## A.B.I. Anti-Bullying Initiative

December 2015 Newsletter Issue 6

## A.B.I. ACTIVITIES

www.abinitiative.ca





2015 has proven to be a year of advancement and wider recognition for our Anti-bullying Initiative, A.B.I.

- Our association with Cornerstone Family Violence Prevention Centre continues to flourish and there is an opportunity for Abi's story to be introduced to schools in the Orangeville and Barrie areas. Having Abi's story told to Grade 7 and 8 students, particularly within Northumberland will surely enhance our awards program in the Cobourg High Schools.
- This year we have extended our efforts by way of the sponsorship of related groups and activities. In June we helped to fund an event organized by Youth Matters in Castleton and participated by having a booth on site.
- We made a donation to Chazzapalooza for its August event in Victoria Park, Cobourg and also to St. Lawrence College Pink Shirt Day. We also are providing sponsorship to a ladies softball team in Cobourg who will promote awareness of A.B.I. by displaying our logo on their team shirts.
- We were honoured this year to receive two community awards for our efforts in the County of Northumberland. In June, Roy Kempton was presented with the Lloyd C. Stinson Memorial Award for community service in connection with his contribution to and leadership of the A.B.I. program. In November, we were awarded the YMCA Peace Medal for contribution by a group to the community. We are very proud and humbled by these recognitions.
- On December 11th, 2015, Roy Kempton made a presentation at Brighton Rotary Club breakfast meeting on behalf of A.B.I. The presentation was emotional according to comments of members and was very well received. We were asked if we had considered introducing Abi's story to schools in Brighton.

For more than two years, Phillip Jolicoeur from Peterborough has been fundraising for A.B.I. Phillip operated as PhillipPR. His fundraising centered on a number of events culminating in a final concert at The Spill in Peterborough on December 18th, 2015 where his Hairaiser Challenge

came to an end with a haircut. On this date Phillip also released to YouTube an anti-bullying video "Letsgetloud" produced at CCI in Cobourg with the assistance of the 🐧 Grade 9 Drama group. T-shirts with the slogan "Letsgetloud" were on sale at the event. At the date of writing this newsletter, December 29, 2015, the video had received over 1500 views in about 10 days. To date Phillip has raised close to \$3000 for the A.B.I. program with proceeds from the event on December 18th still to come. We have had a wonderful journey with Phillip and we are most appreciative of his efforts with respect to the A.B.I. program. A big THANK YOU, Phillip. A plaque in appreciation for all his efforts was presented to Phillip by Abi's uncle, Royston Kempton, at The Spill.



- The Committee formed in 2013 to assist in promoting our awareness initiative, lost one of the leading members this year when Linda Janzen, Executive Director of Cornerstone retired. We thank Linda for her strong support and initiative by including our awareness campaign in Cornerstone's Grade School Power Program. Enjoy many years of well earned retirement Linda!
- Our Grade School and High School Award winners for 2015 are posted on our website. Congratulations once again to all our winners!