



A MENTORING STORY

Once upon a time there was a young man named Mark, who wanted to make a difference in his Alberta community. He talked to his friends and family and decided that mentoring a young child would be a great fit for him. Mark Googled ‘mentoring’ and was amazed at all the information he found! As he scrolled through the list he came across the Alberta Mentoring Partnership – becoming a mentor in Alberta is easy, he thought! Mark started reading through the Alberta Mentoring Partnership website right away; he was excited to find a mentoring opportunity in his area! As Mark continued to peruse the website he was happy to read that ‘mentors don’t need superhuman qualities, just human ones’, which was a great relief to Mark as he knew he wasn’t a superhero! But he knew that he already has what it takes to make a difference – since a large part of being a mentor is simply being yourself! He read that ‘mentoring is a fantastic opportunity to have fun while building a meaningful friendship with a young person – called a mentee.

Mark immediately began to think about what kind of person his mentee would be, what his interests would be, and what kind of activities he and his mentee would do during their time together. He didn’t have to wait long, as the mentoring coordinator from his local volunteering agency contacted him immediately to start the application process. Since Mark was so eager to begin mentoring, he quickly completed the

mentor application process and received his informative mentor training so he could meet his mentee as soon as possible!

The day arrived, and Mark was ready to begin his mentoring journey. He was excited but a little nervous -thankfully he had received many mentoring tips and tools to help him along the way. Mark’s mentoring coordinator introduced him to Mike, his mentee for the next couple of months. The match soon found out they had a lot in common, both liked to fish, play basketball and draw! Most of all, they were both glad they were part of this new mentoring relationship.

Mike the mentee, was a little shy at first, but as he became more comfortable with his mentor, he couldn’t wait to tell Mark about the exciting things that were happening in his life. Mike even felt comfortable enough to tell his mentor about a sad day at home. Mark listened and made Mike feel a lot better. “Having a mentor is great!” thought Mike! And Mark was just as happy, “I feel really happy about helping my mentee out if he is having a problem, and I like just hanging out with Mike, he is a great kid!”

Over the course of Mark and Mike’s mentoring relationship, they both learned lots about each other and themselves, and had tons of fun! They recommend mentoring to everyone.