

Aurora teens looking to Jumpstart local sports through charity sale

By Jake Courtepatte

With dozens upon dozens of sports programs offered in York Region, sports are a way of life for a lot of kids in the Aurora community. It's where they meet their friends, and it's where Alexandria Connolly met her friends, too.

That's why she's hoping to give back to the sporting community, to help those that don't get the same chances.

Connolly, along with her best friend, Kennedy Holmes, is hosting a garage sale on April 30 in support of the Canadian Tire Jumpstart program.

According to Jumpstart, one in three Canadian families cannot afford to enroll their kids in organized sports, affecting almost 750,000 kids per year.

Since 2005, Jumpstart has helped get over one-million kids back in the game.

Both Connolly and Holmes became involved with the Jumpstart program last year, with a desire to give back to the community before heading off to university this September.

"We picked Jumpstart because we both recognized the benefits of extra-curricular activities and wanted to help children in our community," said the 17-year old Connolly, who added the duo has received "lots of donations" from friends and family for the event.

Items up for grabs include everything from toys, movies, décor, clothing, and more.

As well as playing soccer and volleyball growing up, Connolly met Holmes in ballet and said life would be "very different" without her best friend.

The address of the sale will be 77 Marsh Harbour, in Aurora.

If you are unable to make it out and still wish to make a donation, donations can be made online at www.ctjumpstart.ca/makingaurorabetter.