

**Office of the Regional Chair and CEO  
The Regional Municipality of Durham**



# **Statement**

## **from the Regional Chair**

October 5, 2015

### **20-Year Lease Signed at Kids' Safety Village**

Whitby, Ontario – Today we celebrate the renewal of the land lease for the Kids' Safety Village to operate for an additional twenty years. We also recognize the amazing outcomes that we can achieve when the community, the schools, and local governments work together.

Back in the early 1990's, some very insightful Durham residents had a vision for a learning facility for our young people - a miniature village that would give children a real sense of the world, but on a scale to which they could relate. As a result of the personal effort and dedication of the original members of the Kids' Safety Village Board, thousands of children now pass through the classrooms and buildings every year. From fire, rail, bus and hydro safety, to information on safe strangers and the use of 911, the instruction that occurs at the Village helps to equip our kids to make smart decisions.

More than that, in the classrooms and in the miniature town, there is an opportunity for our youngest residents to forge a lifelong appreciation of the important work that our police officers do every day. The Village is a chance for our kids to interact with the police in a positive, constructive, and helpful environment. And to plant the seed for a relationship built on trust, respect and cooperation.

Thank you to the corporate donors who have made contributions toward the construction, operation and revitalization of the Village. We are deeply grateful for the support given to the safety and wellbeing of our children. I am sure that they will be pleased with the return on their investment for years to come. These organizations share a common commitment to provide a safe environment for our children to play, to learn and to grow.

Thank you to everyone for making the Kids' Safety Village such a resounding success.

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