

# Guru Gobind Singh Children's Foundation

Issue 20

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## GGSCF MINI-VAN



On April 22, 2007 a new auto/truck collision repair shop opened in Mississauga named Paragon Collision. On the opening day the place was blessed with the presence of the Sri Guru Granth Sahib, prayers and kirtan was performed. On this occasion the employees of Paragon Collision and the family of late Mata Kishan Kaur Sidhu donated a min-van to the GGSCF to be used for the charitable programs the organization is involved with. The Sri Guru Granth Sahib was brought to the premises within the new van an honour also for the GGSCF.



Just last year the GGSCF donated a mini-van to the children in Navjivini, Patiala, India. Who would have guessed that within another year another van would be donated. The van will be used for the charity programs carried out by the GGSCF. These include charity runs and walks, taking food to the homeless, camps, senior's trips etc. The support and encouragement to the children and youth over such a generous contribution cannot be over stated. The GGSCF volunteers wish Paragon Collision and all the owners and employees success in this new venture.

## CANDY MACHINES

February 3, 2007 Quiznos Sub became the first place for GGSCF candy machines to be placed. The machines will be operated by Charan Kaur and Mohinder Singh Sidhu and a donation will be made to the GGSCF for each location. Although the amount might not be significant the machines do get the name of the GGSCF out to the wider community. If you know of any locations where such machines can be placed please let us know. The locations will also be acknowledged on the foundation web site.



The owner of Quiznos Dilbag Singh was very supportive of the GGSCF being a volunteer in the first relay run more than 10 years ago. He also volunteered to place a loose change collection box also near the cash counter. Below is the location of all the places candy machines have been placed and we would like to that the owners for permitting us to do so.

Quiznos Sub - 4651 Sheppard Avenue East, Scarborough, Ontario  
Tel: 416-298-6200

Dr. Preetkamal S. Randhawa - 18 Crown Steel Dr. #113 Markham  
Ontario L3R 9X8 Tel: 905-415-1055

Music Asia Inc. - 4531 Steeles Ave. East Unit #8, Toronto, Ontario  
Tel: 416-609-8111

Star Buzz - 3300 McNicoll Ave, Scarborough, Ontario  
Tel: 416-335-1013

Vicky Auto Service Inc. - 7 Heritage Road, Unit 4, Markham, Ontario  
Tel: 905-201-9697

Uppal Travels - 2907 Derry Rd.E, Mississauga, Ontario  
Tel: 905-676-8200

And last but not least at the GGSCF Portable - 905 Middlefield Road, Toronto, Ontario

If you know of any other business owner who can assist with a location to place a candy machine please contact Mohinder Singh Sidhu at 705-876-6751.

## STUDENT VISIT – Avneet Kaur Jaswal



On January 18th there was a visit from Northbay's West Ferris Secondary School to see a Gurdwara and learn about Sikhs. The group lead by teacher John Hetherington first came and enjoyed langar and then they sat in the prayer hall. There was discussion about Sikhism and the students got time to ask questions on how we pray and how we believe in God. Avneet, Renu and Surjit attended to the visitors who said they felt very welcome. They were amazed at the Gurdwara and all that goes on inside. Even though they were told there was no need they left a donation for the Gurdwara towards the cost of the new beautiful building.

## HOSPITAL FUND RAISER – Harjot Singh Bains

On Sunday January 29<sup>th</sup>, members of the GGSCF volunteered for the William Osler Health Centre Foundations first inaugural Canadian Sikh Sub-Committee event, "An Evening in Punjab". The evening was filled with entertainment from 2 bhangra groups, a fashion show, and highlights of the Sikh Community's contribution to the hospital over the last 2 years. More than 500 people attended the event and raised more than \$50,000 towards the Brampton Civic Hospital. The GGSCF contributed \$2,000 towards the total amount. "We were more than happy to help out" said Sunny Singh Sandher, a volunteer that evening and is the Branch Administrator for the GGSCF. "The new hospital has named their emergency wing after Guru Nanak and it is important that we follow in his foot steps and help our community" In total, more than 15 members of the GGSCF attended the event and many of them volunteered. The new Brampton Civic Hospital is set to open later this year and will help the growing community in Brampton meet their medical needs. The GGSCF volunteers were proud to help the new hospital reach its fundraising target of \$120 million and looks forward to its grand opening in Fall of 2007.

## GGSCF 2007 GOALS – Paramjit Singh

The goals of the foundation for 2007 are posted on the foundation web site and are updated regularly as to what has been achieved. The goals are set up so that we have a target of things we want to get done that are planned. In total there are 117 goals listed which is an aggressive number of which by mid May about 20% had been achieved. Some of the goals are carried over from 2006 as they were not met so this year even more challenging. Also the person or group who has taken responsibility for a goal is identified on the list so if you want to help with a specific project all you have to do is contact that individual. At the end of the day it is not who is assigned a goal that is important or who makes the speeches but what counts is who jumps in and get the actual work (sewa) for the goal done.

