities served, which collaborated on governance, fiscal oversight, accreditation policies and procedures, fundraising and

strategic planning. Thank you.

**Donors, Funders, Corporate Sponsors, Supporters:** your financial and in-kind contributions fund mentoring programs and services for children and youth in schools, community-based matches, group-based programs, and special events such as the Annual Yacht Trip, and so very much more. Thank you.

**Program Partners:** including schools, child and youth serving agencies, local businesses who allow employees time to volunteer as in-school mentors or group program mentors, activity partners who host group activities or who provide tickets or group discounts for Bigs & Littles. Thank you.

**Cindy Millett:** on behalf of a very grateful Board, we want to recognize and express our deepest appreciation. You have graciously been involved with the agency for 25 years. Cindy began her volunteerism as a Big Sister in 1994, followed by 20 years as a board member in various positions. Cindy decided that the 2019-2020 term would be her time to retire from the Board. Thank you for your dedication and passion for Big Brothers Big Sisters Cindy!

I also want to thank the board members who are not re-offering or who had resigned their position during the year, for their service and dedication to the BBBS mission: **Jim**

**Jordan, Andrew Holmes, Paulette Nickerson and John Theriault.**

With deepest gratitude,  
**Debbie Cooper, Board President**

## Community support and Mentor engagement



*Above: Big Brother Pierre and Little Brother Jacob fist-bump with Santa during the Christmas Party.*

*Below: Scotiabank volunteers painted the BBBS office in new brand colours and organized program materials during their United Way 'Day of Caring'.*



*Above: In-School Mentor Paige meets regularly with Mentee James at Prince Charles School. Paige works at nearby J.D. Irving, Ltd.*



## Executive Director's Report



Laurie Collins,  
Executive  
Director

*"Much work has been put into the intentional planning for the successful future of Big Brothers Big Sisters programs, services and positive impact in the communities we serve."*

I have the unique pleasure of composing the executive director's report for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Saint John – serving Saint John, Charlotte and Kings Counties. When reflecting on 2019, (my 10-year anniversary with the agency), words that come to mind are **change, firsts, success, improvement and celebration.**

2019 began with an across-the-hall **change** in office location in Brunswick Square. The move to a larger space provides a more professional office setting with additional, more important space for group functions and kids' activities. 2019 ended with a Big Brothers Big Sisters of Canada rebrand. Our new logo, colours and brand were exciting changes. The new mission and vision were implemented to further define the unique services we provide. To accompany all of this, was a new Theory of Change, which will guide our work going forward.

Of significance in 2019 was the **first** ever graduating class of our PROPEL Program which focuses on post-secondary education and career readiness for older youth. This is the first time we have had the capacity to provide services for youth aged 16+. Congratulations to all who have taken part in the program and thanks to many community partners involved.

**Success and improvement** for the agency took many forms over this past year, however, from my perspective, a successful strategic plan update was one important win for the agency. Much work has been put into the intentional planning for the successful future of Big Brothers Big Sisters programs, services and positive impact in the communities we serve. Thank you to board, staff, stakeholders and committee members for your investment.

**Celebration** ensued at times during 2019. We celebrated **Kiera Logan**, former Go Girls! participant and current In-School Mentor, for her win of a **Teens Who Care Award** (Teen Resource Centre). We celebrated **Erin Usher**, an RNS student, Teen Go Girls! and Teen In-School mentor, who received a **Ted Rogers Scholarship**. I celebrated 10 years as Executive Director and graciously accepted a **YWCA Woman of Distinction Award**. The annual Inspire Mentoring Awards afforded an additional opportunity to celebrate five outstanding

mentors including **Mayor Don Darling, Deborah Fisher, Derek Oland, Janice MacMillan and Isaac McLellan.**

With vital funding and other forms of support invested by community partners, Big Brothers Big Sisters provided one-on-one and small group mentoring programs for over 250 children and youth in 2019. To compliment nationally endorsed mentoring programs, the agency was fortunate to serve nearly 100 additional young people in programs with mentoring components, including MENTOR Links and PROPEL. Funders and partners such as the **United Way, Greater Saint John Foundation, Acadia Broadcasting, Boston Pizza, J. D. Irving, Limited** and employees, **Mr. J.K. Irving, Deborah Fisher, RBC Future Launch**, and many more, BBBS was able to provide young people with mentors and role models who are safe, consistent, compassionate and intentional in their support of those facing adversity. Thank you for believing in the power of mentoring!

