



# Driving Force

A regular update for supporters of MADD Toronto

Vol 1 Issue V Spring 2006

## »»Memorial donation helps educate, inspire youth

In late 2005, MADD Toronto was the very grateful recipient of a generous memorial donation in the amount of \$5000 from Karen and Bill Barnett. This donation was made in memory of Andrew



**Andrew Westlake**

Westlake, who was tragically killed by an impaired driver on Saturday, September 9, 1995. Andrew was to begin his first day of

university studies the following Monday.

Andrew was a two-time provincial junior Kayaking champion and a focused young man who was planning to pursue a career in environmental studies. His life was tragically cut short by an impaired driver, who, when tested hours after the crash, was still almost twice over the legal limit. The impaired driver killed two and injured 11 others that night. He received 240 hours of community service, 75 hours speaking to students about the crash and a four-year driving suspension. His two-year conditional sentence included staying out of bars or drinking alcohol.

Only three months after he was sentenced, he was arrested in the

very same bar where he had been drinking the night he killed Andrew. He served the remaining 21 months of his sentence in jail, got his driver's license back after five years, and life went on. The Westlake family have had to endure a life of senseless anguish ever since.

In memory of the vibrant spirit of Andrew, the Barnett's generous donation has been put toward high impact multimedia presentations at four Toronto high schools; as well as Prom Program 2006, in which high school students sign contracts promising not to drink and drive (or get in a car with someone who has been drinking) on prom night.

Without our donors' support, we would not be able to continue this vital work in Toronto. Our heartfelt thanks to the Barnetts and each and every donor for making such an important difference.

**We welcome your contact!**

**518 Eglinton Avenue East,**

**Toronto, ON M4P 1N6**

**Tel. 416-924-2666**

**Fax 416-924-3666**

**[maddtoronto@bellnet.ca](mailto:maddtoronto@bellnet.ca)**

**[www.madd.ca/toronto](http://www.madd.ca/toronto)**

*Thank you for sharing our mission:*

*To stop impaired driving and to support the victims of this violent crime.*

**MADD Toronto  
Board of Directors  
(2005-2006)**

**Co-Presidents**  
Carolyn Swinson and  
Mary Sultana

**Treasurer and Past President:**  
Joyce Westlake

**R.I.D.E. Coordinators**  
Ruth Collins and  
Sgt. Frank Partridge

**Media Relations**  
Sandra Ania

**Communications**  
Daniela Attard

**University Outreach**  
Jisoo Lee

**Director at Large**  
Christine Leung

Great thanks to our board members, and all our volunteers, members and all our volunteers, members and donors for helping achieve our mission.

## Irish eyes are smiling at partnership between Toronto Police Service and MADD Toronto

### »»Combined efforts, passion needed to keep drivers in check

For those drivers who made the decision to drink and drive this past St. Patrick's Day, they could not count on the luck of the Irish to protect them.

The Toronto Police Service had several RIDE teams out in full force throughout the city on Friday March 17. Augmenting our efforts was a MADD Toronto-sponsored RIDE spotcheck, with officers working outside of their regularly scheduled hours.

Further to the financial support received, our sincere appreciation is extended to the MADD Toronto volunteers who attend the spotchecks with Toronto Police Service members. We recognize their commitment to removing impaired drivers from our roads to ensure our city remains safe.

This spotcheck stopped 950 vehicles and 32 drivers were tested. This means that 1 in 30 drivers stopped had been drinking, with 1 in 8 tested drivers given a licence

suspension. As MADD Toronto board member Sandra Ania says, "Of the many vehicles we pass driving to work, home or the grocery store, we're sure to exceed 30. It's a sobering thought to think that one out of every 30 drivers we pass may have been drinking."

To date this year there have been 19 traffic fatalities in the city of

**"It's a sobering thought to think that one out of every 30 drivers we pass may have been drinking."**

Toronto. Two of the driver fatalities have involved alcohol. In 2005 there were 59 fatalities with 8 driver fatalities involving alcohol. As MADD Toronto supporters know, impaired driving continues to be the single leading criminal cause of death in Canada. The dol-

lar costs are estimated to be in the billions each year, but there is no greater cost than the senseless and tragic loss of life.

The Toronto Police Service is committed to eliminating impaired drivers from Toronto's roadways and recognizes MADD Toronto's efforts to create awareness of impaired driving.

Together we must remain diligent in the fight against impaired driving and continue in our efforts to reduce these tragic events even further. Our continuing partnership to encourage people to

drive safe and sober throughout the year reflects our combined passion and commitment to ending impaired driving.

*Lee Bishop, Constable 3123, R.I.D.E. Coordinator, Traffic Services-Traffic Programs*



The current Criminal Code blood alcohol concentration (BAC) limit is 0.08% (80 mg. of alcohol per 100 ml of blood). Based on this real-world threshold for criminal charges, an average 200 lb. man can drink over six bottles of regular beer or over a bottle of wine in a two-hour period and then drive without exceeding the real-world threshold for criminal charges. In a recent press release, MADD Canada states: "A federal 0.05% BAC offence will reduce the number of impaired drivers on Canadian roads.

Because of its general impact across the population of drinking drivers, a 0.05% BAC law is an effective means of significantly decreasing impaired driving deaths and injuries.

