



Moorelands Kids

myMoorelands

Our Vision: We Empower Kids to Transform their Lives

Holiday 2019

Christmas Sharing – A Chance to “Do Good” Together!



Last year, generous individuals, businesses, churches, families and groups of friends made Christmas happen for 819 children and youth by taking part in *Christmas Sharing!* This year, 64 youth still need your support through our Mitts & a Movie option. Sign up now at www.moorelands.ca/mitts

As a mother herself, Jacqueline Gris , owner of Caterpillar & Co. and Monarch Manor Childcare Centres, knows just how much pressure families can come under at Christmas time. *“The costs of Christmas can really start to add up. I’m so happy that we can support families-in-need at Christmas and help them celebrate.”*

Today, Caterpillar & Co. is in its 7th, and Monarch is in its 3rd, year of supporting Moorelands Kids’ *Christmas Sharing – adopt-a-family program.*

“Christmas Sharing has become such an important part of our community at the centres. Each year, we adopt a few families and create ornaments for our tree displaying items from each family’s wish list. Then parents, teachers and other staff take an ornament, choosing the item they would like to contribute. It is truly overwhelming to see the generosity of our community as the gifts start overflowing... everyone sharing this same desire to help and give back.”

As an educator, Jacqueline understands that children are shaped by experiences.



She explains why she believes it’s important for the children at her centre to help other kids by taking part in charitable endeavours like *Christmas Sharing*:

*“It’s so important to provide children with positive experiences to shape their view of the world. It’s critical that children believe in themselves and know that **THEY** can make a difference.*

“Taking part in Christmas Sharing is a source of inspiration for our children. In giving them this experience of sharing, we show them that giving makes you feel good and, hopefully, inspire them to continue to do so.

“When you show kids the importance of caring, you are planting a seed and setting values in place that will have a big impact on who they become as adults. It’s so wonderful to be a part of Moorelands Kids’ Christmas Sharing – everyone “doing good” together.”

Jacqueline, we couldn’t agree more! Sharing, caring and community are at the heart of all Moorelands Kids’ programs.

Our heartfelt thanks to all the children, parents and staff at Caterpillar & Co. and Monarch Manor Childcare Centres. Thank you for giving back this Holiday!

Turn over the page to see how YOU can make Christmas wishes come true with Moorelands Kids this year!

You Can Make Christmas Wishes Come True!

How to Help this Holiday

Toronto has the highest income inequality in Canada. While many of us look forward to a big, joyful Christmas celebration with our loved ones, there are 133,000 children living below the poverty line in our city whose Holidays may not be so bright.

Moorelands Kids continues to expand, to reach over 1600 of the most under-served kids in 2019

We urgently need your help to complete the journey for the final 100 children who remain unsupported through their camp and Christmas experience.



Host a Holiday Party for a Cause!

Make your Christmas party extra special this year by asking guests to transform a low-income child's future in a tangible way with a contribution to Moorelands Kids.



Baby Bundles!

Provide a new mom affected by poverty with a gift to welcome her newborn. See the list of much-needed supplies that go into our bundles:

www.moorelands.ca/baby



Make Moorelands Kids YOUR Christmas Wish!

Many of us are fortunate to be in a position of plenty. Consider asking your loved ones to make a gift to Moorelands Kids in your honour this Christmas rather than a physical gift.

www.moorelands.ca/tribute-donations



Want to be an elf and volunteer at Christmas Sharing? Sign up online!

www.moorelands.ca/volunteer-at-christmas/



Mitts and a Movie!

Sign up online to be matched with a youth in our after-school LED and VITAL leadership programs. You'll provide a young person with hats, mitts and a \$25 movie pass. Don't have time to go shopping? Donate the value using the enclosed donor card - \$40.

www.moorelands.ca/mitts



Our Christmas Wish: Support the Final 100 Kids

Thanks to our generous donors we know that many kids will get to enjoy a Holiday celebration filled with joy and good cheer.

But we have another Christmas wish for which we URGENTLY need your help. Our Happiness Factor Appeal — 100 of our most vulnerable kids remain without sponsorship at camp, as we face our year-end. Their need is clear. Our need for your help this season is great.