The importance of our **200 + active volunteers** cannot be expressed in a way that accurately demonstrates the positive impact made in the communities we serve. For volunteer mentors, your investment in the lives of young people makes such a significant difference for each of them. In some cases, you might be the only one who helps a child believe they matter. In other cases, you might be that someone who consistently shows up, provides support, or challenges them to grow. Thank you for helping to ignite their potential that already exists...maybe it just needed a spark? For others reading this, think about it. **Let 2020 be the year you decide to be a mentor who takes on a series of small acts that will no doubt make a BIG impact!**

To the group of inspiring and entertaining individuals I get to work with every day, I hope you know how very much each of you are appreciated! The team of **passionate staff** continue to surprise me with ideas, creativity, and willingness to do what it takes to provide top quality programs and experiences for children, youth and families who are involved in the agency. Not only are they dedicated to their daily tasks, they look for other ways they can help or get involved in local initiatives.

Laurie Collins  
- continued  
from page 4



Scotiabank.

WESTJET  
Cares for Kids

Thank you all so much!

With respect to the wonderful **Board of Directors** team, they are a wonderfully dedicated group of individuals who firmly believe in the mission of the agency. Their guidance and support throughout the year proved to be valuable to the agency's success. Your belief in the value of the unique mentoring supports BBBS provides to children and youth shines brightly. To Board members **John Theriault, Andrew Holmes, Paulette Nickerson, and Jim Jordan** who are leaving or who have left their positions, thank you for your guidance, support, sense of humour and compassion.

A special Thank you to **Cindy Millett**

who has decided to retire from her 20-year tenure as a board member. Your mentoring of myself and others, your steady guidance, expertise and knowledge, and your unparalleled thoroughness will be sadly missed. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for your 25-years of positive contribution to Big Brothers Big Sisters.

Going forward in 2020 and beyond, we will continue to tackle challenges and create opportunities to do everything we can to help ensure that more young people have opportunity to realize their full potential. Thank you for believing in this mission!

Respectfully submitted,

**Laurie Collins**, Executive Director

## Treasurer's Report



*Matt Wegener, PhD  
Treasurer*

*"Going forward, the agency is positioned well to survive economic challenges created by COVID-19 in 2020."*

I am pleased to present the 2019 financial statements for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Saint John Inc., as prepared under a 'Review Engagement', by Deloitte LLP for the year ended December 31, 2019. We grew our operating fund with a modest surplus.

The agency had a **surplus of \$2,758** this year; compared to \$93,420 for 2018. The agency once again had the support of the Provincial Government, the United Way Saint John, Kings & Charlotte and community and corporate sponsors in Saint John, Kings and Charlotte counties. Total revenue for 2019 decreased by \$2,851 compared to 2018 for an annual total of \$476,887. This decrease occurred despite a significant growth in grant revenue. Bowl for Kids Sake revenues settled back to historic levels.

Total **expenditures increased \$87,810** to a total of \$474,128 for 2019. The increase in costs were broad based as most of our expenses increased. The largest component of the increase was salaries and employee

benefits, which were related to the increase in employment grant revenue.

The increased funding allowed us to create a one-year term, administrative position and enabled the continuation of **PROPEL** and the **MENTOR Links** programs, which extended the hours of our current staff. Summer funding provided increased funding for the SEED program to give students a longer work placement. Program spending also increased by \$6,328.

Going forward, the agency is positioned well to survive the economic challenges created by COVID-19 in 2020. We have a solid operating fund and the security of our stabilization fund to help us remain solvent despite anticipating significantly lower revenues during the pandemic. We will continue to look for new sources of revenue and to keep expenses that do not directly affect mentoring programs low, remaining committed to our mission of enabling life-changing mentoring relationships to ignite the power and potential of young people. We will also work to maintain our relationship with the United Way and other donors.

