



**Town of Aurora  
Mayor's Golf Classic Funds Committee  
Meeting Agenda**

**Date:** Wednesday, April 2, 2025  
**Time:** 10 a.m.  
**Location:** Video Conference

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	<b>Pages</b>
<b>1. Call to Order</b>	
<b>2. Land Acknowledgement</b>	
<b>3. Approval of the Agenda</b>	
<b>4. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof</b>	
<b>5. Receipt of the Minutes</b>	
<b>5.1 Mayor's Golf Classic Funds Committee Meeting Minutes of February 26, 2025</b>	<b>1</b>
1. That the Mayor's Golf Classic Funds Committee meeting minutes of February 26, 2025, be received for information.	
<b>6. Delegations</b>	
<b>7. Matters for Consideration</b>	
<b>7.1 Application from Starlight Children's Foundation Canada; Re: Funding Request for 2025 Trick or Suite Event</b>	<b>5</b>
1. That the Application from Starlight Children's Foundation Canada; Re: Funding Request for 2025 Trick or Suite Event be received; and	
2. That the Committee provide direction to:	
a. Grant the funding request; or	
b. Deny the funding request; or	
c. Defer consideration of the funding request to a future meeting.	

- 7.2 Application from Easter Seals Ontario; Re: Funding for Programs** 11
1. That the Application from Easter Seals Ontario; Re: Funding for Programs be received; and
  2. That the Committee provide direction to:
    - a. Grant the funding request; or
    - b. Deny the funding request; or
    - c. Defer consideration of the funding request to a future meeting.
- 7.3 Application from The ABLE Network; Re: Funding for Programs** 16
1. That the Application from The ABLE Network; Re: Funding for Programs be received; and
  2. That the Committee provide direction to:
    - a. Grant the funding request; or
    - b. Deny the funding request; or
    - c. Defer consideration of the funding request to a future meeting.
- 7.4 Application from Big Brothers Big Sisters Peel York; Re: Funding for Mentoring Programs** 19
1. That the Application from Big Brothers Big Sisters Peel York; Re: Funding for Mentoring Programs be received; and
  2. That the Committee provide direction to:
    - a. Grant the funding request; or
    - b. Deny the funding request; or
    - c. Defer consideration of the funding request to a future meeting.
- 7.5 Application from Omar's Fashion Thru the Ages in Support of Southlake Health Men's Health; Re Funding for Fundraising Event** 24
1. That the Application from Omar's Fashion Thru the Ages in Support of Southlake Health Men's Health; Re: Funding for Fundraising Event be received; and
  2. That the Committee provide direction to:
    - a. Grant the funding request; or

- b. Deny the funding request; or
- c. Defer consideration of the funding request to a future meeting.

**7.6 Application from Marquee Theatrical Productions; Re: Funding for Programs**

27

- 1. That the Application from Marquee Theatrical Productions; Re: Funding for Programs be received; and
- 2. That the Committee provide direction to:
  - a. Grant the funding request; or
  - b. Deny the funding request; or
  - c. Defer consideration of the funding request to a future meeting.

**8. Informational Items**

**9. New Business**

**10. Adjournment**



**Town of Aurora**  
**Mayor's Golf Classic Funds Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** Wednesday, February 26, 2025

**Time:** 10 a.m.

**Location:** Video Conference

**Members Present:** Angela Covert (Chair)  
Elia Elliott  
Manuel Veloso (Vice Chair)  
Ping Zhang

**Members Absent:** Robert Gaby

**Others present:** Jason Gaertner, Manager, Financial Planning  
Michael de Rond, Town Clerk

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**1. Call to Order**

The Town Clerk called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

The Chair was passed to the Vice-Chair during item 7.3

**1.1 Appointment of Committee Chair**

**Moved by** Manuel Veloso

**Seconded by** Elia Elliott

1. That Angela Covert be elected as Chair of the Mayor's Golf Classic Funds Committee for a two-year term (2025-2026).

**Carried**

## 1.2 Appointment of Committee Vice Chair

Moved by Angela Covert

Seconded by Ping Zhang

1. That Manuel Veloso be elected as Vice Chair of the Mayor's Golf Classic Funds Committee for a two-year term (2025-2026).

**Carried**

## 2. Land Acknowledgement

The Committee acknowledged that the meeting took place on Anishinaabe lands, the traditional and treaty territory of the Chippewas of Georgina Island, recognizing the many other Nations whose presence here continues to this day, the special relationship the Chippewas have with the lands and waters of this territory, and that Aurora has shared responsibility for the stewardship of these lands and waters. It was noted that Aurora is part of the treaty lands of the Mississaugas and Chippewas, recognized through Treaty #13 and the Williams Treaties of 1923.

