

# Homelessness fighter to roll in with shopping cart - Chronicle Journal: Local News

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Northwest Bureau

A Push for Change event will run in Wawa on Feb. 15 with the arrival of Joe Roberts, a former homeless youth and current entrepreneur.

Roberts is pushing a shopping cart — a symbol of chronic homelessness — across the country to raise awareness of youth homelessness.

Area residents are invited to come out and meet Roberts and to participate in the following activities at the Michipicoten Community Centre beginning at 9:30 a.m.

They include: opening ceremonies from 10-11 a.m. including a ceremonial dance performed by members of the Michipicoten First Nation and an inspirational talk from Roberts about his journey and youth homelessness; a charity hockey game at 11 a.m. featuring local emergency first responders versus the Wawa Midget Legionnaires hockey club; and local youth service providers will have information and table displays in the banquet hall from 12-2 p.m..

Organizers said that the event is free of charge, however, community volunteers will be accepting donations of money and/or canned food items at the community centre.

Fifty per cent of all cash donations will go towards local causes to end youth homelessness. The other half will be donated to the Upstream Project, a school-based youth homelessness model administered by Raising the Roof.

The Push for Change is a 9,000-kilometre, 517-day trek across Canada to raise awareness and funds for ending youth homelessness. To learn more or to donate to the cause go online at: [www.pushforchange.com](http://www.pushforchange.com).