

Keep Textiles Out of Landfills

Sign Up for the Earth Week Clothing and Textile Recycling Drive for TDSB Schools

Textile recovery has an enormous social, economic, and environmental benefit to us all. The population of Toronto generates approximately **230,330,566 pounds** of residential textile waste annually. Currently 85% of textiles go to landfill sites across Canada. Studies indicate that every consumer in Canada produces 30-40 kilograms (66-88 lbs.) of textile waste per year.

For 2017, Diabetes Canada is pleased to partner with the City of Toronto's Clean Toronto Together Campaign in an effort to encourage TDSB school communities to donate used clothing and textiles during Earth Week, including the School Cleanup Day on Friday, April 21, 2017.

TDSB schools will be offered the opportunity to run a 1-week clothing drive between April 18 to 21. Each school will be encouraged to donate unwanted clothing and textiles. Diabetes Canada will provide a free corrugated box, that only requires a 36" W x 24" L of floor space in the gym, hallway or shared common area in the interior of the school. Students can also decorate the box if they wish. Diabetes Canada will pick up the box and donations at the end of the clothing drive from the schools beginning April 24th.

What's in it for your school?

- Every school that participates will receive \$2.00 CDN per filled 67L garbage bag of used clothing and or textiles that is no less than 20 lbs in weight bag that is collected during the drive. For example: **If 500 bags are collected at one school that would result in a payment of \$1,000.00 to that school.** **Note:** It is not necessary for students, families and staff to fill a 67L garbage bag to participate. Smaller bags will be combined by Diabetes staff during pick up to make a full 67L garbage bag that totals 20 lbs. A **\$500 cash prize** will also be given to the top collecting school from each school board.
- Schools will be helping Diabetes Canada send at least 2 children, youth or young adults with Type 1 Diabetes to a Diabetes Canada D-Camp, where they will learn diabetes management, gain increased self confidence & self esteem, in a safe, fun & educational camp environment.
- The Clean Toronto Together campaign gives students the opportunity to learn about the impacts of litter, the importance of recycling and the value of keeping our communities clean. Adding Diabetes Canada to these efforts will let students build on the 3Rs by diverting textiles from landfill, educate students about the reuse and recyclability of the various textiles they dispose of and provide education about diabetes.

About Diabetes Canada:

- Diabetes Canada has been collecting gently used clothing and textiles for 31 years.
- **100% of all net proceeds from the sale of the donated items (\$12 Million, yearly)** fund world leading diabetes research, education and programs that help the 11 Million Canadians affected by diabetes and prediabetes.
- Diabetes Canada's 4000 drop boxes, clothing drives and 2900 ongoing textile collection partnerships send **2400** children, youth and young adults with Type 1 Diabetes to Diabetes Canada D-Camps each year.
- Diabetes Canada is **100% not-for-profit**
- Diabetes Canada diverts **100 Million+ pounds of clothing and textiles from Canadian landfills annually.**
- Diabetes Canada operates 28 operations and 100 trucks across Canada, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

Important Diabetes Statistics:

- **One third of young people aged 5 to 17 are overweight or obese, which is contributing to Type 2 Diabetes appearing in children – unheard of a few decades ago.**
- Every three minutes, another Canadian is diagnosed with diabetes.
- A person with diabetes faces a reduction of 5 to 15 years of life expectancy.
- Diabetes is a cause of 30% of strokes, 40% of heart attacks, 50% of kidney failure requiring dialysis, and 70% of all non-traumatic amputations.
- Diabetes is the leading cause of vision loss and blindness.
- People with diabetes are also at much greater risk of depression and mental health challenges.

To register, for more information or questions please contact:

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