## 3. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Manuel Veloso

Seconded by Elia Elliott

That the agenda as circulated by Legislative Services be approved.

**Carried**

## 4. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof

Angela Covert declared a conflict of interest with item 7.3 - Application from The Salvation Army and Northridge Community Church; Re: Funding Request for 2025 programs. Angela did not take part in the vote or discussion of Item 7.3.

## 5. Receipt of the Minutes

- 5.1 Mayor's Golf Classic Funds Committee Meeting Minutes of December 11, 2024

**Moved by Manuel Veloso**  
**Seconded by Elia Elliott**

1. That the Mayor's Golf Classic Funds Committee meeting minutes of December 11, 2024, be received for information.

**Carried**

**6. Delegations**

None

**7. Matters for Consideration**

**7.1 Application from Learning Disabilities Association of York Simcoe; Re: Funding Request for Summer Camp**

**Moved by Manuel Veloso**  
**Seconded by Elia Elliott**

1. That the Application from Learning Disabilities Association of York Simcoe; Re: Funding Request for Summer Camp be received; and
2. That the Committee approves the request for funding in the amount of \$5,000.00.

**Carried**

**7.2 Application from Hill House Hospice; Re: 2025 Walk for Compassionate Care**

**Moved by Elia Elliott**  
**Seconded by Manuel Veloso**

1. That the Application from Application from Hill House Hospice; Re: 2025 Walk for Compassionate Care be received; and
2. That the Committee approve the request for funding in the amount of \$5,000.00.

**Carried**

**7.3 Application from The Salvation Army Northridge Community Church; Re: Funding for 2025 Programs**

**Moved by** Ping Zhang

**Seconded by** Elia Elliott

1. That the Application from The Salvation Army Northridge Community Church; Re: Funding for 2025 Programs be received; and
2. That the Committee approves the request for funding in the amount of \$5,000.00.

**Carried**

**8. Informational Items**

None

**9. New Business**

There was brief discussion regarding the importance of these funds being used to help Aurora residents in need.

**10. Adjournment**

**Moved by** Manuel Veloso

**Seconded by** Ping Zhang

That the meeting be adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

**Carried**



100 John West Way  
Aurora, Ontario  
L4G 6J1  
(905) 727-3123  
aurora.ca

# Application to Receive Funds

The Aurora Mayor's Charity Golf Classic has raised over \$1 million to date and has financially assisted several community organizations to provide much needed services to residents living in the Town of Aurora. Recipient selection is conducted annually by the application review and disbursement committee of the Town of Aurora Mayor's Charity Golf Classic and is based on the information provided in this application.

## Funding Criteria and guidelines;

- Individual applicants and community groups must demonstrate financial hardship or a limited means to retain funds in another manner. Individual applications demonstrating financial hardship will be kept confidential.
- Individuals and organizations may not receive funding for more than two consecutive years.
- Funding requests for more than \$5,000 in a calendar year will not be accepted.
- Funding requests for more than 50% of an initiative will not be considered and applicants must demonstrate how the remaining funds will be or have been obtained
- Applications should demonstrate a benefit to the residents of the Town of Aurora that receiving the funding will provide
- Successful applicants will be required to report back in any way they deem appropriate regarding the utilization of funds within six (6) months of receiving funds

## Name of Individual or Community Group \*

Starlight Children's Foundation Canada

## Address

### Street Number and Name \*

501 Alden Road

### City/ Town \*

Markham



Province \*

Ontario

Postal Code \*

L3R 3L4

## Contact Information

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Email Address \*

[REDACTED]

Phone Number \*

[REDACTED]

**On a separate document, please outline your initiative and any supporting documentation you have. The information being provided should align with the funding criteria guidelines found above. Please attach your documentation with this this form.**



Dear Mayor Mrakas,

Following the incredible success of our 2024 Trick or Suite event, where we welcomed 365 attendees from over 85 Starlight families with the generous support of numerous volunteers, Starlight Children's Foundation Canada is eager to bring this magical Halloween experience back to Aurora in 2025! With your help, we can once again make Starlight's accessible Halloween event, Trick or Suite, happen at Microtel Inn and Suites in Aurora on October 18, 2025.

We were thrilled to have you attend last year's event and would be honoured to welcome you back for this year's event. This event not only brings joy to seriously ill children and their families but also strengthens the Aurora community by supporting local businesses. Through our partnership with Microtel Aurora and nearby food and beverage providers, Trick or Suite drives business while creating an inclusive and unforgettable Halloween experience for families in need. Additionally, we are excited to once again invite local media to cover the event, helping to spread awareness and celebrate the incredible impact of our supporters.

