

Childhood CANCER FOUNDATION

CANDLELIGHTERS CANADA



2003 Annual Report



Message From The Chair Of The Board

As with past years, 2003 has been another period of exciting change and accomplishment for our Foundation. I would like to take this opportunity to recognize just some of the many people who, through their dedication and commitment to our noble cause, have contributed so much to help children with cancer and their families. I'm continually amazed at what the collective efforts of Board members, staff and volunteers can accomplish in furthering the goals of the Foundation and its mission.

An excellent example of remarkable spirit and co-operation is the Foundation's relationship with the Canadian Council of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Directors. The stage is now set for a formal agreement with these 17 hospitals and treatment centres across Canada. The agreement will see our Foundation become a primary funder of pediatric oncology research, and a partner with the Council in advocating for progressive change in policies and laws affecting childhood cancer. As a signal of the great things to come, the Foundation allocated some \$500,000 to Council research programs.

Also during 2003 we joined hands in applauding the outstanding efforts of fellow Board member and cancer fighter, Jeff Rushton, who co-founded a fundraising initiative called "The Coast to Coast Ride Against Cancer." In June, Jeff and his team cycled valiantly across Canada in a record 10 consecutive days to raise \$500,000 for the childhood cancer cause. Congratulations to Jeff and his team for an impressive feat and a wonderful gift!

Our Board of Directors continued to renew and refresh during the year, with several new members bringing their energy, commitment and many talents to the table. Joining us were Ian Young (NexFor), Theresa Firestone (Pfizer Canada), Glenn Fraser (Taligent Group), Jeff Rushton (Fujitsu), Dr. Victor Blanchette (Hospital for Sick Children), Dan Mornar (parent and BC Children's Hospital), and Melanie Keats (cancer survivor). In addition we bid farewell to several members who over the years have been instrumental in moving the organization forward. Thank you to Barb Johnson (ON), Ilene Thorpe (SK), Jacques Chenier (QC), Lannier Bosman (MB), Margie Thomas (NF), Mike Svetkoff (ON), Sheila Robichaud (NB) and Steve McElroy (ON) for the contributions that you have made to our children.

We also strengthened our national office team with the addition of William Pace as our Chief Development Officer. William brings us an excellent mix of corporate and not-for-profit experience, and will provide sterling leadership to our fundraising efforts. I see the national team accomplishing great things in 2004, and we thank them for their hard work and many successes this past year.

As we move into 2004, I realize that my term as Chairman of the Board will be drawing to a close. This will mark 11 eventful and exciting years for me as a Board member and staunch supporter of the Childhood Cancer Foundation ~ Candlelighters Canada.

Although my Board term may be concluding, I know that my commitment to the Foundation and its mission will never wane. I know the Foundation will continue its wonderful work and I, along with thousands of others, will continue to support its efforts any and every way we can. As always, both as Chairman of the Board of the Foundation, and as the parent of a cancer survivor, I urge all Canadians to continue the good fight, whether as a donor, a sponsor, a volunteer or a person formally working in our childhood cancer control system.

Together, we can be so much greater than the sum of our parts. Together, we can make childhood cancer a thing of the past.

Val Figliuzzi
Chairman of the Board

Year In Review: 2003

Support

"The Foundation was founded as a support organization for kids and their families. It remains at the root of all we do."

Parent and Survivor Support Groups

The Childhood Cancer Foundation works with all 39 childhood cancer parent and survivor support groups in Canada. The Foundation serves as the key connector for these groups, providing a forum for information sharing, mentoring, workshops, bereavement support and the development of national strategies. In 2003, the Foundation upgraded its data base of support group contact information, setting the stage for improved, timelier communication, including the planned introduction of an electronic newsletter.

Touch The Sky

The diagnosis of cancer can be devastating for both the child and the family. The Foundation's "Touch The Sky" kit helps families deal with the initial trauma of first diagnosis through a combination of hard information and comforting materials for the child. Contents include reading materials, workbooks, relaxation audio tapes and a cuddly plush toy, all housed in a Foundation backpack. Throughout 2003, the Foundation continued its program of endeavoring to get a kit into the hands of every newly diagnosed family by distributing kits through support groups and children's hospitals throughout Canada.

Back To School

When children are being treated for cancer they often miss considerable time from school. Potential physical changes and the sometimes prolonged absence can make the return to the classroom very daunting. Supported by the ESSO Imperial Oil Foundation and the RBC Foundation, the Childhood Cancer Foundation's "Back To School" kit helps to smooth the transition back to the school environment. The kits feature specially designed educational material for the teacher, the student and the family, as well as video tapes, reading materials and interactive games. The kits are loaned to the school for a one month period and are available in accordance with four different age groups. In 2003, the Foundation saw some 120 kits used in classrooms across Canada.

Childhood Cancer Resource Centre

The Childhood Cancer Foundation has one of the largest repositories of childhood cancer information available anywhere in Canada. The Centre allows families and support groups to loan materials or to purchase them via phone, fax or on-line. Individuals, schools, hospitals and libraries visit the hard copy or virtual versions of the Centre with regularity as they seek to learn more about pediatric cancers or to deal with personal circumstances.

