

Making Wishes Come True: The Tim Adlam Wish Foundation

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OVHealth.ca Writer

The Tim Adlam Wish Foundation has helped a long list of individuals, groups and associations over the years, raising over \$40,000 for local children. The money has been used to help cover the health costs, provide scholarships, send youth to leadership camps, advance young athletes with Olympic training, and even build local playgrounds and buy equipment for local organizations.

“We have helped out two children with life threatening diseases,” says Chris Pleau, the Foundation's organizer. “Both have since passed away, but they were able to do something to forget about their illnesses, if even for a day or a week.”

One of these children was a young girl whose wish to visit Disneyland came true, thanks to the Foundation.

The list of people helped by the Foundation continues to grow, but for Chris, the work he does with the Foundation has special meaning to him.

“Tim Adlam was a friend of mine since childhood,” he explains. The pair played junior and senior hockey together and Chris says, “We even roomed together when living and going to school in Ottawa.”

The Foundation was created to honour the memory of local hero, Tim Adlam, who was heavily involved in sports and dedicated to various charities and youth organizations. Every year, the Tim Adlam Wish Foundation holds hockey and golf tournaments as fund-raisers.

This year, the Foundation saw an increase in volunteers for the hockey tournament - an encouraging sign that the community is continuing to support the foundation and the work it does in the area.

While anyone can apply for funding, Chris says, “The foundation tries to divert funds to youth-based individuals or teams.”

Funding is determined by a small committee that decides where and how much money should be allotted to approved requests.

Some of the Foundation's funding efforts include:

- Donation of hockey sweaters for an entire Atom division through Pembroke Minor Hockey. These sweaters are expected to last for ten years.
- Support of children to attend Youth Ministries Hockey School. This is an organization that Tim was involved with every summer.
- Donation of \$5,000 to the Town of Petawawa to help them build a playground for children.
- Donation of \$5,000 to the Pembroke and Area Boy's and Girl's Club.
- Donation of \$5,000 to the Phoenix Centre and Alpha House for their children's risk prevention programs.
- Donation of \$2,000 for the Petawawa Public Library for a multimedia centre for children as part of their new expansion.
- Support of Micheal Burgess and Rik Emmett concert at Festival Hall in Pembroke which in turn was a fundraiser for Our Lady of Lourdes elementary school to establish a music program for children.
- Assisted with expenses for a young girl from the Pembroke area to attend the 'Educational Leadership Centre' in Orilla, Ontario. This camp is an exceptional opportunity for students to gain valuable self confidence and leadership qualities combined with various sports activities.
- Supported the Pembroke Oldtimers hockey club by donating \$3,000 that towards a wheel chair van for a local youth.
- Donation to a trust fund created for a young girl from Round Lake, age 3, to assist with her battle against a brain tumor.
- Donation of \$5,000 to the Children's Wish Foundation to grant one of three wishes for local deserving children, or ever from the Ottawa Valley to qualify for the event.

For more information on how you can help make wishes come true, Chris encourages people to contact him. Please, see the OVHealth.ca directory for contact information.