MADD Toronto invites you to get active in the Enough is Enough campaign and share our goal to educate and move the country's law makers to draft effective impaired driving laws with more appropriate legal limits.

## Busy MADD volunteer models how one person can make a difference

Planning ahead has always been a part of Antonio Correa's life. Antonio, a.k.a. Tony, has been in the Canadian Forces Reserves for two and a half years and is currently on the executive board of the Toronto Police Rover Crew as a squad leader.

In November 2005, Tony contacted Kathy Mailman, MADD Toronto Development Manager, to see how he and his rover crew could help out, and we couldn't be happier with all the help Tony and his team have given us.

Tony has been on many RIDE programs, sets up MADD Toronto displays at his college, manages red ribbon boxes, sells MADD Canada wristbands and organizes the Prom Program at local high schools.

At only 22 years old, Tony is an active, caring role model. He's



### MADD Toronto Volunteer Tony

been involved in many community organizations, such as Scouts Canada, Canadian Cancer Society and MADD Toronto, and continues

to find the time to help those less fortunate between school, work and friends.

He currently works as a security guard for Intelligarde® and is a student at Humber Institute of Technology & Advanced Learning, studying to becoming one of our city's finest: a police officer.

When asked why he volunteers his time for MADD Toronto, he responds: "It's a good cause and there is no reason why not.

Impaired driving is a growing concern, especially living in a big city."

Tony is extremely happy to be volunteering for MADD Toronto and says we've made him feel part of a family.

It's a family that is proud to count him among us.

Sandra Ania

## MADD Toronto in Action In addition to participating in national public awareness campaigns, MADD Toronto is active in many local initiatives. Just a sampling:

- »Victim Services, guidance through justice system, emotional support and referrals
- »Poster, Essay Writing, Multi-Media Contest, to raise awareness of the dangers of drinking and driving for elementary and secondary school students
- »Prom Program, to help students abstain from drinking and driving on prom night
- »University Outreach, run by TSADD (Trinity Students Against Drunk Driving)
- »R.I.D.E. Checkpoints, together with Toronto Police on the streets, raising awareness and honouring victim
- »Group Presentations, to raise awareness in the community and schools
- »Multi-media shows, high-impact youth program presented on 3 giant screens
- »Media Outreach, telling our stories
- »Court Monitoring, to attend court and track impaired charges





# MADD

Mothers Against Drunk Driving™  
Toronto Chapter



## Bowl for MADD Canada on Mother's Day!

This year, get the family and friends together to join in the fun for a great cause as MADD Toronto celebrates the 2nd Annual Bowl for MADD. The event honours victims of impaired driving and fundraises in support of our continued fight against impaired driving. Participating bowling centres across the GTA are offering a great deal: from 10 am to 6 pm, families can enjoy 3 games of bowling for only \$5 + GST per person and half the proceeds will go to MADD Toronto!

- Bowlerama Newtonbrook  
5837 Yonge St. 416-222-4657
- Bowlerama Rexdale  
115 Rexdale Blvd 416-734-8388
- Rouge Hill Bowl  
111 Island Road, West Hill 416-282-5941
- Parkway Bowl  
67 Ellesmere Road 416-447-1761
- Bowlerama West  
5429 Dundas St W. 416-239-3536
- Kennedy Lanes  
2300 Lawrence Ave E. 416-759-6181
- Bathurst Bowlerama  
2788 Bathurst St. 416-782-1841

For Southern Ontario centres,  
[www.madd.ca](http://www.madd.ca).

## Our great thanks to our Bowl for MADD sponsors:

- |                     |                             |                 |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| 97.3 FM EZRock      | NewsTalk CFRB 1010          | GANZ            |
| Wish Magazine       | The Organic Make-up Company |                 |
| dine TO             | Bark & Fitz.                |                 |
| Fitness One         | Toronto Blue Jays           |                 |
| Toronto Maple Leafs | Factory Theatre             | The Second City |

## Mark your calendar!

- May 4 and 8** - MADD Toronto Judging for In the Driver's Seats at various high schools
- May 5** - Grand and Toy Health Fair
- May 5 and May 8** - Raptors' Foundation sponsored Multimedia at Danforth CTI and Malvern Collegiate
- May 8** - Presentation at L'Amoureux CI
- May 9** - Nurses Week presentation at Lindhurst
- May 12** - Unveiling of new MADD Canada television PSAs
- May 14** - Bowl for MADD
- May 17** - Monthly Meeting (7 pm)
- May 20**  
RIDE at Traffic Services
- May 25 and May 26** - MADD Toronto Reps at Alcohol Awareness
- Events at Marshall McLuhan Catholic SS
- May 28** - Presentation at Catholic Women's League
- May 30** - In the Driver's Seat, City Hall
- June 13** - MADD Toronto at 2nd Annual Neighbours
- Night Out at Nathan Phillips Square
- June 14** - Enbridge Health & Safety Day Health Fair
- June 21** - Monthly Meeting (7 pm)
- July 1** - Scarborough Canada Day Parade
- July 28, 29** - Public Awareness, Yorkdale Mall

For more information and details of upcoming events, please visit us at [www.madd.ca/toronto](http://www.madd.ca/toronto)