
Maidstone SCC “Welcome Back Backyard Party” A Huge Success September 15, 2010

The Maidstone School Community Council kicked off the school year with a superb event designed to bring the schools and the community together. The “Welcome Back Backyard Party” (second annual) was a stunning success as the entire town turned out to take part in the festivities and the events.

Built around a community barbeque, (500 burgers, 250 hotdogs, admission and food for a grand total of \$0), community businesses were asked to stage fun events for everyone.

“It was wonderful,” said SCC member Trish McLaren. “The businesses are, (and were), all very busy you know, but they still committed to both the day and the time, and they let the kids play from the start to well past the finish!”

“There were so many activities,” Michele Lundquist commented. “The Post Office brought sacks for sack races, there was face painting and Fear Factor, the Dino Dig and the Duck ponds. The Fire Department brought the hoses and let the kids aim them at targets (which inadvertently also came to include the firemen who went out to reset the targets into position). We even had one business that let the kids sit up in a backhoe with the operator and get the experience of seeing how it works.”

“The entertainment this year was aimed at everyone,” said Trish, “from 2 year olds through to seniors, and the kids... well, the kids were just totally pumped, asking from the first day back at school when the party was going to happen.”

“Two companies combined and brought in an inflatable jumping castle, an obstacle course and a bungee run,” said SCC chairperson Becky Schmitt. “The bungee run was so much fun that even the adults were almost fighting over taking part.”

“The first year we ran this a lot of the businesses wanted to write us a cheque, but that wasn’t what we were after,” said Becky. “We wanted them to become involved and take part and help build connections between the schools, the people in the town, and the business community. People sometimes think that if they don’t have someone in their family in the school then they shouldn’t take part. We wanted to create an event that involved everyone to bridge that gap, and we did it!”

The Maidstone SCC would like to thank (and tip their hats) to the following businesses and organizations for their contributions: Synergy Credit Union, for the duck pond and bubble blowing; CIBC, for the Fear Factor; Maidstone Pharmacy, for the Rider Pride ‘tattoos and stickers’ event; Keranda Industrial Supply Ltd. & Rhinehart Tire, for the Apollo Jump bouncing castle, obstacle course & bungee run; Lou’s & Sue’s Restaurant, along with Twink-ell Face Art (Danica Lorer), for the face painting; J & R trucking Ltd. for the Dino Dig and the dino ice-cream; Hardy Excavating Ltd. for the backhoe rodeo; the RCMP and the EMT for the street

hockey tournaments; Lori Wiltermuth for the 'tail gate book parties' and Michele Bailey for the book giveaway; Canada Post Office for the sack races; Maidstone Fire and Rescue, for target practice with the hoses and metal cutting; the Royal Eccentric Dynamic Hatters (R.E.D. Hatters), for the bean bag toss, the horse shoe golf and the shoe wash; Petro Canada, for the popcorn giveaway; SADD, for the movie; the staff and students of Ratushniak Elementary School and Maidstone High School for their invaluable aid and assistance in all things; and lastly to the people of Maidstone and area for their wonderful support.