## OFFICE- Renu Kaur Duggal

The office for the GGSCF is well on the road to completion. It will be located in the premises of the Gursikh Sabha Canada aka Scarborough Gurdwara. It will be located in the room adjoining the langar hall in the basement the place where the youth group started out so many years ago. At this point we do not have a definite date for completion but we hope it will be real soon.

The office is one more step forward towards achieving the goals of our youth. This will be the meeting room for the children and youth volunteers, working room to organize projects and a place which will cater to all official needs of the growing organization. Correspondence, data, information on events, planning details will all be filed in an organized manner so that it is easy to access. The office will have a computer, telephone line and other office equipment.

We would like to create a place that serves as an office yet have the welcoming environment where anyone can come and peacefully work on any foundation related tasks. This will be our centre point for moving on with the organization and planning of the Across Canada Run. We are excited and your help or input is always welcome. Please do not hesitate to contact any of us with any suggestions or comments.



## SIKH IN THE SPOT LIGHT – Kimpreet Kaur Mann



The Sikhi in the spotlight classes are now in their 9th month and going strong. The youth attending the classes have had the opportunity to do presentations on topics of their choice. Some of the participants like Preet, Manjot, and Gursimran Kaur also took



advantage of this opportunity and chose to do their presentation on Women in Sikhism. The presentation was creative and enlightening. During the interactive session of the gurmat class the youth have had the opportunity to take part in presentations on the 5 k's, as well as interactive debate. The debate was on school uniforms and both teams did an excellent job in debating out their point of view. Recently there was a presentation on wealth and Sikhi. The presentation highlighted issues in the world such as greed and injustice, and suggested ways that we as Sikhs can make a difference. The classes are every Sunday from 5:30-7:00 in Hall No. 5 at Scarborough Gurdwara so come out and join in with the learning.

### **SHOW ME THE MONEY** – Sidd and Sarita



Imagine you are up on stage, the crowd is cheering for you, the lights in the theatre hit your face making you feel hot, your palms are sweating, all because you are preparing to spin the wheel for a chance to win the grand prize at the 'Show Me The Money' game show.

That could be you experiencing your moment in the spotlight and preparing to hit the jackpot. Join us at the 'Show Me The Money' game show, on September 30th 2007, for an afternoon of fun, entertainment, games and hundreds of dollars worth of prizes. All YOU have to do is sign up in advance for your tickets at:

<http://www.ggscf.com/gameshow.htm>.

Advance tickets are \$20 at the event, which will take place at Markham Theatre (Hwy 7& Warden). For more information or to get your advance tickets, please check out the web site above.

### **NEW COUNCIL MEMBER** – Amritvir Kaur Bhangoo



In March of this year the Board approached Renu Kaur Duggal to serve on the Council of the GGSCF. We are honoured to have her accept. She is not new to the organization as she has been there since the 1999 run. She has helped out with numerous events and takes responsibility for taking food

for the homeless or low income people to the Fred Victor Center during the winter months. She has also helped in all the camps the GGSCF organizes and often is known as the "Food Minister" among the volunteers. She joins the other Council Members: Karindeep Kaur Jaswal, Ajmer Singh Sidhu, Hardev Singh Samra, Ranbir Singh Perhar, Surjit Singh Hayre and Tarlochan Singh Perhar.

### **SCAW** – Mandeep Kaur Randhawa

What does **SCAW** stand for, "Sleeping Children Around the World".

SCAW collects donations which go towards providing bedkits to children of any race and/or religion who will benefit the most. Usually these bedkits go to those who need it the most in underdeveloped and developing countries. The bedkits are \$30 and they include a mattress, pillow, sheet, blanket, clothes, towel and school supplies. The content of the bedkit do vary from country to country depending on their local needs. Every child is photographed with the bedkit, showing the donor's name/country (or special occasion message) on a label. Each photograph is then mailed back to the original donor, providing a timeless way for the donor to remember the child.

The values of Sleeping Children Around the World are:

- that it is the basic right of every child to have a comfortable night's sleep. (Murray's and Margaret's Dream)
- 100% of bedkit donations goes to bedkits and that no portion of bedkit donations goes to cover operating costs.
- provide hope and always aims to preserve the dignity of the child.
- verifies that each bedkit is received by a needy child.
- dedicated to the concept of free-will giving.
- spread the word about SCAW through personal contact and not through telemarketing, door-to-door appeals, mass-mailings or professional fund-raisers.

SCAW was founded by Murray and Margaret Dryden in 1970. The organization has raised over \$17 million to provide bedkits for over 700,000 children in 31 countries.