A dedicated Board and staff will continue to ensure that young people who face adversity are provided with consistent and supportive developmental relationships to ensure youth in our communities realize their full potential.

Respectfully submitted,

**Matt Wegener, PhD**, Treasurer

*Cox & Palmer staff members Amie Making, Danielle Pennell and Shelley Hatt (photographer) made a donation to Laurie Collins, Executive Director of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Saint John. The Social Committee held 50/50 draws, bake sales and other fundraising events.*





## Bowl for Kids Sake 2019 - raised \$150,000!



Team RBC was out in full force for Bowl for Kids Sake 2019. They had lots of family to cheer them on!

**Bowl for Kids Sake 'Star Wars 2019'** – Thank you to all of the teams, donors, sponsors and supporters who raised over \$150,000 in support of current and future mentoring for youth!

## New & Noteworthy in 2019



Chris Peters, owner of East Coast Boxing & Performance Centre organized the 'Boxing for Bigs' sports fundraiser. Chris is a former local Little Brother.

# STAR WARS

## THANK YOU for supporting Bowl for Kids Sake - Star Wars 2019

*The Force Was With Us - Together we raised \$150,000 in support of mentoring programs for children and youth!*

### TITLE SPONSOR



### PRESENTING SPONSORS



### BIG HEART SPONSORS



### BIG DEAL SPONSORS



### BIG SMILE SPONSORS



J.D. Irving, Limited - "The Empire Strikes Back"



JDI Sawmills "The 2 By Force"



Centennial School



MENTOR Links Participants and Volunteers



Social Development

## Bowl for Kids Sake 2019 Teams, Lane Sponsors & Supporters

- Al Gagnon Photography
- Atlantic Towing
- Barnhill Memorial School
- Betty Hitchcock
- Blacks Harbour School
- Bonnie Collins
- Brenan's Funeral Home
- Brunswick News (Telegraph Journal)
- Canaport LNG
- Canadian Progress Club
- Ignite Saint John
- Centennial School
- CFM
- Cooke Aquaculture
- Dan Drew
- Debbie Cooper
- Department of Social Development
- Dynamic Funds
- Emily Teed
- Exit Realty Specialists
- Fairvale Elementary School
- Fairview Bowling Lanes
- Forest Hills School
- Heroes Beacon
- Holiday Inn
- IG Wealth
- Innovatia
- Irving Equipment
- Irving Forest Services
- Irving Oil
- Irving Shipbuilding
- J. D. Irving, Limited Head Office
- JDI Corporate Finance
- JDI Finance & Accounting
- JDI HRSS
- JDI Human Resources
- JDI Information Technology Division
- JDI Sawmills and Woodlands
- JDI Shared Services
- JDI Supply Chain
- Jeff Williams
- Jeremy Magee
- Kathryn Magee
- Kent Building Supplies Head Office
- Manulife
- McInnes Cooper
- Midland Transport
- NB & Maine Railways
- NBCC Saint John Campus
- Peter Coughlin
- RBC Royal Bank
- Rogue Coffee
- Rossmount Inn
- Rothsay Elementary School
- RST Sunbury
- Sarah Winchester
- Sharon Dunkley
- Sobey's East Point
- St. John the Baptist / King Edward School
- Stewart McKelvey
- Stuart House Bed & Breakfast
- TD Wealth
- Teed Saunders Doyle
- Tim Somerville
- UCT Jack Kidd Council 755
- Xerox Canada

Many thanks to team and participant donors and supporters!

Many thanks to companies who donated prizes for bowlers and fundraising



Big Brothers Big Sisters of Saint John

Together we are making a BIG difference!  
3rd Level, Brunswick Square  
635-1145  
[www.bigbrothersbigsisters.ca/saintjohn](http://www.bigbrothersbigsisters.ca/saintjohn)



## The 'Theory of Change' matters to mentoring

Big Brothers Big Sisters reinvented and reintroduced ourselves this year. The new look is a call to action to prove how critical relationships are to our success, mental health and wellbeing. The new logo's 3 lines showcase the 3 players who help a young person forge a new path forward:

- the family
- Big Brothers Big Sisters
- the volunteer Mentor

Potential lives within every young person. Yet hundreds of children and youth are in urgent need of someone who will stand in their corner and ignite their potential. Together as a volunteer or donor, standing with the family + the organization = the power of 3.

