


# Push for Change a success

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KIRKLAND LAKE - Members of the Ontario Provincial Police in partnership with the KL Gold Miners, The Town of Kirkland Lake and the Canadian Mental Health Association held "Push for Change Hockey for the Homeless Event" at the civic park outdoor rink Sunday in Kirkland lake.

"The new outdoor rink was closed to the public during our event" said co-organizer Sandro Cave.

Coaches, KL OPP Detachment Commander Staff Sgt. Rick witty, Miners' GM and Head Coach Marc Lafleur and Miners players ran young Minor Hockey participants through skills clinic drills.

Skill clinic participant Cole Connelly said: "We had so much fun doing drills with the Gold Miners"

Cole's Grandfather, Wayne Connelly who played for a number of NHL teams was very impressed with the clinic and Kirkland Lake's new out door rink facility.

Skills Clinic co-organizer Sandro Cave said: "13 young players participated in the event which was a huge success. The Kirkland lake OPP would like to thank all the sponsors who contributed to this great event and also the players, coaches, parents and volunteers."

Skills Clinic Coach and Co-organizer Rick Witty said: "It was a great day for the kids in support of awareness of youth homelessness in Canada. We partnered with the Gold Miner's, CMHA, Tim Horton's, the Town of Kirkland Lake and LG Embroidery for this event."

Witty added: "Everyone was very supportive of the event and the messaging of the Push for Change. The feedback we got was amazing and the kids loved the chance to skate with the Gold Miner players."

The players and spectators enjoyed some hot chocolate during half time while the Olympia flooded the ice and organizers presented all participants with goodie bags and hot chocolate when the clinic was over.

The Civic outdoor rink skills clinic event was a huge success and organizers plan on running a similar event in 2018.