



Big Brothers Big Sisters.ca

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**START  
SOMETHING  
BIG**



**Big Brothers Big Sisters**





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## 2018 Board of Directors

President – Vernon Boyd

Vice-President – Cheryl Weaver

Secretary/Treasurer – Camille McLaughlin

Director – Gurman Arora

Director – Holly Sorgen

Director – Jesse Arduini

Director – Nicole Markin

Director – Tai Chabot

Director – Wade Pilat (resigned)

Director – Trevor Healing (resigned)

Director – Debbie Isley (resigned)

Director – Barb Metituk (resigned)

Director – Daniel Drake (resigned)

## Agency Staff

Executive Director – Corinne Patterson (2018)

Community Based Mentoring Coordinator – Tiersa Rast (2018)

Site Based Mentoring Coordinator – Derian Young (2018)

### Resigned

Site Based Mentoring Coordinator – Barbara Feltham-Brentnall (2017)

P/T Site Based Mentoring Coordinator – Erin Lambright (2018)



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## President's Report

For 6 consecutive 2 Year terms I have served as President of this Agency. I am honored and feel truly blessed to be part of something so rewarding. As President I have had the opportunity to be able to watch this Agency prosper in our community. It truly is very humbling and rewarding!!

BBBS Organization has been a big part of my existence.

As I stated last year, one of the key things I have learned and come to appreciate over the past 12 years is that "Life is about people, not stuff". Being part of something bigger is what builds communities and changes us inside where we see the world differently. Being part of this Agency has definitely left me feeling part of the Grande Prairie Community!

I would like to say a special thanks to the current Board of Directors. In 2018 we saw the departure of 5 Directors but as luck would have it, we have replaced them all with fresh faces, fresh ideas and vibrant personalities. I am really excited for the Directors we currently have and it is obvious that you are all passionate about what the Agency stands for and what it means to the Community. Even though you are normally in the background and behind the scenes, each of you are an integral part of the Family at this Agency!

A Special THANKS to the front line staff who make it all happen; Tiersa and our newest staff member Claudia, our previous employees who had their part in our Agency success; and of course not to forget our amazing ED – Corinne Patterson. Each of you are so committed and truly believe that we can make a difference in the future of the little's in the program. Because of this, BBBS of GP is constantly becoming more recognized in our Community which has led to more partnerships and fundraising endeavors. We are constantly receiving new opportunities for raising funds and awareness – Great Work! BBBS of GP is successful and healthy due to the deep passion you all have. My Kudos to you all!!

Not for Profit Agencies will sometimes lose key employee's inside their organization. As devastating as this will appear, this is also an opportunity for change. BBBS of GP experienced this in late 2017 with the departure of ED Amy Mohr. This left the Agency with that feeling of "What Now". We embraced the opportunity that presented itself, the stars aligned and on Jan 30, 2018 Corinne Patterson; who had applied for the ED job before we hired the previous ED after Amy; landed at our front door again and the rest is history. Knowing Corinne from the Rainbow Society Golf Tourney that she organized for a lot of years, I could tell she was very passionate about giving back and making a difference in children's lives. BBBS of GP has an Amazing Team once again!

We all look forward to continued growth and service to the children of our Community.



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In 2018 economic uncertainty prevailed once again and social needs escalated under the previous Government. The one constant for BBBS of GP was the Success, Growth and Development of this agency in the past four years has been encouraging and left us all with a sense that we are headed in a very positive direction. Through this economic uncertainty, the one thing this Agency has never lost focus on was to continue to serve our community's children.

We are proud to continue to report that our major annual fundraiser, the **Ultimate Escape**, held on January 18, 2018, was again very successful. This event goes a long way in supporting our mentoring programs and the children and youth in our community. Thank you again to all of our generous sponsors and especially our long-standing Presenting Sponsor Canadian Tire and Hospitality Sponsor, Pomeroy Lodging. We are looking forward to another successful year!

I would like to take a moment and thank our major funders for their continued support: United Way Alberta Northwest, the City of Grande Prairie/FCSS, The Community Foundation of Northwestern Alberta and the Government of Alberta. It is also very important to recognize the following generous supporters: Canadian Western Bank GIGIC Campaign, Aquatera, WestJet, Rotary Clubs of Grande Prairie, Mr. Mikes Steakhouse and Canadian Tire.

