

Sault Ste. Marie Prepares For The Push For Change

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Content Team

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Sault Ste. Marie Strives to Increase Youth Homelessness Awareness with The Push For Change!

On February 1st, The Push for Change, created and led by Joe Roberts will be coming through Sault Ste. Marie. Joe is a former homeless youth, and now successful President and CEO; he is pushing a shopping cart, the symbol of homelessness, across Canada to raise awareness about youth homelessness.



The Machine Shop *the new home of* **BON SOO** FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3 thru SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12 83 HURON STREET

Local youth shelter, Pauline's Place will share in the awareness and funds raised by Push for Change. Youth homelessness in Sault Ste. Marie is a challenge that is on the rise. In 2016 alone, 169 youth stayed at Pauline's Place Youth Shelter occupying 1,554 bed nights; an increase of 5% from 2015. The Push for Change looks to engage Sault Ste. Marie to recognize and address local youth homelessness issues.

The community is encouraged to attend the free outdoor public event on Gore Street from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. on February 1st. Joe Roberts will meet and speak at the outdoor rally as warming barrels, hot chocolate, tents and activities set the scene. Inspired by Joe Roberts, former local homeless youth, John Farrell will also address the crowd, talking about his trials, successes and the importance of Pauline's Place in his life. Joe and John will also speak later that evening at a Friendship Dinner for community leaders and deserving families hosted at Quattro.

At the January 23rd City Council meeting, Mayor Christian Provenzano will proclaim February, 2017 as "Youth Homelessness Awareness Month" in the City of Sault Ste. Marie as he encourages all citizens to support initiatives that work toward the betterment of youth.

For more information, visit The Push For Change website at <http://www.thepushforchange.com/> and follow Push For Change in Sault Ste. Marie on Twitter and Facebook at @changesault .