

Charity Hockey Game Combats Homelessness

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Students from Lambton College's Police Foundations program will square off against local OPP officers in a charity hockey game in support of youth homelessness.

The game is set to take place around 3:30pm Sunday at Progressive Auto Sales Arena, right after the Sting face the visiting Saginaw Spirit.

Guests of the Sting's Sunday afternoon game are invited to attend the charity game at no additional charge.

Proceeds raised from the charity game will be split equally between the Push for Change and The Hub, Sarnia-Lambton's new youth space.

Former NHL referee and OPP Officer Don Van Massenhoven will be officiating the charity game and providing autographs during the second intermission of the Sting game. Van Massenhoven has also donated a signed referee jersey to be raffled off during the charity game.

A signed Sting jersey will also be up for grabs during the charity game. Lambton College will be accepting donations of toiletries for The Hub leading up to and during the game.

Sarnia Sting President Bill Abercrombie was instrumental in securing the prime ice time for the event. He says the organization is thrilled to help out.

"Joe's story is truly remarkable, and the work that his organization is doing throughout the country is beyond

impressive,” says Abercrombie. “On a local level, Rebound Sarnia-Lambton is a very worthy cause, and one that we are certainly happy to align ourselves with. As we’ve seen so many times before, we are confident that the Sting faithful will jump on board and help raise funds and awareness for putting an end to youth homelessness on January 29.”

Rob Kardas, vice president, student success and campus services at Lambton College, says the charity game is a great example of the community working together to make a difference.

“Our students are always working to make a difference in our community, and I think this charity game is a great example of many organizations working together to achieve the same goal,” says Kardas. “We’re very thankful to partners like the Sting, Sarnia-Lambton Rebound and the OPP for helping us make these events a success and continuing to raise awareness about initiatives like Push for Change and The Hub.”

As part of the Push for Change, Executive Director and former homeless youth, Joe Roberts is leading a 9,000 km, 517-day trek across Canada to raise awareness and funds to end youth homelessness.

Over the course of his journey, Roberts will be pushing a shopping cart (a symbol of chronic homelessness), 24 km per day through over 400 communities.

For further information, visit www.thepushforchange.com.