Starlight Canada's mission is to support the mental health and emotional well-being of seriously ill and hospitalized children. For seriously ill kids who are on a long path to recovery, for kids who will forever live with their condition, and for kids who are fighting against the clock, Great Escapes Wishes like Trick or Suite provide the magic, wonder, and happiness of childhood – because sick kids are still kids. It's easy for a child to feel left out of the fun when their illness leads to missed school days, play dates, and friendships. Starlight Great Escapes Wishes bring families together to help make up for some lost time by creating fun-filled events for new memories and new friendships. After a day spent with people who all truly understand one another, sick children are sure to go home with a renewed sense of strength and hope. Designed for kids of all ages, illnesses, and abilities, we're making sure no one is left out of the adventures. Starlight families and children who meet one another through these events have gone on to make lasting connections, friendships, and support systems for life!

The Starlight Great Escapes Wishes Program is our #1 requested out-of-hospital program for children and families battling serious, chronic, and critical illness. Over the past year, we have had a staggering 20% increase in new applications to the program. Referrals from hospitals, doctors, nurses, and most commonly, Starlight families, have driven the requirement for this program to all new heights. Without significant new funds to ensure we can meet these needs; it will be impossible to provide the necessary programming.

Building upon last year's success, Starlight would like to bring Trick or Suite back to Aurora on Saturday, October 18th, 2025, to host over 350 Starlight kids and their family members. Trick or Suite is an accessible Halloween event and fun-filled getaway for families with sick kids in need of joy and relief. Designed for children of all ages and abilities, families get to safely trick or treat in a hotel – full of surprises, goodies, and spooky fun!

### **Starlight Children's Foundation Canada**

501 Alden Road, Unit 4, Markham, ON L3R 3L4

T: 416.642.5675 or 1.800.880.1004 | F: 416.642.5667 | [www.starlightcanada.org](http://www.starlightcanada.org)



Growing up in Aurora has deeply rooted my connection to the community, making the impact of this incredible event on the lives of local seriously ill children and their families all the more profound for me. Working closely with these brave warriors, I witness firsthand the challenges they face each day. Trick or Suite presents an invaluable opportunity for these children to enjoy a barrier-free, inclusive trick-or-treating experience.

The event will cost \$20,000. We would like to ask Aurora Mayor's Charity Golf Classic to assist us in making this event a reality through a donation of \$2,000. Your generosity will ensure that seriously ill children in your neighbourhood are able to attend. Your sponsorship also includes several donor benefits, which are detailed in the sponsor deck included below, along with additional program information.

We invite you to be a part of the growing Starlight network of supporters who are making a difference in the lives of sick children and their families suffering through childhood illness.

If you have any questions or welcome further information regarding this program, please feel free to contact Kaitlin either by email ([Kaitlin.kiraly@starlightcanada.org](mailto:Kaitlin.kiraly@starlightcanada.org)) or phone (416-642-5675 ext. 2245) at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "K. Kiraly".

Kaitlin Kiraly

Children's Services Manager, Ontario

**Starlight Children's Foundation Canada** | [www.starlightcanada.org](http://www.starlightcanada.org)

416-642-5675 ext. 2245

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Making children smile. Helping families cope.



**BECOME A SPONSOR OF**

# TRICK OR SUITE

**AND BRING THE MAGIC OF THE EVENT TO LIFE!**

fondation pour l'enfance  
**starlight**  
children's foundation canada

**STARLIGHT CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION CANADA DOES WHAT NO MEDICINE CAN DO: CREATE PRICELESS SMILES AND MEMORIES FOR SERIOUSLY ILL CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES.**

**STARLIGHT'S TRICK OR SUITE**  
IS A HALLOWEEN EVENT AND FUN-FILLED GETAWAY FOR FAMILIES WITH SICK KIDS IN NEED OF JOY AND RELIEF. DESIGNED FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES AND ABILITIES, FAMILIES GET TO SAFELY TRICK OR TREAT AT A HOTEL - FULL OF SURPRISES, GOODIES, AND SPOOKY FUN!

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2025**  
**MICROTEL INN & SUITES, AURORA, ON**

Starlight Children's Foundation Canada  
501 Alden Road, Unit 4, Markham, ON L3R 3L4  
T: 416.642.5675 or 1.800.880.1004 | F: 416.642.5667 | [www.starlightcanada.org](http://www.starlightcanada.org)

Making children smile. Helping families cope.



## SPONSOR A ROOM

# \$2,000

At Trick or Suite, each hotel room is decorated with a specific theme for seriously ill children to visit and explore! **Sponsor a room to ensure a fun and memorable Halloween experience!** In return, you will receive:

- Social Post Feature
- Company Logo on Suite Door
- "Company Name" Presents "Room Name" Sign Posted Inside Room
- OPTIONAL: Attend the event to witness the joy you have created!

