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Nepean Hotspurs Soccer Club – 40 Years of Community Service

In 2010, the Nepean Hotspurs Soccer Club will celebrate 40 years of community service. It's a remarkable achievement resulting from the efforts of countless volunteers to provide the structure in which thousands of players at all ages and skill levels, wearing our distinctive red and white strip, were able to enjoy playing the beautiful game. Our club crest speaks to our heritage, and points the way to our future. Its elements - a knight's helmet and knight's spur, a soccer ball, a maple leaf, our name and a date - 1970.

The knight's helmet and spur remind us of Sir Henry Percy, also called Harry Hotspur, who was born in 1364. Knighted at the age of 11, immortalized by Shakespeare as a legendary warrior and hero, Henry Percy, earned his nickname "Hotspur" through his bravery in battle and his desire to lead – as was said almost 700 years ago, he had a "hotspur" for the fight. We proudly share this name with Tottenham Hotspur, or 'Spurs, of the English Premiership, whose famed White Hart Lane Stadium stands on land once owned by the Percy family.

In recent years, under the technical leadership of club head coach Boris Bajagic (CSA National 'A' License), the Hotspurs have worked to develop a culture of coaching excellence in order to enhance the development of all of our members. An ongoing collaboration between the Eastern Ontario District Soccer Association and the Hotspurs has seen a coaching development conference delivered each spring featuring the leading technical coaches from the Canadian Soccer Association. This year's event saw coaches from across Eastern Ontario learning from Stephen Hart, Head Coach of the Men's National Team; Ray Clark, Director of Coaching and Player Development; Dave Benning, Manager of Technical Programs; and Tony Fonseca, National Staff Coach and Head Coach of the U-20 Men's National Team.

The last forty years have brought great success to the Hotspurs, and we have been privileged to have Charmaine Hooper, Lyndon Hooper and Kristina Kiss wear our colours during their career. Many of our alumni have gone on to outstanding careers at colleges and universities across North America. While we take pride in their achievements, we take greater pride in introducing the "beautiful game" to thousands of players over the past 40 years, and we look forward to delivering quality programs to players of all ages and skill levels for the next 40 years.

Our 40th anniversary season will see over 61 Hotspurs teams in action in the Ontario Youth Soccer League (GU16 Lightning), the East Region Soccer League (18 teams), the EODSA L5 League (18 teams), the South Side Soccer League (9 teams), and the Ottawa Carleton Soccer League (15 teams). In addition, hundreds of children will participate in our "Let the Kids Play" Development Program, sponsored by Popsicle, summer camp activities and the Hotspurs Indoor Development Program (HIDP) during the winter months. Anniversary celebrations will include our first Charity Golf Tournament and the 16th Annual Nepean Hotspurs Friendship Tournament which will be held on June 12th and 13th. For more information on the Hotspurs, and our 40th anniversary celebrations, please consult our web site at www.hotspurs.on.ca.