



**Making a statement**

From left; Emma Gunn, Ela Levigoren, Adam Lennox and Alec Purnell — along with group member Tyson Litzen — did all the legwork to organize their Global Connect class day-long “sleep out” to raise awareness of poverty and homelessness in their school, in Dundas, and around the world. | Photo by Craig Campbell

# Poverty isn't just outside Dundas

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“They’ve done more than a day’s work for this.”

The class didn’t have access to their cell phones or computers, and no games or other things they might take for granted. Their one concession was being allowed to bring food for the day.

Gunn said the sleep out took various forms during research and planning, but new rules didn’t permit the group to sleep out overnight, as they had originally hoped.

Instead, the information session and demonstration moved to the new wing’s courtyard, next to the cafeteria, where every student was anticipated to see that something was happening.

The class wrote facts about poverty and

homelessness on discarded cardboard pieces. Some were fastened to the ground, so they could be read from the upper-story windows overlooking the courtyard.

“We’re trying to prove homelessness (and poverty) aren’t just issues outside of Dundas,” Gunn said. “(We’re) coming out to try to raise awareness for a cause that affects our community and kids in our school.”

Lennox said if anyone’s goal was just to avoid school for the day, they wouldn’t have shown up and stayed for the sleep out. In fact, the group had full participation from their class, with the only reasons for coming and going being a few students that had an important test or other school responsibility.

The group hoped students who saw them in the courtyard would come down to find

out more.

They were also collecting donations for Senequip, an organization that supports youth in Senegal by providing sports leagues, equipment, coaching and school supplies.

The same class that organized the sleep out also ran Dundas Valley’s annual Halloween for Hunger food drive, which collected more than 10,000 pounds of food for the Dundas Salvation Army food bank.

Students Elizabeth West and Morgan MacLeod led the way, organizing a Dundas-wide effort that included acquiring donated bags and attaching tags to them, then handing them out to 66 student volunteers who then dropped the bags off at Dundas homes on individual routes, then went back on Halloween to pick them up.

COMMUNITY

## Deer hunt dates are announced

The dates of this season’s Haudenosaunee deer hunt have been announced by the Hamilton Conservation Authority.

Until Dec. 8, harvesting will be allowed on HCA-owned lands in the Dundas Valley Conservation Area roughly bounded by Paddy Greene, Powerline, Martin and Jerseyville roads on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

From Jan. 2 to 12, harvesting will shift to conservation lands where there are no trails or public access on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. The area is located northwest of Weir’s Lane and Governors Road.

The number of deer will be limited to 60. Trail signage will be posted and adjacent residents will be notified about the harvest and area closures.

ENTERTAINMENT

## Dundas Christmas for all to share

The Dundas Museum and Archives presents A Dundas Christmas, an evening of dinner and entertainment for everyone to share.

The event takes place Wednesday, Nov. 30, starting at 6 p.m. at the Hamilton Air Force Association, 128 King St. E.

The Hamilton Academy of Performing Arts students will perform, along with tenor Michael Toby. Silent auction and cash bar.

Tickets are \$40 for Friends of the Museum and \$45 for the general public. Call 905-627-7412 or [dundasmuseum.ca](http://dundasmuseum.ca).

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