Together we can ignite the potential in all youth.

Many children and youth struggle with societal barriers and face adversities in their lives. These circumstances have nothing to do with the value of who they are or who they can become, but because of these situations, children and youth risk not having the opportunity to live up to their full potential. Facing prolonged adversity creates toxic stress in the brain that can negatively impact development.

With the guidance and support of a mentor, this risk can be avoided, and these young people can gain the confidence to achieve more and reach their full potential – higher incomes, happier lives, and more

contributions to their communities. Working to ignite the power and potential of young people, our mentoring relationships follow the key principles of developmental relationships as indicated below.

Big Brothers Big Sisters' mentoring programs are unique from other interventions because trained professionals provide support and scrutiny throughout the life of the relationship to ensure each relationship is progressing in a healthy and safe manner. This process can identify and address any issues before they escalate to the point of causing emotional damage to the child. This benefit, in conjunction with the outcomes attained through healthy, quality, mentoring relationships, make BBBS mentoring programs an effective mechanism for making positive change in the lives of young people.



Big Brothers  
Big Sisters

# THEORY OF CHANGE

### OUR MISSION

To enable life-changing mentoring relationships to **ignite** the power and potential of young people

### WHO DO WE SERVE?

Young people who face adversity AND are in need of an additional consistent and supportive **Developmental Relationship**<sup>1</sup>

### HOW DO WE IGNITE POTENTIAL?

- » By intentionally **recruiting** based on the needs of a community's young people
- » By **matching** young people with a **professionally screened** volunteer mentor
- » By **monitoring and supporting** that match with a professional caseworker
- » By **training and supporting** the mentor, the mentee and the family
- » By **building a Developmental Relationship** between the mentor and the mentee that: Expresses Care; Challenges Growth; Provides Support; Shares Power; and Expands Possibilities
- » By **graduating** the match relationship towards natural support

### WHAT IS THE IMPACT?

Young people graduate our programs with **measurable outcomes**:

#### SOCIAL EMOTIONAL COMPETENCE

- » Relationship skills
- » Social awareness
- » Responsible decision-making
- » Self-management
- » Self-awareness

#### MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING

- » Positive identity
- » Mental wellness
- » Social inclusion & empowerment

#### EDUCATIONAL ENGAGEMENT & EMPLOYMENT READINESS

- » School connectedness
- » Commitment to learning
- » Enhanced constructive use of time

1 "Developmental Relationships Framework" © 2018 Search Institute, Minneapolis, MN. [www.search-institute.org](http://www.search-institute.org)

### OUR VISION

All young people realize their **full potential**

## Child Safety Program

**One of Big Brothers Big Sisters' core values is to maintain the highest standards of practice in order to deliver safe, quality mentoring programs to children and youth.** Our **Child Safety Training** provides information and resources that are foundational components to fostering safe, enjoyable, meaningful, and healthy mentoring relationships.

The training has three primary purposes:

- to prepare match participants for their role in a healthy, successful mentoring relationship;
- illuminate safety issues and strategies;
- emphasize that resources and ongoing support will be available to all match participants.

In 2019, as an agency, **we provided a modified version of this training to other organizations and schools** to encourage ongoing positive messages about healthy relationships, boundaries and how to ensure safe interactions with children and youth in our community. We were able to deliver the training to Harbour View High School Leadership class, Fundy High Leadership class, Forest Hills grade 5 class, Brilliant Labs and NBCC Summer staff, NBCC Human Services students, Bar None Summer staff and United Way Learning Workshops. Thank you to those organizations and schools for seeing the value in developing strong and healthy relationships with our children and youth.