### OPTIONAL

### EMPLOYEE OPPORTUNITIES

- Your sponsorship includes the option to engage your employees and witness your impact firsthand by running your sponsored room!
- Choose from a list of pre-approved suite themes (first come, first served) or submit one of your own that you would like to create!
- Bring your own decorations or let us know what you need to make your suite great!
- Optional volunteer roles will include decorating your room, greeting the children in your room during trick or treating, and tearing down your room at the end of the event.



### TO GET INVOLVED, PLEASE CONTACT:



kaitlin.kiraly@starlightcanada.org



416-642-5675 ext. 2245



100 John West Way  
Aurora, Ontario  
L4G 6J1  
(905) 727-3123  
aurora.ca

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### Name of Individual or Community Group \*

Easter Seals Ontario

## Address

### Street Number and Name \*

1 Concorde Gate Suite 700,

### City/ Town \*

North York,

**Province \***

Ontario

**Postal Code \***

M3C 3N6

## Contact Information

---

**Email Address \***

apeterson@easterseals.org

**Phone Number \***

[REDACTED]

**On a separate document, please outline your initiative and any supporting documentation you have. The information being provided should align with the funding criteria guidelines found above. Please attach your documentation with this this form.**

February 27, 2025

Dear Mayor Mrakas and the Aurora Mayor's Golf Classic Committee,

On behalf of Easter Seals Ontario, I am pleased to submit this request for a \$5,000 grant from the Town of Aurora Mayor's Golf Classic to support children and youth with physical disabilities in our community.

Aurora is a town known for its generosity, compassion, and strong community spirit. We are proud to share that 30 Easter Seals families currently call Aurora home. Last year alone, through the generosity of donors, sponsors, and community partners, Easter Seals Ontario provided over \$111,000 in direct support to these families and others in the surrounding area, ensuring that children and youth with physical disabilities have access to the essential equipment and programs they need to thrive.

For over 100 years, Easter Seals Ontario has been a champion for kids with physical disabilities. We advocate for children, youth, and young adults, believing in their ability to achieve great things. Every child, regardless of ability, deserves the opportunity to reach their full potential. We also recognize that the most significant limitations aren't physical; with the right resources and support, anything is possible.

This funding will directly benefit residents of Aurora by ensuring local Easter Seals families continue to receive life-changing support, including essential mobility and accessibility equipment, recreational opportunities, and family support programs. Our work breaks down barriers and fosters a more inclusive and accessible community, where all individuals can set goals—not limits—for their futures.

We deeply appreciate your consideration of this request and your ongoing support of community organizations that make a difference. We would welcome the opportunity to discuss this request further and share the impact your support would have on the children and families we serve. Please let me know if there is any other further information you require.

Thank you for your dedication to the Town of Aurora and for supporting initiatives that empower individuals and strengthen our community.

**Best regards,**

Sincerely,

Andrea Peterson

Development Officer

Easter Seals Ontario

[apeterson@easterseals.org](mailto:apeterson@easterseals.org) 6472736023





**ABOUT EASTER SEALS ONTARIO:**

Easter Seals Ontario is a charitable organization dedicated to improving the lives of children and youth with physical disabilities.

For over 100 years, we have broken down barriers and provided the support and resources these young people need to reach their full potential and achieve their dreams.

**WHO WE SERVE:**

To be eligible for Easter Seals Ontario programs, individuals must have a permanent physical disability that restricts their independent mobility. Eligible clients must also be a legal resident of Ontario with a valid Ontario Health Card. The majority of our programs are limited to children and youth under 19 years old; however, some programs are available to young adults. Easter Seals Ontario is committed to inclusivity, offering programs and services to individuals from all backgrounds.

Scan below to learn more about our programs, services, and eligibility.



# Setting goals, not limits, for kids with physical disabilities.



Helping Kids with Physical Disabilities Succeed

Ontario

1 Concorde Gate, Suite 700  
Toronto, Ontario M3C 3N6  
416.421.8146 or 1.866.630.3336  
services@easterseals.org

Charitable Reg.# 119068377 RR0001

Follow us at @EasterSealsON



Helping Kids with Physical Disabilities Succeed



**Programs and Services for Children, Youth, and Young Adults with Physical Disabilities**

## EQUIPMENT FUNDING PROGRAM:

Easter Seals Ontario helps families with the cost of equipment that is required by children and youth with a physical disability.

Only children and youth under 19 years old who are registered as Easter Seals Ontario clients may apply for the Equipment Funding Program. Registered clients are eligible for a maximum of \$3,000 per year, per child for approved equipment.

