## Atom AA Tigers named York Simcoe Champs



## By Brad McMillan

The Aurora Tigers Atom AA team finished their season with a series final sweep of the Stouffville Clippers.

Notably, the Atom AAs outscored their opponents 14-1 in the finals.

The journey this year for the Atom AA Tigers was typical of a Team, learning together what it takes to become champions.

After early season appearances in the tournament finals at both the Orangeville and Kingston tourneys, the Atom AA Tigers decided enough was enough and were victorious in the Nations Cup Tournament in early December at Troy, Michigan.

Sporting their Canadian jerseys and defeating AAA caliber teams from the Northern US, the boys played like they were representing not only Aurora, but Canada as well.

This success allowed the Team to believe it had what it took to take their game to the next level. Even a first round OMHA Playoff loss to OMHA Finalists Markham Waxers did not deter the boys from their next goal; to become York Simcoe Champions.

Series victories over the top teams in their loop, TNT, Barrie, Newmarket and then Stouffville proved the boys had learned the one important character trait they were lacking; ?grit.?

The future is bright for these young athletes and being part of the rep hockey program in Aurora has allowed them to learn vital life lessons that they will take forward in everything they do.

Congratulations Atom AA Tigers on a character building season!

(Back Row) Coach Brad McMillan, Trainer Robert Russo, Coach Bill Hollett, Coach George Kirchmair, Manager Charlene Gonsalves

(Third) Myles Graham, Liam Taylor, Tommy Hollett, Ethan Belisle, Jacob Hoffrogge, Gage Gonsalves, Anton Sopov (Second) Calum Ormond, Nick Giorgio, Luca Capraro, Owen Hollett, Parker Holmes, Jake McMillan (Front) Aiden Kirchmair, Anthony Russo, Owen Papulkas, Ryan Catania
Photo by Sonja Sopov