**A key message of the program is that strong boundaries mean strong relationships.** Boundaries come in many forms, including physical, emotional, and social; and are central to ensuring a healthy, respectful and child-focused relationships between young people and adults they interact with. The content of the program is vital education for young people, parents/guardians, care-givers, youth workers and others who spend time with or observe children interacting with adults or older youth. It is critically important in this community in particular that more people are made aware of what inappropriate behaviors look like and what to do if they see these behaviors. **The responsibility to keep our young people safe is on all of us!**

## Go Girls! - The Canadian Women's Foundation



**Go Girls! Healthy Body Healthy Minds** group mentoring program continued in 2019. This program provides girls ages 9-13 in Saint John area schools with appreciation for the benefits of active living, understanding of healthy eating habits, awareness of core values, per-

sonal interests, strengths and attributes, development of leadership skills, guidance in establishing friendships and healthy relationships.

**The support from the Girls' Fund Grant from the Canadian Women's Foundation has enabled the Saint John agency to:**

- Serve 11 groups that wrapped up in late spring of 2019
- Serve 4 new groups that began in the fall of 2019
- Serve a total of 100 girls in the core program/enhanced components
- Support 8 participants in the **Friendship Club**.
- Serve a total of 17 teens who provided positive mentoring to the participants in the Go Girls! groups. We were excited about the increase of teen mentors who lead many of our Go Girls! groups.



*A group of Go Girls! Friendship Club volunteers at the Amazeatorium in 2019.*

## Game On! Eat Smart, Play Smart, Live Smart



*RNS Game On! Group in the gym with Teen Mentors*

**Game On! Eat Smart, Play Smart, Live Smart** program provides boys and young men with information and support to make informed choices about a range of healthy lifestyle practices. The boys learn about life skills, communication and emotional health challenges through non-traditional activities in a group setting with adult or teen mentors.

In 2019 the program ran at Hampton Middle School in partnership with Hampton High School, and at Rothesay Netherwood School. The program at HMS and HHS, as well as the RNS program, matched older students with younger students. These programs were run exclusively by teen volunteers in their respective schools and communities.



## BBBS Summer Programs and Camps

*Kids 'n Kops 2019 K-9 Unit demonstration has everyone's attention as Constable MacDonald and K-9 Officer Axel show how they work.*



There were several summer programs provided by the agency during the month of July 2019. The programs were provided to children who are on the wait list and to matched youth who would benefit from additional programming opportunities. The 2019 camps included **'Big' Adventure camps** for ages 6-9 and 10-13 years old, **Kids 'n Kops Camp** (9-12 years) and **Code Makers Camp** (Grades 3-6).

These camps were made possible by the generous support of community partners who offered space, donations and unique experiences. Thank you to the Saint John Police Force, UNB's Worlds UNBound Program, Nick Nicolle Community Centre, Brilliant Labs, NBCC and The Saint John Free Public Library.



**The 'Teens Who Care Award' recipients** gathered at the Teen Resource Centre, including Kiera Logan, Go Girls! participant and an In-School Mentor (fourth from the left).

*Erin Usher, right, a student at Rothesay Netherwood School, was awarded the Ted Rogers Scholarship in 2019. She was an In-School Mentor and a Go Girls! Mentor in two programs. Congratulations Erin!*



*Youth on the Hill, in Ottawa, gather to learn about our federal democracy, including Dustin Welshman, of BBBS Saint John.*



The PROPEL program equips **young people ages 14-21** with new skills and real-world experiences, exposing them to opportunities that build self-awareness and confidence to make informed decisions about education and career goals. Module-based learning objectives include exploring Self, Education, and Careers. Students work in groups and 1:1 with staff and mentors who support their short and long-term goals. In 2019, we proudly offered this program to 48 students who achieved their goals and earned financial incentives to aid their next education and career goal or milestone.

In year two of this Post-Secondary readiness program, thanks to funding from the **RBC Future Launch program**, we collaborated with partners, **The Saint John Learning Exchange** and **Pathways to Education** to customize delivery to clients of all 3 agencies. The program was redesigned to increase outcomes by providing two streams; Level One and Level Two.

**Propel Level One** (Saint John Learning Exchange) – Has a strong focus on soft skills. This stream takes a deep dive into self-exploration, who we are, what we believe and why we believe what we do.