Some equipment categories that may be eligible for funding include: Mobility Equipment, Communication Devices, Orthotics, Accessibility Equipment, Bathing and Toileting Equipment.

Please note that the program only funds eligible equipment and the application for the Equipment Funding Program must be approved before the equipment is ordered. Visit our website to learn more about the program, register to become an Easter Seals Ontario client, and apply for equipment funding.



[Services.EasterSeals.org](https://www.Services.EasterSeals.org)

## ACCESSIBLE & INCLUSIVE CAMPS:

Easter Seals Ontario owns and operates two summer camp properties near Perth (Camp Merrywood) and London, ON (Camp Woodeden).

Our camps offer an environment that fosters personal growth and independence by removing physical barriers and allowing campers to explore a wide range of inclusive recreational activities. At Easter Seals camps, kids with physical disabilities have the chance to build friendships and push their boundaries in an environment that is designed for their strengths and abilities.

We are pleased to offer a range of camp experiences and session types, such as Individual Overnight Camp, Family Camp, Voyager Camp and Leaders in Training. Age ranges and session length vary per session type. To learn more about eligibility and session types, please visit: [EasterSealsCamps.org](https://www.EasterSealsCamps.org)



## POST-SECONDARY SCHOLARSHIPS:

Many students with disabilities are highly motivated, ambitious, and committed to achieving academic goals, but they may face financial barriers to education. That's why we have established a scholarship program to provide children and youth with disabilities the financial support they need to pursue their academic dreams. Scholarship amounts and availability may vary per year. Applications are accepted annually, generally between late January-mid April. To find out more, visit: [Services.EasterSeals.org/scholarships](https://www.Services.EasterSeals.org/scholarships)

## YOUTH AMBASSADOR PROGRAM:

In a world full of diverse talents and perspectives, children and youth with physical disabilities have unique strengths and insights that deserve to shine. At Easter Seals Ontario, we celebrate these differences and believe in magnifying the powerful voices that often go unheard. That's why each year, we select two Easter Seals youth to serve as Provincial Ambassadors, along with several Regional Ambassadors in communities across the province. The application period is usually in the fall of each year.





100 John West Way  
Aurora, Ontario  
L4G 6J1  
(905) 727-3123  
aurora.ca

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## Name of Individual or Community Group \*

The ABLE Network

## Address

### Street Number and Name \*

44 Metcalfe Street

### City/ Town \*

Aurora

Province \*

Ontario

Postal Code \*

L4G 1E6

## Contact Information

---

Email Address \*

karen.hall@theablenetwork.ca

Phone Number \*

(905) 841-7627

**On a separate document, please outline your initiative and any supporting documentation you have. The information being provided should align with the funding criteria guidelines found above. Please attach your documentation with this this form.**





March 4, 2025

Dear Mayor's Golf Classic Funds Committee,

I am writing to you on behalf of The ABL Network in hopes that you will consider providing our program with funding that has been raised through The Aurora Mayor's Charity Golf Classic.

The ABL Network is a community-based day program in York Region that supports adults with intellectual disabilities. Aurora is the town where ABL was founded in 2008 and where we established our unique program. For those of you who live or work in Aurora, it is likely that many of you have seen our program participants when they're out and about in town. You may see them getting on or off a YRT bus, walking independently to work or community service activities, or walking with a group to the grocery store, library, or to the gym at the Aurora Family Leisure Complex where they work out alongside other community members. You may also see them working independently at one of the many local businesses where they have part-time jobs. One of our program participants works at Town Hall and three work at the AFLC Fitness Centre.

Since ABL's inception in 2008, we have grown as the need for our program has grown. We now have 4 locations in York Region which is wonderful as our program is greatly needed. However, as we've grown, so has our need for funding. It has always been ABL's goal to keep fees as affordable as possible for our program participants and their families. Our funding model is such that we strive to generate enough funding through private donations, foundations, grants, and organized fundraising events to cover 50% of our operating budget. While this funding model is challenging, we do this so that we can keep participant fees affordable. Now more than ever, we need to secure as many sources of funding as possible.

Our greatest expense, by far, is Human Resources as we need to ensure that our beloved participants are well supported by excellent staff at all locations. The program fees paid by our participants cover only a small portion of our HR expenses and the balance must come from those other sources I mentioned above. Additionally, we have other substantial expenses including our monthly rent expenses for our locations, recreation expenses (gym memberships for participants) at all our locations, and weekly nutrition training expenses (groceries) for all our locations.

We feel that the work we do at ABL is of great benefit to the Aurora community. ABL is based on strong principles and research that states that the inclusion of individuals with intellectual disabilities in natural settings provides them with an equal opportunity to contribute to the health and well-being of their community. We see evidence of this regularly. By being involved in their community-based activities, our program participants establish rapport and build relationships with residents of the community, teaching them about acceptance, tolerance, and the value of those who may be different. We see that this acceptance makes a positive difference in the spirit of the Aurora community.

