

A Drop in the Bucket

By Wende Boddy

Yes—but ever little bit helps. Let me explain: I met TUG President **Léo Lefebvre** at Bloorview Kids Rehab last week to present them with our cheque for \$1815, which we collected from the TUG Golf Tournament back in June. It was another sunny day—this time in October.


I have visited Bloorview many time over the years and TUG has donated almost 20K to date. I personally feel so grateful that my own family has no need to use these facilities, and on the other hand grateful that it is there for the incredible hope and help that it gives to the families and children 2 years to 18 years of age that can find such positive, incredible, and dedicated people.



This is also a teaching hospital—they have 11 doctors and 950 caring staff plus 1,000 committed volunteers. This is the only hospital-based research institute devoted to children’s rehabilitation research in Canada.

This year we were able to go outside into their new outdoor camp. The leaves were crunching underfoot on the wheelchair accessible paths leading around the grounds. The pavilion in the centre had some of the children shucking corn (likely looking for caterpillars) and the teachers were telling us how the children love being outside. You could hear it in their voices.

We met **Robert Vine** the landscaper guy—appropriate name don’t you think? I’m not sure what his title was but it should have been “Master Gardener.” The huge reindeer (Tetra unberlope) in the picture was built by him and two artists, with help from the children. It took a whole month to build. There were wind chimes, bark planters, twig containers, and all sorts of natural usable items tucked on, in, and around trees and bushes. I was very impressed with this area and could imagine the fun the children would have being outside with all of this visual stimuli. The parents could stroll and take a deep breath, too.

So let me say a big thank you to all of the golfers and sponsors of our 19th annual golf tournament who tossed in their \$5 for a chance to win a prize. That drop in the bucket does make a difference and I hope next year we can push for the “over 20K goal.” 

Wende Boddy is the Association Manager for TUG. She can be reached at admin@tug.ca or by phone at 905-607-2546.

Bloorview
KIDS REHAB

Bloorview Kids Rehab is Ontario’s largest children’s rehabilitation facility. It is located in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. It was founded in 1899, by a group of community-minded women who met in Toronto to discuss the creation of a “Home for Incurable Children”. As of 2005, the Centre provides hospital care, outpatient clinics, an integrated kindergarten school programme, assistive technology services and community outreach activities to about 6,500 children and youth with disabilities and their families each year. It is associated with the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Toronto. Prior to 2006, the centre was called the Bloorview MacMillan Children’s Centre.



Léo Lefebvre

TUG presenting a cheque to Bloorview Kids Rehab: L-R: Rakesh Tripathi, Wende Boddy, Marion York, and Léo Lefebvre