**Propel Level Two** (Pathways to Education and Community Based) Looks at exploring oneself through interactive activities and discussions around what steps to take in order to meet graduation requirements, scholarship opportunities and post-secondary applications.

**RBC FUTURE LAUNCH**  
[RBC.COM/FUTURELAUNCH](http://RBC.COM/FUTURELAUNCH)





## In-School Programs (ASD-S) Anglophone School District South



*Mentee Trinity and In-School Mentor Shirley*

Back Bay Elementary	Quispamsis Elementary
Barnhill Memorial	Quispamsis Middle
Bayside Middle	Rothsay Elementary
Blacks Harbour Elementary	Rothsay High
Centennial	Rothsay Netherwood
Fairvale Elementary	Seaside
Forest Hills	Park Elementary
Fundy Middle and High	St. George Elementary
Hammond River Valley	St. John the Baptist/ King Edward
Hampton Elementary	St. Malachy's Memorial
Hampton Middle	St. Rose
Hampton High	St. Stephen
Harbour View High	St. Stephen Middle
Harry Miller Middle	St. Stephen High
Lakefield Elementary	Sussex Elementary
Milltown Elementary	
Prince Charles	
Princess Elizabeth	



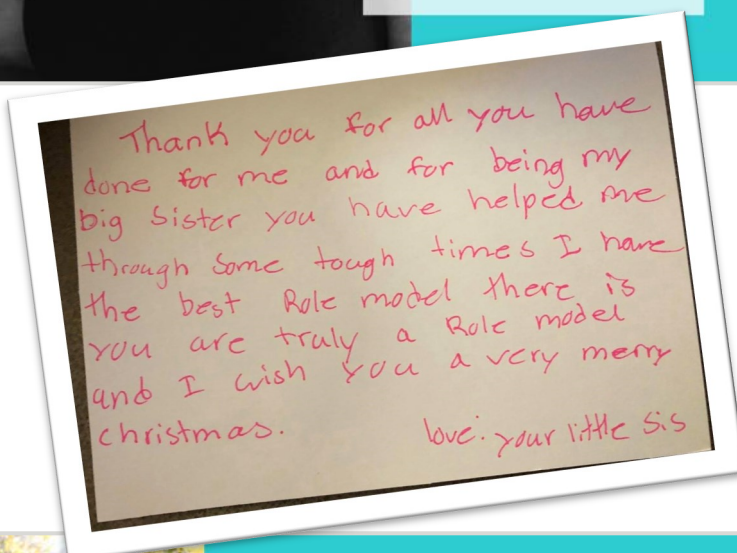
*In-School Mentor Betty and Mentee Jada*

## Why mentoring matters . . . true stories!



“She is always cheerful and laughing but is still being someone who you can talk to seriously and can ask for advice.”

- A FRIENDSHIP CLUB MEMBER  
ABOUT MENTOR BARB CRAWFORD



BE THERE FOR A YOUTH IN OUR COMMUNITY!

"It's not what we do together, it's that she's here"

#powerofanhour  
#mentoringmatters



## MENTOR Links Program makes connections

*MENTOR Links volunteers Darien and Victor, and Little Brother Miguel (wait list) sing their hearts out during karaoke at the BBBS Howl-O-Ween Party. Gutsy guys!*



The **MENTOR Links** program serves youth who are on the agency's wait list for a one-on-one match, and consists of small group outings for youth, volunteer mentors and Big Brothers Big Sisters staff. The program encourages family engagement with the agency and allows the agency to better maintain contact with families.



Most importantly, the program provides youth who are waiting for a one-on-one match with the chance to benefit from interaction with positive, caring adult mentors, to build friendships with other children who are on the wait list, and to explore new interests and discover their strengths. The program also provides opportunities for agency staff to get to know the children better, which ultimately helps staff to make the best match between the child and their future Big.

MENTOR Links allows adult volunteers, who may require the option of making short-term or flexible commitments, to become involved with the agency in a fun and rewarding capacity. Volunteers can sign up for outings based on their availability, and can attend as many or as few outings as their schedule allows. MENTOR Links also offers new volunteers the opportunity to experience what being a Big is like through participation in small group activities, prior to making a one-on-one commitment.

