



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**Monday, February 10, 2020**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Contest invites youth to share why they love Barrie**

(Barrie, ON) The City of Barrie's [I Love Barrie contest](#) is now accepting entries and the prize pool for this year's competition has grown. The contest runs until February 28 and welcomes local students to share their love of the city. This year, the *I Love Barrie* campaign has expanded to include all ages of students, from Kindergarten to Grade 12.

The contest invites youth share why they love Barrie and why it's a great place to live, grow and learn.

"*I Love Barrie* inspires our youth to reflect on what they love about Barrie and promotes positive engagement with local schools," says Mayor Jeff Lehman. "I look forward to reading the insightful essays, and seeing the heartfelt artwork and inspiring photos in this year's contest."

"I recall listening to last year's winners present their essays at a Council meeting, and their words and sense of civic pride were so moving," says Ward 10 Councillor Mike McCann. "This year's *I Love Barrie* contest is even bigger and better. I can't wait to see what our young people love about Barrie during this year's event."

Primary (Kindergarten to Grade 3) students are invited to submit art. Junior (Grades 4 to 6) students can submit a short story (up to 350 words). Intermediate (Grade 7 and 8) students can submit a short story (up to 500 words). High school students (Grades 9 to 12) can submit a photo with a 200 character post/caption to show why they love Barrie.

This contest is open to all elementary and secondary students who attend an English or French public or private school in Barrie, or who live in Barrie and are home schooled. Entries must be submitted by an individual, not a class.

One winner will be chosen from each level: Primary, Junior, Intermediate and High School. The four (4) winners will each receive:

- I Love Barrie prize pack
- One month City of Barrie Family Recreation Pass
- Artwork and essays will be published online and in the Barrie Advance
- Artwork and photo winners will be displayed on City flags along the waterfront
- Co-hosting with Matt & Tara on Fresh 93.1's morning show

Contest artwork and essays can be submitted online at [barrie.ca/MyBarrie](http://barrie.ca/MyBarrie). Entries can also be submitted in person to Service Barrie (located on the first floor of Barrie City Hall, 70 Collier St.) during regular business hours (Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.). All entries must be received by 4:30 p.m. on Friday, February 28.

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**For more information, please contact:**

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