We would be most grateful if you would consider donating \$5,000 to ABL. This would be very helpful in offsetting some of the financial challenges we face as we continue supporting our beloved program participants.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Karen Hall  
Executive Director  
The ABL Network



100 John West Way  
Aurora, Ontario  
L4G 6J1  
(905) 727-3123  
aurora.ca

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## Name of Individual or Community Group \*

Big Brothers Big Sisters Peel York

## Address

### Street Number and Name \*

71 West Drive, Unit 23

### City/ Town \*

Brampton

Province \*

Ontario

Postal Code \*

L4G 3V7

## Contact Information

---

Email Address \*

jennalee.bryan@bigbrothersbigsisters.ca

Phone Number \*

(905) 457-7288

**On a separate document, please outline your initiative and any supporting documentation you have. The information being provided should align with the funding criteria guidelines found above. Please attach your documentation with this this form.**



Friday, March 7, 2025  
 Town of Aurora  
 100 John West Way, Box 1000  
 Aurora, Ontario L4G 6J1  
 Att: Town of Aurora's Mayor's Golf Classic Fund Committee

**Who we are:**

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Peel York (BBBSPY) has been providing essential mentoring services for children and youth across Peel and York Regions for over 50 years. The young people within our agency are facing adversity and in need of an additional consistent and supportive developmental relationship. With the guidance and support of a mentor it is our vision that every young person realizes their full potential and achieves their dreams.

Big Brothers Big Sisters Peel York's mission is to enable life changing mentoring relationships to ignite the power and potential of young people. Our mentors advise and challenge these young people, act as their champions, provide greater consistency in their lives, connect them to broader experiences, opportunities and networks, and provide safe, nonjudgmental environments in which the child or youth can confide anything. This leads to higher incomes, higher self-esteem, achievements, better health and belonging.

Young people enrolled in BBBSPY programs have experienced an average of five adverse childhood experiences, such as living in poverty, social isolation, abuse, family breakdown, bullying, systemic racism, or mental health issues. Families and young people are referred to BBBSPY by schools, social workers, mental health agencies, Children's Aid Societies, and community partners. BBBSPY has long standing partnerships with local school boards, the Black Community Advisory Council of the United Way of Greater Toronto, the Black Youth School Success Initiative, the Rainbow Support Network, the Regional Diversity Roundtable, and local settlement organizations.

Big Brothers Big Sisters Peel York, continues to be committed to reducing wait times for the young people we serve, who are waiting to access our programs. Presently, our staff is engaged in Mentor recruitment efforts. The goal is to better serve our community's most vulnerable youth through timely matching with shared identity Mentors, and those with similar lived experience.

**The Ask:**

Big Brothers Big Sisters Peel York is requesting \$5,000 from the Town of Aurora's Mayor's Golf Classic Fund that would go to specifically support Aurora mentoring programs & mentor recruitment where needed.

**What will the request be used for:**

The funds that are being requested through the Town of Aurora's Mayor's Golf Classic Fund are to be used to support all mentoring programs that BBBSPY offers within Aurora. This would include our





community based one-to-one mentoring programs, our In-School Mentoring and also our group wellness programs which are Go Girls, Game On and Wellness Warriors.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Peel York is committed to offering mentoring programs that meet the needs of marginalized children and youth who are facing adversity. BBBSPY offers a range of one-to-one and group mentoring programs in York Region, both in the community and in schools, which all adhere to Big Brothers Big Sisters of Canada (BBBSC) National Standards of Service Delivery. These National Standards ensure child safety and quality assurance. The Standards include thorough screening of Mentors and an in-depth Needs Registry of children/youth, including an assessment of the adversities they face in their lives. Experienced Casework staff conduct regular touchpoints with matches following a National Match Support Framework. These touchpoints provide ongoing assessment of mentoring relationships and timely problem-solving.

The funding that is being sought will serve the Aurora community by providing these life changing mentoring experience to youth between the ages of 6 and 17 within the community, through these current programs that we offer within Aurora:

- Big Brothers Big Sisters Mentoring - one to one mentoring relationships in the community
- In-School Mentoring – one to one mentoring relationships in schools
- Go Girls! Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds – 7-week group mentoring program for adolescent youth who identify as female, ages 11-14, offered in schools. The program curriculum promotes active living, healthy eating and positive self-esteem. Female mentors between the ages of 18 – 25 years are trained to lead the fun and interactive sessions.
- Game On! Eat Smart, Play Smart, Live Smart – A school based mentoring program for boys ages 11 – 14. This program provides young men with the information and support to make informed choices about healthy living through physical activities, healthy eating and facilitated discussion. Male mentors are trained to lead the interactive sessions over 7 weeks.
- Wellness Warriors – A gender-inclusive group mentoring program for children and youth in grades 3-8. Facilitated by trained Mentors, Mentees are provided with the opportunity to engage in fun and interactive discussions and activities. The program promotes mental, physical, and social wellness. It is delivered once a week during the school day for 7 consecutive weeks.