### **A snapshot of MENTOR Links in 2019:**

- **Offered 27 MENTOR Links group activities** including bowling, board games, boxing, arts and crafts, cooking, dancing, hiking, kayaking, as well as seasonal and community events
- **Involved 19 volunteers and served 46 youth**
- **One-on-one matches were made for 5 MENTOR Links volunteers and 5 MENTOR Links youth**
- **Included 14 youth who had been previously involved in a one-on-one match** that had ended, thus providing a safety net after their match closure.

Thank you to all MENTOR Links participants - youth and volunteers, as well as our **Big Deals** community partners (to the right), families, and supporters for the meaningful experiences we've enjoyed!

## Inspire Mentoring Awards



*The Inspire Mentoring Awards celebrated the mentoring achievements of these very deserving recipients (L to R):*

- *Inspire Community Spirit: **Don Darling***
- *Inspire Leadership: **Deborah Fisher***
- *The James K. Irving Lifetime Achievement Award in Mentoring: **Derek Oland***
- *Inspire Imagination: **Janice MacMillan***
- *Inspire Youth: **Isaac McLennan***

Big Brothers Big Sisters hosted our third annual **Inspire Mentoring Awards** in November of 2019. The event brought together stakeholders from business, non-profit and government sectors to celebrate and recognize the importance of mentoring in our community.



# Thank you to all of our generous 2019 Community Partners

*This Soap Box Derby car ran on 'Girl Power' thanks to sponsor Saint John Energy, and driver Alexis, who is on the 'wait list' for a Big Sister. Behind her in blue is her sister Kellan, who is also a Little Sister.*



Acadia Broadcasting  
Acadian Sturgeon  
ACAP  
Advocate Printing  
Air Canada Foundation  
Al Gagnon Photography  
Algonquin Golf Club  
Amazeatorium  
Anglophone South  
School District  
Arauco  
Archambault, Neathway  
& Rideout  
Archer Family Foundation  
Around the Block  
Atlantic Lottery Corp.  
Atlantic Towing  
Autotec 1995 Inc.  
Bar None Summer Camp  
Barnhill Memorial School  
BCAPI  
Betty Hitchcock  
Blacks Harbour School  
BMO Bank of Montreal  
Boston Pizza Foundation  
Breakout Saint John  
**Brenan's Funeral Home**  
& Crematorium  
Brilliant Labs  
Brunswick News  
Brunswick Square  
Shopping Centre  
Canada Games  
Aquatic Centre  
Canada NB Job Grants  
Canada Summer Jobs  
Canadian Progress  
Club Ignite  
Canadian Tire Jumpstart  
**Canadian Women's**  
Foundation -  
**Girls' Fund**  
Canaport LNG  
Carleton Fundy  
Mutual - Sussex  
Centennial School  
CFM  
Château de Champlain

**Children's Wish**  
Foundation  
Childs Foods  
**CIBC Children's**  
Foundation  
City of Saint John  
Commercial Properties  
Connexion Works  
Connors Bros.  
Cooke Aquaculture  
Cox & Palmer  
Crescent Valley  
Resource Centre  
Mrs. Winona Crilley  
Dalhousie Medicine NB  
Danceability  
DealerMine CRM  
Deloitte LLP  
Delta Marriott  
Saint John  
Desjardins Assurances  
Dr. Arnold Brown  
& Associates  
Dynamic Funds  
East Coast Boxing  
and Performance  
Energy Atlantica  
Exit Realty Specialists  
Ebiola Martinez  
Fairvale Elementary  
School  
Fairview Bowling  
Lanes  
Fit Rocks  
Forest Hills School  
Fredericton Crossovers  
Freedom 55  
Fundy Fencing  
Fundy Honda  
Fundy Winterfest  
Giant Tiger  
GlassSKY  
Glenn Carpenter  
Centre  
Grant Thornton LLP  
Greater Saint John  
Community  
Foundation