We are grateful to the many individual donors and those that gave to us in memory of a loved one. BBBSGP is extremely fortunate to have the ongoing support of our funding partners and this great community – thank you for helping children and youth realize their full potential.

**BBBS of Canada:** Many children and youth in Canada struggle with societal barriers and face adversities in their lives like detrimental living conditions, family violence, risk factors for mental health, school issues and identity challenges. These circumstances have nothing to do with the value of who they are or who they can become, but because of these situations, children and youth risk not having the opportunity to live up to their full potential. Even worse is the possibility of continuing cycles of poverty and crime or developing mental health issues. This comes at a cost to the young person, and to society. With the guidance and support of a mentor, these risks can be reduced or even avoided, and youth are reminded they can be anything they dream of being. Big Brothers Big Sisters of Canada is a Federation comprised of 102 member agencies servicing more than 1,100 communities across the country. Together we mobilize over 20,700 volunteers who in turn mentor 41,400+ children and young people. That works out to nearly: **2.1 million volunteer hours each year!**



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In closing, a huge THANK YOU to all the National Partners for BBBS of Canada.

**Chairs Circle \$250,000 +:**

**BMO** since 1996-2011 \$750,000 in support of our Go Girls & Game On;

**Boston Pizza** 2013 5 years over 1.5 million;

**Ontario Ministry of Education** 2008 huge impact on ISM;

**Public Safety Canada, National Crime Prevention;**

**RBC** 2013 3Yrs for Newcomer Canadian Youth Program;

**Westjet** 2007

**Presidents Circle \$100,000 - \$249,000:**

**Cadillac Fairview** since 2007 in-kind office space for BBBS of Canada;

**CIBC** committed more than \$1million for post-secondary education;

**The Keg** long term supporter of over \$1,400,000;

**Rogers** since 2017 for scholarship fund partner for 20 people annually.

**BBBS Agencies have a big opportunity in front of us — to not only impact a child's life today, but to transform their potential for tomorrow.**

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Vernon Boyd'.

Vernon Boyd



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## Executive Director's Report

I am honored to be able to present this report to you from what has been one of the best years in recent memory for Big Brothers Big Sisters Association of Grande Prairie & Area. This year would not be a success without the dedication and hard work of the Board, the staff and all of our wonderful volunteers. Since I first started as a Board Member with the organization 2 years ago, I am still amazed at the dedication of the staff and volunteers. While we have enjoyed much success in both our fundraising and the growth of our programs, we have also faced challenges too. Filling staff positions and our perpetual search for qualified volunteers has kept us all on our toes! I am so pleased with the team we have built here, we have worked hard to become a cohesive team and the positive work environment that we have created in our office speaks to that hard work.

I would specifically like to thank our Board of Directors for their guidance and support. The effort our Board puts towards recruitment, fundraising and helping with community contacts has been invaluable. Thank you for being such great ambassadors of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Grande Prairie & Area.

I am very proud of some of the accomplishments of our entire team! The number of youth that we were able to serve in 2018 was the largest number in our agency history. Also a first, the waitlist for male mentors fell below that of the female mentors, although it never stays low for very long. We once again had a record setting year for our Ultimate Escapes Fundraiser. This year was once again sponsored by Canadian Tire. We had a great showing at our annual Curl for Kids event in April, thank you to again to Canadian Tire for sponsoring this fun, family centered day for us. A new venture for us in 2018 was a golf tournament, the Hayes Fry Law Charity Golf Tournament will now be an annual event. We are hoping this successful event reaches an entirely new group of supporters.

We are fortunate to live in a community that values volunteering and 'giving back'. We would be nowhere without the commitment of our valuable mentors and volunteers. On behalf of our Little Brothers & Sisters, we send out a huge thank you to all for you that gave us you time and your compassion. Thank you all for helping us **Start Something**.

With gratitude,  
Corinne Patterson



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### Our Vision

Every child who needs a mentor will have a mentor.

### Our Mission

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Grande Prairie and Area strives to enhance the healthy development of children, youth and their families through positive mentoring relationships.

### About Us

We believe every child should have the opportunity to reach his or her full potential – both as Individuals and citizens – that by doing so, they will not only do well, they will also do good.

We believe that by changing the course of young lives we can in turn be changing the course of a community's future. That it could lead to a reduction in poverty and unemployment, to safer schools and neighborhoods and to a renewed optimism for growth. That it could even lead to change on a broader, more far-reaching scale.