"I know the difference between being poor in Canada and being poor in Bangladesh. Remember, they have no welfare system, no medicare, and very few charitable organizations in these countries. It is when there is so little hope for people, such as those people in the developing countries, that we must work to improve conditions."

### **CENTENNIAL FOUNDATION**



On April 14, 2007 Sophia Kaur Sahota, Mandeep Kaur Randhawa, Sophia Kaur Randhawa, Nimratvir Kaur Bhangoo, Amritvir Kaur Bhangoo, Ravnit Singh Dhaliwal, Sharanpreet Kaur Kelley, Sunny Singh Sandher, Paneet Kaur Gill and Ridhi Kaur attend the Centennial Foundation Dinner. The table was donated to students by Harcharan Singh Rajpal. On this occasion Fauja Singh and Harmandar Singh also came over from England and were honoured for their contribution. The GGSCF has had on going support from the Centennial Foundation and a booth showing the children being sponsored was displayed at the dinner by the youth present.

## APPRECIATION DINNER – Karindeep Kaur



On May 9, 2007 an “Appreciation Dinner” was held at Pine Valley Banquet Hall for all those who help out with the GGSCF (the volunteer, the monthly sponsors, the Gurdwaras and the media). At this occasion the Council thanked the xBoard members, Bineesh Kaur Chadha, Inderpal Kaur Wig, Gurjit Kaur Flora, Kultar Singh Dhuck and Panveer Singh Lachhar. The GGSCF Board who organized the event also initiated Council Members: Sujit Singh Hayre, Tarlochan Singh Perhar and Renu Kaur Duggal. Awards were also given to Paneet Kaur Gill for publishing “Sakhian” and to Sarita Biring for designing and maintaining the new web site launched in April 2006. The GGSCF also thanked the monthly sponsors with a ‘GGSCF engraved pen’ and plaques for Gurdwara Presidents who host branches: Sher Daljit Singh Dhillon from the Sikh Heritage Centre, Jasjit Singh Bhullar from Ontario Khalsa Darbar and Ajmer Singh Brar from Gursikh Sabha Canada. Baltej Singh Pannu who volunteers for the GGSCF in India very emotionally explained what the support being sent by children here was helping mentally challenged children in Navjivini. Baltej Singh Pannu and Jagdish Singh Grewal from the “Punjabi Post” were thanked for their media support and have been with the GGSCF from the beginning.



During the evening the youth volunteers at the Brampton branch did a comedy skit on the culture class between the older generation and the new generation in Punjabi Canadian homes. This was much enjoyed by all those present. Harmeet Singh from “Beyond Belief TV” video tapped the evening and so you might see this on his TV channel in the near future.

## BASAKHI FOOD DRIVE

Now an annual event during Baisakhi the GGSCF held a “food drive” for the Toronto Daily Bread Food Bank. In total 2534 lbs of food was collected at Gursikh Sabha Canada and at the Nagar Kirtan in downtown Toronto on April 29, 2007. Mandeep & Sophia Kaur Randhawa, Inderpal Kaur Wig and Bineesh Kaur Chadha helped at the Gurdwara and then at the booth at the Better Living Centre.



Because of the on going support from the Sangat and the donations that come in during this food drive and the Guru Nanak Food Drive in November, the GGSCF is now making monthly donations to the Toronto Daily Bread Food bank. Mandeep who put the collections bins in Scarborough Gurdwara said, “the food starts to arrive even before we get the bins and signs up, it is good to know the sangat has confidence in us doing this on a regular basis”.

## UPCOMING EVENTS – Sophia Kaur Randhawa

While the amount of people visiting the web site has increased we still find others saying they never knew about the event until it was too late. Most people have access to the internet and that is still the best way to find out about events but if you do not have access come along to the meetings. The main events being planned for the coming months are listed below:

- July 1<sup>st</sup> – Canada Day Parade in Scarborough – City of Toronto
- July 14<sup>th</sup> – Seniors Trip to Crawford Lake at Niagara Escarpment
- August 6<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> – Children's Summer Camp Mayfield Gurdwara
- August 19<sup>th</sup> – Annual Run at Ontario Khalsa Darbar stadium
- September 30<sup>th</sup> – Toronto Waterfront Marathon - Scotiabank
- September 30<sup>th</sup> – Game Show in Markham Theater

## EDITOR - Paramjit Singh

This issue is very late and for this we have to apologize as April is a very busy month with Basakhi celebrations. Also with the work on the new office things have been in a bit of turmoil. Hopefully the new office will allow more children/youth to contribute and we can get this newsletter out on time. Some others events have happened since the time we have been trying to get this issue published, these we will cover in the next newsletter. We also have had a couple of new youth show an interest in putting the newsletter in the future and so you might see its content changed to reflect the angle the youth take. If you have any ideas or want to help please contact us.

### Guru Gobind Singh Children's Foundation

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