

# Meaford students, OPP officers to play in Hockey Challenge

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By [Chris Fell](#)

Grey County OPP officers and Georgian Bay Community School students will face off in the Hockey Challenge on Feb. 16.

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The event will take place from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Meaford Arena and will feature students and OPP officers playing hockey.

The OPP is organizing more than 30 Hockey Challenge events across the province in partnership with local communities to raise awareness about youth homelessness.

The Hockey Challenge events began in Dec. 2016 and will run through March 2017.

Sportsnet will produce a feature that will air on Feb. 18 — Hockey Day in Canada — that highlights the Hockey Challenge and the OPP's involvement with The Push for Change.

As part of its community safety partnership with The Push for Change, the OPP is mobilizing and engaging with youth and various stakeholders in more than 170 community-based events such as hockey games and community meals.

These events raise awareness about the risk factors and vulnerabilities affecting homeless youth, while fostering positive connections between the OPP, youth, families, stakeholders and communities.

The Push for Change is a national awareness and youth empowerment campaign focused on ending youth homelessness. From May 1 to Sept. 30, Joe Roberts — a former street youth turned successful entrepreneur — is pushing a shopping cart 9,000 km across Canada to raise awareness of and try to help end youth homelessness.



The OPP Push for Change Hockey Challenge helps create positive momentum and multiplies efforts to educate people about, and eliminate, youth homelessness, one community at a time.

“The Push for Change is a perfect opportunity to engage with community stakeholders and partners to spread awareness about homeless youth and help mitigate the underlying risk factors that lead to the vulnerability of homelessness,” said OPP Commissioner Vince Hawkes.

Information about The Push for Change campaign is available at [www.thepushforchange.com](http://www.thepushforchange.com). Further information about the OPP Push for Change community safety partnership may be found at <http://www.opp.ca>.

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