We believe that opening a child's eyes to what is – opens their mind to what could be.

For over 100 years, Big Brothers Big Sisters has been making a positive difference in the lives of our nation's youth by developing and implementing a wide range of mentoring programs – One-to-one and group programs – for both in school and outside of school. Serving as role models, our mentors teach by example the importance of giving and giving back, of staying in school and of having respect for family, peers and community. Each time we pair a child with a mentor, we start something incredible – a life changing relationship built on friendship, trust, and empowerment.

Witnessing the transformation of a child into a confident, concerned and motivated young person is a remarkable thing. Ushering them into adulthood, seeing them grow into a successful, responsible member of their community and society at large is even more satisfying. Proudly, it's something our staff, volunteers and donors help bring about every day, and we are very grateful for their generosity and support.

Whether it's in the form of time or money there is no more important investment we as individuals can make than in helping our nation's children realize – and share – their full potential.

***We're Big Brothers Big Sisters and we believe in the value and the values of mentoring.***



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## 2018 – A BBBS Grande Prairie and Area ‘Year in Review’

The 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Ultimate Escape kicked off 2018 and once again the event exceeded everyone's expectations. All funds raised that evening stay in our community and directly help match children and youth with positive, safe and quality mentors. This event grows in size and community support each year and we look forward to that trend continuing in 2019 as we brainstorm new ideas to keep the event fresh and the crowd entertained.

April 8<sup>th</sup> marked our 5th annual Curl for Kids' Sake event. A BIG thank you to the Canadian Tire for stepping up to sponsor this family event. We asked curlers to use their imaginations to dress up and we were not disappointed in the results! So many great costumes! Keeping in the spirit of the 2018 Olympic games, we had the honor of hearing Canadian Olympic Curling Team Coach, Renee Sonnenberg address the crowd. This fascinating presentation included pictures and a first hand account of what it is like to attend the Olympics as an athlete and stay in Olympic Village.

Thank you Renee!

Thanks to the generous businesses who donated great raffle and balloon pop prizes.



June is always a busy month for our agency. Our family barbecue is a yearly favorite for mentors and families involved with the agency, another great turn out this year! We also have our Battle Royale at Splatter Paintball on Father's Day in June, another great fun, family centered event.

We considered ourselves fortunate this year as BBBS Head Office has decided to replace annual conventions in Toronto with regional conferences every other year. The regional conference this year was in Vancouver, Corinne Patterson and Barbara Feltham Brentnall represented the Grande Prairie agency. It was incredibly informative and the smaller group allowed us to make some great connections with neighboring agencies.

We were pleased to be able to participate once again in the KMSC Law Charity Golf Tournament. Kudos to KMSC Law for supporting so many local and deserving charities.

We cannot forget our summer Westjet raffle, thank you Westjet Cares for your ongoing support.



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During Big Brothers Big Sisters Month in September, we partnered with Morguard Properties to coincide with their BeYou! girls empowerment project. The week was filled with activities for young ladies including a sleepover and breakfast the next morning. The feedback from this collaboration was outstanding, we are set for an even better event in 2019. The event even resulted in several new mentor applications.



Shout out to the Grande Prairie Storm for providing us again with a set of season tickets for our mentors and their little to use to enjoy a hockey game together.

In September we were lucky to be able to send 3 young ladies on the trip of a lifetime to Disneyland in California sponsored by Dreams Take Flight. The memories made on this day will surely last a lifetime.

September & October saw the kick off of the annual United Way campaign, Big Brothers Big Sisters is grateful to be a recipient of their generous support.

The agency's staff, Board members, families, and volunteers once again joined together to sell tickets at the Prairie Mall to help make the Cars for Christmas lottery fundraiser a success. This is in addition to the Cash & Camping ticket sales that we helped out with April for Rotary. We also had many volunteers set up to help with the Prairie Mall's gift-wrapping station. A special year-end treat for our agency is the Christmas Party. This year was complete with bouncy castles and a sleigh ride out at Evergreen Park. Of course we must thank you Santa Ken again for helping hand out gifts to all our Littles which were generously donated by the Big Toy Box.