Should funding be approved for BBBSPY, it would help support the above programs with covering the costs of food, program supplies, rentals for running the programs etc. Along with

Big Brothers Big Sisters Peel York programming is not only helping the children and youth we serve by helping them with various societal struggles and barriers that they may face to help them realize their full potential. Which in turn is helping to shape and guide them to become community members who are caring, inclusive, collaborative and trusting. With every \$1 invested in our programming returns between \$18-\$23 to society through taxes, higher incomes, volunteerism, and charitable donations.

The funding from the Mayor's Golf Classic Fund would assist in furthering the mission of Big Brothers Big Sisters Peel York, by helping us to continue supporting and growing the youth we serve in Aurora. We are fortunate to have strong relationships with many of the schools in Aurora, having had programs running in 10 schools in the town in 2024. Not only will the funds allow us to continue



supporting these partnerships we have and running the community and school programs that are already in place, but it will also help us to continue to grow our programs, through recruiting new mentors and volunteers. Currently BBBSPY has about 300 youth on waiting lists (across all of Peel & York) and is deeply committed to reducing wait times for the young people we serve.

Presently, our staff is engaged in Mentor recruitment efforts. The ultimate goal is to better serve our community's most vulnerable youth through timely matching with shared identity Mentors, and those with similar lived experience. We currently have 5 young people waiting to either be matched or interviewed for the waitlist from Aurora that are waiting to become part of the Big Brother Big Sisters program. With the changes in our current economy, and the continued increase in the need for mental health supports for youth, the need for our services continues to grow across all regions we serve and receiving funds that can help us to support the supplies, food, rental costs etc. that are involved with these programs helps us greatly to be able to continue offering them, and hopefully expanding them to help diminish the waitlist. We hope to achieve that in the Town of Aurora if successful in receiving these funds

**\*\*Please note\*\*** Although we serve all of Peel York the funds requested here would specifically be to help us serve the youth and mentors that we work with and programs we provide specifically in the Town of Aurora.

Any questions or further information required please contact:

Jennalee Bryan  
Fund Development Specialist  
Big Brothers Big Sisters Peel York  
[Jennalee.bryan@bigbrothersbigsisters.ca](mailto:Jennalee.bryan@bigbrothersbigsisters.ca)  
(905) 457-7288 ext. 306



100 John West Way  
Aurora, Ontario  
L4G 6J1  
(905) 727-3123  
aurora.ca

# Application to Receive Funds

The Aurora Mayor's Charity Golf Classic has raised over \$1 million to date and has financially assisted several community organizations to provide much needed services to residents living in the Town of Aurora. Recipient selection is conducted annually by the application review and disbursement committee of the Town of Aurora Mayor's Charity Golf Classic and is based on the information provided in this application.

## Funding Criteria and guidelines;

- Individual applicants and community groups must demonstrate financial hardship or a limited means to retain funds in another manner. Individual applications demonstrating financial hardship will be kept confidential.
- Individuals and organizations may not receive funding for more than two consecutive years.
- Funding requests for more than \$5,000 in a calendar year will not be accepted.
- Funding requests for more than 50% of an initiative will not be considered and applicants must demonstrate how the remaining funds will be or have been obtained
- Applications should demonstrate a benefit to the residents of the Town of Aurora that receiving the funding will provide
- Successful applicants will be required to report back in any way they deem appropriate regarding the utilization of funds within six (6) months of receiving funds

## Name of Individual or Community Group \*

Omar's Fashion Thru the Ages in Support of Southlake Health Men's Health REVISED

## Address

### Street Number and Name \*

15620 Bayview Ave

### City/ Town \*

Aurora

**Province \***

Ontario

**Postal Code \***

L4G 0Y7

## Contact Information

---

**Email Address \***

llanning@neighbourmedia.ca

**Phone Number \***

(416) 602-3395

On a separate document, please outline your initiative and any supporting documentation you have. The information being provided should align with the funding criteria guidelines found above. Please attach your documentation with this this form.