Grosso Hooper Law  
Guardian Drugs  
Hampton  
Harry Miller Middle  
School  
**Heroes' Beacon**  
Holiday Inn Express  
& Suites  
Huntsman Marine  
Aquarium  
JCS Creative Agency  
IG Wealth - Team  
Larry Clark  
Imperial Theatre  
Indigo Parking  
Innovatia  
Inside Out Nature  
Centre  
Irving Equipment  
Irving Forest Services  
Irving Oil  
Irving Pulp and Paper  
Irving Shipbuilding  
J.D. Irving, Limited  
Jack Carr  
**Janie's Kid Zone Inc.**  
JDI Sawmills and  
Woodlands  
Judith & Brian Dunstan  
Kent Building Supplies  
Kingsbrae Garden  
Kingston Farmers Market  
Kiwanis Club of  
Saint John  
KV Oasis Youth Centre  
L'Arche Saint John  
Lakewood Heights  
School  
Lancaster Baptist Church  
Lancaster Golden  
Service Club  
Living SJ  
Manulife  
Maritime Travel  
Martinon Yacht Club  
**McDonald's**  
McInnes Cooper  
Midland Transport

NB & Maine Railways  
NB Child and Youth  
Advocate  
**NB Children's Foundation**  
NB Department of  
Post-Secondary  
Education, Training  
and Labour  
NB Department of  
Social Development  
NB Museum  
NB Soap Box Derby  
NBCC  
Nick Nicolle  
Community Centre  
Norm & Donna  
Michaelson  
Owens Corning  
Foundation  
P.R.O. Kids  
PALS Program  
Pathways to Education  
Peter Coughlan -  
Exit Realty  
PFLAG  
Pristine  
Project Roar  
PSAV  
Quispamsis Middle School  
RBC Foundation  
RBC Future Launch  
Richard Alderman  
Rockwood Park  
Rogers TV  
Rogue Coffee  
Rossmount Inn  
Rotary Club of  
Rothesay Kings  
Rothesay  
Elementary School  
RST Sunbury  
Saint John Chamber  
of Commerce  
Saint John Energy  
Saint John Free  
Public Library  
Saint John Learning  
Exchange  
Saint John Police Force  
Saint John Rotary Club  
Saint John Seadogs  
Saint John Theatre  
Company  
Saint John Volunteer  
Centre  
Saint John Waterfront  
Development  
Salesforce  
Scotiabank  
Seadogs Foundation  
Seaside Park School  
SEED Program  
Sistema NB  
Skretting  
Skywalk Saint John  
Sobeys  
**Something's Brewing Café**

St. Croix Courier  
St. George Country  
Market  
St. George Elementary  
St. John the Baptist/  
King Edward School  
St. Stephen Aces, Jr. A  
Hockey Club  
St. Stephen Chamber  
of Commerce  
**St. Stephen's University**  
Stantec Consulting  
Staples Rothesay  
Station 33  
Stewart McKelvey  
Stone Church  
Stuart House Bed  
& Breakfast  
Subway  
Sussex Wellness  
Network  
TD Wealth  
Teed Saunders  
Doyle & Co.  
Teen Resource Centre  
Thandi Restaurant  
The Big 50/50  
The Boys and Girls  
Club of Saint John  
The Chocolate Museum  
The Promise Partnership  
The Saint John  
Multicultural  
and Newcomers  
Resource Centre  
Ticklebelly Hill  
**Tim Horton's -**  
Murphy Restaurants  
Tim Somerville -  
Royal Lepage  
Timbertop Adventures  
Touchstone Academy  
Town of Hampton  
Town of St. George  
Town of St. Stephen  
**UNB Worlds UNBound**  
UNBSJ and Associated  
Alumni  
United Commercial  
Travelers of America  
Jack Kidd Council 755  
United Way Saint John,  
Kings & Charlotte  
Uptown Saint John  
Vegas Family  
Entertainment Centre  
Vibrant Communities  
Saint John, Sussex  
& Charlotte County  
**Vito's Restaurant**  
WestJet Cares for Kids  
White Lion Leadership  
Maureen Robichaud  
Mrs. Carol Wilson  
WorkSafeNB  
Wyndham Worldwide  
Xerox Digital Sales  
**YMCA Newcomer**  
Connections  
YMCA of Greater  
Saint John