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## 2018 Statistics Summary

### Community Program

YEAR	VOLUNTEERS			FAMILIES			PRESENTATIONS	# OF MATCHES
	INQUIRIES	IN SCREENING	APPROVED	INQUIRIES	IN SCREENING	APPROVED		
2018								
JANUARY	5	0	0	3	2	0	0	23
FEBRUARY	6	1	1	7	4	3	0	23
MARCH	3	1	0	7	10	7	1	25
APRIL	47	17	5	4	7	2	2	28
MAY	8	17	9	7	9	8	1	33
JUNE	4	13	3	2	0	0	2	37
JULY	4	10	3	2	0	0	3	40
AUGUST	5	8	2	1	1	0	1	42
SEPTEMBER	8	14	3	6	5	0	4	44
OCTOBER	4	14	3	7	8	4	1	46
NOVEMBER	11	16	4	16	20	5	0	48
DECEMBER	11	15	1	7	9	3	0	49

### In-School Program

YEAR	VOLUNTEERS			FAMILIES			PRESENTATIONS	# OF MATCHES
	INQUIRIES	IN SCREENING	APPROVED	INQUIRIES	IN SCREENING	APPROVED		
2018								
JANUARY	9	9	1	13	13	0	1	21
FEBRUARY	0	10	9	0	10	8	0	28
MARCH	3	1	0	2 schools	3	0	2	29
APRIL	4	3	3	1 school	3	0	0	28
MAY	2	4	1	1 school	3	0	2	27
JUNE	2	1	0	1 school	0	0	1	27
JULY	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	summer
AUGUST	0	2	1	2 schools	0	0	0	summer
SEPTEMBER	6	6	1	6 schools	6	0	2	2
OCTOBER	24	23	0	5 schools	2	0	3	2
NOVEMBER	9	21	2	2 schools	3	3	2	5
DECEMBER								



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## Major Sponsors & Funders

100 Men Who Care  
 Air Canada Foundation  
 Affordable Elegance  
 Alberta North Auctions  
 All West Glass  
 Aquatera  
 Arc Resources  
 ATB Financial  
 Aurora Eye Care  
 Auto Exotic Trim & Signs  
 BMO Bank of Montreal  
 BW Berch Concrete  
 Better Than Freds  
 Big Country XX  
 Birchcliff Energy Ltd.  
 Bone and Biscuit  
 CCSI  
 Canadian Tire  
 Canadian Western Bank  
 Canfor  
 Cardon Homes  
 City of Grande Prairie  
 Community Foundation of Northwestern Alberta  
 Costco  
 County of Grande Prairie No. 1  
 Devco Developments  
 Doug Marshall GM  
 Evergreen Park  
 FYI Doctors  
 Gas Drive  
 Gateway Sunrooms & Shades  
 GP Auto Group  
 Grande Prairie Live Theatre  
 Grande Prairie Rotary Club  
 Grande Prairie Stompede  
 HWD Construction  
 Hayes Fry Law  
 Hamel Excavating  
 Hammerhead Resources  
 Hansen Ford Lincoln  
 Health Hut  
 Holiday Inn & Suites West Edmonton  
 Holloway Lodging Corporation Inc.  
 Keddies Tack & Western Wear  
 Ken Sargent GMC Buick Ltd.

Huron Resources  
 Ignite Marketing and Productions Ltd.  
 Investors Group Financial Services  
 Kaymor Welding  
 Ken Sargent GM  
 KMSC Law  
 Madhatters  
 McGovern RV  
 McNabb Lucuk Accountants  
 Meyers Norris Penny  
 Monarch Homes  
 Morguard (Prairie Mall)  
 Morningview Park Golf Course  
 Mr. Mike's Steakhouse Casual  
 Nevada Bob's  
 New-Horizon Co-op  
 Nitehawk Adventure Park  
 Norboard  
 Northstar Hydrovac  
 Northern Doors  
 Off-Track Motorsports  
 OK Tire  
 Revolution Place  
 Pasco Maintenance  
 Pomeroy Lodging  
 Q99  
 Redline Powercraft  
 Regional EMS Foundation  
 Remax  
 RocDog Contracting  
 Rock 977  
 SLR Consulting  
 Servus Credit Union  
 Seven Generations Energy  
 Splatter Paintball  
 Spruce Meadows Golf Club  
 Swan City Rotary Club  
 TD Canada Trust  
 Teepee Creek Stampede  
 Tenille  
 Uniglobe Total Travel  
 Unique Home Concepts  
 United Way