The impact of technology on the developing brain, is well documented. We offer a tech-free, nature-based environment and the tools kids need to overcome the many mental health challenges that arise when you lack connection to peers and mentors. We call this the Moorelands Happiness Factor. For us, saying no to these vulnerable kids just isn't an option.

Please help us raise the remaining \$117,500 we need to end the year with all 2019 kids fully sponsored.



GivingTuesday

December 3rd

We're sharing an incredible matching opportunity to **double your impact on #GivingTuesday, from the The Harold E. Ballard Foundation.** Through their generosity we have the opportunity to transform an aging, dilapidated cabin on our camp property into an incredible new Multi-Purpose Program Space where campers like Elise, can enjoy cook-outs and camp outs for many years to come! To do this, we need to raise \$67,000.

Make your donation by going online on December 3rd, and The Harold E. Ballard Foundation will match your gift that day, up to \$20,000!

www.moorelands.ca/givingtuesday



I really wish the night didn't end because the feeling I had spending time with my friends was outright fantastic. It felt good that we were all friends having fun without electronics in the way. Just having fun with the people you care about gives you a great feeling of friendship. It was by far the best night I ever had at camp!

I really learned a lot at camp out. I learned that we had to work together for the canoe to move. We also had to care for and respect the canoes and ourselves, making sure we were doing things safely. Responsibility had a big part to play in camp out too. We had to make sure we were not putting others in danger by not following the rules."

Join the Happiness Factor Appeal and give more campers the chance to enjoy their "best camp night" ever!

Camp Outs – The BEST NIGHT EVER!

See why Elise thinks Camp Outs are THE BEST NIGHT EVER at Moorelands Camp!

By Elise, age 13 | *"I'd never been canoeing before so I was super excited when we got lessons before camp out. Sitting there with the wind blowing on my face felt simply amazing. When camp out day finally arrived, everyone in my cabin was so excited for the adventures that awaited us. We canoed for about 30 minutes to a big rock in the middle of the lake before we headed to our campsite – our leader told us we were the first campers ever to make it there! We had so much fun!*

When we had dinner in the forest - bbq burgers and roasted marshmallows – I got so excited! We had a blast talking and joking around.

Festi-Fall! Brings Camp Cheer to the City!



What better way to celebrate all things fall than a good ol' Moorelands Kids' campfire? On Saturday,

October 19th, we brought 150 campers, families and volunteers together in Toronto for a huge celebration of cheers, songs, skits and active fun! **We're so grateful** to everyone who came out to make the day a success!



Richard Son, aka Spyder, worked at *Moorelands Camp* in 2004/2005 and returned to volunteer at *Festi-fall!* with two of his buddies from the armed forces, Regina Chamilov, and Marco Trotta. He also generously donated a host of cool prizes for the campers! Spyder is proud to remain a part of Moorelands Kids: *"I worked at camp for two summers so I know that the kids really need this support and community. Keeping physically active is so important for both physical and mental health. We were all really happy to be able to help!"*

Our heartfelt thanks to Spyder and all our amazing volunteers!



Start the New Year off right! Applications for *Moorelands Camp 2020* will be online in **JANUARY!**
Apply online at: www.moorelands.ca/camp-application

Serving Serious Wines & Fun Times

Long-time supporters, Marg McKillop and Bill Fanjoy, challenged their friends to join them for a wine-tasting party with a twist and in the process raised over \$18,000 for Moorelands Kids' after-school programs!

Honouring new Board Director, Eryn Fanjoy, Marg and Bill generously treated guests to delectable wines from around the world, a wine-tasting contest and a silent wine auction. The three asked their guests to make a contribution to Moorelands Kids' after-school programs.

Together, this community of friends and family is providing kids with a safe space throughout the school year, and access to the Moorelands' Habits & Qualities training that empowers kids to overcome the opportunity gap.

Thank you, Marg, Bill & Eryn!

Want to host your own Holiday party or other fundraiser?

Check out the ideas at www.moorelands.ca/fundraise

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Our Vision

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