Bursary Program

Overcoming cancer is an arduous, sometimes long term process that can be very debilitating. Many children experience significant after effects of treatment, including cognitive disabilities. As a result, some of our survivors need special support as they move on to higher education. In 2003 we took great satisfaction in awarding 23 high school graduates with a \$1000 Childhood Cancer Foundation bursary to help alleviate the financial strain of entering post secondary education, as well as to help celebrate their second chance at life. We congratulate this year's recipients and wish them well:

Margot Catizzone – Toronto ON

Heather Cleland – Victoria BC

Jason Collin – Mount Albert ON

Laura Ann Dowling – Upper Tantallon NS

Christopher Figliuzzi – St. Albert AB

Katie Graham – Brockville ON

Hilary Henley – Winnipeg MB

Trevor Johnson – Barrie ON

Jane Knight – Quispamis, NB

Sara Kowalski – Sudbury ON

Nicole Lavoie (d. 2003) – Fort Kent AB

Justin MacFarlane – Bedford NS

Carletta Marsman – Dartmouth NS

Stephanie McMillan – Bowmanville ON

Jocelyn Stager – Cambridge ON

Alexandria Stanley – Mississauga ON

Katherine Sunderland – Lakefield ON

Alana Turner – Winnipeg MB

Kerry Vandenreissche – Azilda ON

Nicole Westergaard – Mission BC

Rory Windrum – Moose Jaw SK

Ihab Younes – Ottawa ON

Micheal Zahaiko – Winnipeg MB

Contact: Our National Newsletter

Our national newsletter, *Contact*, continues to evolve and improve. Originally intended as strictly an information vehicle for support groups, the publication now serves as a strong advocacy tool for the Foundation, a donor relationship marketing medium, and generally as a unifying information piece for the entire childhood cancer community.

Website

The Foundation's virtual address at www.childhoodcancer.ca gets busier every day as the Foundation relies more and more on the Internet for inexpensive, 24/7 communication with its many stakeholders. The Foundation has added a section for Events to promote its fundraising activities, and all support group contacts are now posted on-line. Research advancements, staff hires, program updates, current newsletters and annual reports round out an eventful site that will see significant upgrades over the 2004/2005 timeframe.

Partnerships/Special Events

“Our corporate partners, as well as individuals who align with us to conduct special events to raise much needed funds in support of our programs, are critical to our mission. Working in harmony with the right partners makes us all so much greater than the sum of our parts.”

Corporate Partnerships

The Foundation continues to expand its base of corporate supporters who participate with the Foundation in a range of initiatives and funding arrangements.

The Bay remained a very generous supporter throughout 2003, contributing a strong six figure donation, as well as a number of campaigns directed at increased childhood cancer awareness. Through its “Well Into The Future” program, the Bay conducts numerous fundraising activities such as the sale of charity bears and the Donate A Dollar campaign. The Foundation is very grateful to the Bay for being a mainstay in the support of the Foundation’s research funding program, and of the cause of childhood cancer generally.

Pfizer Canada has also stepped up to the plate in recent years. In 2003 the Foundation partnered with Pfizer on the Pharmaceutical Challenge, kicked off with a \$25,000 gift from Pfizer and a challenge issued to all other pharmaceutical companies to meet or exceed this initial donation.

Foundation/Third Party Events

Foundation-driven or third party events are important to the Foundation for a number of reasons. They serve to unite communities in working toward a common goal; help raise funds; build awareness for the Foundation and the cause among target audiences; and generate media attention. The Foundation is working more proactively to encourage and assist with more third party events, and to develop national signature events of its own. Third party events raised more than \$560,000 for the Foundation in 2003.

Coast To Coast Against Cancer

In 2003 the energy, commitment and vision of one man alone, together with his dedicated team, raised \$500,000 for the Foundation. Jeff Rushton and his team turned a love for cycling and a passion to make a difference in the childhood cancer battle into a unique project to cycle across Canada to raise funds and awareness.

Starting in Vancouver, the Coast to Coast Against Cancer event saw the team of six cycle non-stop for 10 days until they reached Atlantic Canada. Mission accomplished. Today Jeff continues to passionately support the fight against childhood cancer and now serves the Foundation as a member of its Board of Directors.

Research

“Truly beating childhood cancer can only happen through research toward effective treatments and a cure. Building Canada’s research network is crucial to these goals.”

Research Is the Key

Compared to adult cancers, childhood cancers are unique in many ways. Childhood cancers tend to be more advanced by the time of diagnosis. Their causes are largely unknown. The cancer sites are mostly those of the white blood cells, brain, bone, the lymphatic system, and tumors of the muscles, kidneys and nervous systems. And children are mostly treated by teams of clinical and laboratory scientists who have specific expertise in the management of children with cancer.