**Mae Khamissa**  
Co-owner, Omar's Shoes  
khamissa@rogers.com

Mar 9, 2025

**Omar's**  
**FASHION**  
**THRU THE AGES**



Dear Mayor's Charity Golf Classic Committee,

I hope this letter finds you well. I am reaching out to formally introduce an initiative that is deeply personal to me and my family. As co-owner of Omar's Shoes, a family business proudly serving our community since 1970, we have always believed in the power of giving back.

Last June, I had the privilege of meeting with Southlake Health Foundation's Director of Events and Community Partnerships, Patricia McLaughlin to discuss celebrating Omar's Shoes 55th anniversary in 2025 with a meaningful fundraising event. Initially, our goal was to focus on mental health, an issue that affects so many lives. However, recent events in our personal life have led us to shift our focus to men's health.

Just days before Christmas, my husband, Raz, was diagnosed with prostate cancer. This unexpected and frightening news opened our eyes to the significant lack of awareness surrounding men's health issues. As we navigated this journey, we realized the importance of shedding light on early detection, treatment options, and overall health education for men in our community. In response, we have decided to dedicate our upcoming fashion show fundraiser to men's health in support of Southlake Health.

The event, titled ***Omar's Fashion Thru the Ages***, will be held on May 20th at The Royal Venetian. We are seeking sponsorships and donations of products for our auction, with all proceeds going toward men's health initiatives at Southlake. Your support would not only help raise vital funds but also demonstrate a shared commitment to improving healthcare for men in our community.

We would be honored to partner with you in this important cause and would love the opportunity to discuss how your organization can be a part of this meaningful event. Please let us know a convenient time to connect and explore sponsorship opportunities.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We look forward to the possibility of your support in making a difference for men's health in our community.

Warm regards,  
**Mae Khamissa**  
905 727-9391



100 John West Way  
Aurora, Ontario  
L4G 6J1  
(905) 727-3123  
aurora.ca

# Application to Receive Funds

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## Name of Individual or Community Group \*

Marquee Theatrical Productions

## Address

### Street Number and Name \*

2B-73 Industrial Parkway N.

### City/ Town \*

AURORA

**Province \***

Ontario

**Postal Code \***

L4G 4C4

## Contact Information

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**Email Address \***

sheryl.thomas@marqueetp.com

**Phone Number \***

(905) 713-1040

**On a separate document, please outline your initiative and any supporting documentation you have. The information being provided should align with the funding criteria guidelines found above. Please attach your documentation with this this form.**



Marquee Theatrical Productions  
73 Industrial Parkway N, Unit 2B  
Aurora ON, L4G 4C4  
[sheryl.thomas@marqueetp.com](mailto:sheryl.thomas@marqueetp.com)  
905-713-1040

**Mayor Mrakas and the Mayor's Golf Classic Committee**

Town of Aurora  
100 John West Way, Box 1000  
Aurora, Ontario L4G 6J1

**RE: Funding Request for Marquee Theatrical Productions**

Dear Mayor Mrakas and Esteemed Committee Members,

On behalf of Marquee Theatrical Productions, I am writing to request consideration for a \$5,000 donation from the Mayor's Golf Classic to support our efforts in making musical theatre and drama programs accessible to Aurora families. With rising operational costs and the unexpected loss of a beloved annual fundraiser, we are facing significant challenges in ensuring that all children, regardless of financial barriers, have the opportunity to participate in the arts.

This year, our rent has increased by **35%**, with additional increases set for the next two years. At the same time, our primary fundraising initiative, selling Fraktals, has been eliminated due to the company's bankruptcy. This has left us with a major gap in funding, particularly for our **subsidized program that provides financial assistance to low and middle-income families**. The \$5,000 from the Mayor's Golf Classic would provide a crucial bridge as we work to establish a new fundraising initiative.

These funds would directly support **Aurora residents, ensuring that children aged 4-18 can access our musical theatre and drama programs**, either partially or fully subsidized. These programs provide much more than just performance training—they foster confidence, creativity, teamwork, and a sense of belonging, helping young people develop essential life skills. Many of our participants come from families facing financial challenges, and without assistance, they would be unable to experience the benefits of arts education.

Marquee has proudly served the Aurora community for over 23 years, providing high-quality arts education and performances that enrich our town's cultural landscape. We are committed to ensuring that financial barriers never stand in the way of a child's ability to participate in the arts, and with your support, we can continue to offer these life-changing opportunities to families in need.

We deeply appreciate your consideration and the Mayor's Golf Classic's commitment to supporting local organizations that make a difference in our community. We would be honored to be chosen as a recipient and look forward to the opportunity to continue our work with Aurora's youth.

Please feel free to reach out should you require any additional information. Thank you for your time, generosity, and dedication to the people of Aurora.

**Sincerely,**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "S Thomas". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sheryl Thomas  
Executive Director  
Marquee Theatrical Productions