Acknowledgement of these differences has allowed significant progress in the treatment of childhood cancers, resulting in overall cure rates in excess of 70%. But one of every four children who get cancer still dies of the disease. Some childhood cancer types continue to defy scientific and medical advances. With more vigorous research specifically focused on the child with cancer and the unique properties of childhood cancers, treatments leading to a 100% cure rate with high quality of life are within reach.

Building a Research Alliance

With this in mind, in 2003 the Childhood Cancer Foundation began work on forging an alliance with the newly formed Canadian Council of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Directors. This Council comprises the hematology/oncology heads of all 17 childhood cancer hospitals and treatment centres in Canada. Through this alliance, the Foundation will play a lead role in the development of Canada’s first national, childhood cancer research network. An initial gift of \$400,000 from the Foundation to the Council will help with Council set-up and infrastructure.

Treasurer's Report

2003 was another satisfying and fulfilling year for the Childhood Cancer Foundation. We embarked on a strategy to focus our fundraising efforts in campaigns that provide the maximum contribution to our programs and research initiatives. Although overall revenues declined in 2003, our fundraising costs as a percentage of fundraising revenues reflect a tremendous improvement over the prior years, representing a better ROI on our investment dollars. As a result, we were able to make a significant contribution in 2003 to CCFOD to fund pediatric oncology research.

We would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere thanks to the many individuals and organizations for their generous financial support in 2003. I look forward to another exciting and challenging year.

Glenn Fraser, MBA, CA

**The Candlelighters Childhood Cancer Foundation Canada
2003 Summarized Financial Statements**

	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>
	\$	\$
<u>Summarized Statement of Financial Position</u>		
Assets		
Current assets	857,615	927,011
Property and equipment, net	12,727	18,465
	<u>870,342</u>	<u>945,476</u>
Liabilities		
Current liabilities	459,849	313,258
Deferred contributions	-	238,203
	<u>410,493</u>	<u>394,015</u>
	<u>870,342</u>	<u>945,476</u>
<u>Summarized Statement of Revenues and Expenses</u>		
Revenues		
Fundraising	1,249,757	1,904,018
Lottery	195,102	174,834
Resource centre	1,907	16,104
Amortization of deferred contributions	238,203	381,797
	<u>1,684,969</u>	<u>2,476,753</u>
Expenses		
Administration	243,248	225,783
Amortization	5,738	211,108
Consulting and licences	122,408	171,563
Fundraising	533,578	938,091
Interlink	11,091	323,746
Parent and family support	76,682	102,257
Public education	72,154	106,765
Resource centre	38,626	51,667
Research	564,966	113,003
	<u>1,668,491</u>	<u>2,243,983</u>
Excess of revenues over expenses	<u>16,478</u>	<u>232,770</u>

AUDITORS' REPORT ON
SUMMARIZED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

C.W. Williams
(retired)

To the Board of Directors of the Candlelighters Childhood Cancer Foundation Canada/
La Fondation Des Eclaireurs Pour Le Cancer Dans L'Enfance Canada .

The accompanying summarized statement of financial position and statement of revenues and expenses are derived from the complete financial statements of The Candlelighters Childhood Cancer Foundation Canada/La Fondation Des Eclaireurs Pour Le Cancer Dans L'Enfance Canada as at September 30, 2003 and for the year then ended on which we expressed a qualified opinion in our report dated November 26, 2003. In common with many charitable organization's, the organization derives revenues from donations and lotteries, the completeness of which are not susceptible to satisfactory audit verification. Accordingly, our verification of these revenues was limited to the amounts recorded in the records of the organization and we were not able to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary to donation and lottery revenues, excess of revenues over expenses, assets and fund balances. Our opinion stated that except for the effect of adjustments, if any, which we might have determined to be necessary had we been able to satisfy ourselves concerning the completeness of the donation and lottery revenue, the complete financial statements are, in all material respects, fairly presented in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles. The fair summarization of the complete financial statements is the responsibility of management. Our responsibility, in accordance with the applicable Assurance Guideline of The Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants, is to report on the summarized financial statements.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements fairly summarize, in all material respects, the related complete financial statements in accordance with the criteria described in the Guideline referred to above.

These summarized financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by Canadian generally accepted accounting principles. Readers are cautioned that these statements may not be appropriate for their purposes. For more information on the organization's financial position, results of operations and cash flows, reference should be made to the related complete financial statements.

Williams & Partners

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS LLP

Markham, Canada
November 26, 2003

Acknowledgement of Supporters

For 2003: Our valuable partners....

The Bay
Pfizer Canada Inc
Give and Go Prepared Foods
Proctor and Gamble
Canadian Maple Wings Association

Esso Imperial Oil
RBC Foundation
The Keg Spirit Foundation
TD Canada Trust

Ottawa Carlton Catholic School Board
St Mary's Antiochian Church
The Salden Foundation
Ben and Hilda Katz Charitable Foundation
Brebda and Peter Correy
Alice B Murray Smith Maitland Foundation
Nelson Arthur Hyland Foundation
Lydia West
June Mclean
Nord Gear Limited
Cognos Incorporated
Estate of Jean Whitely
George Lunan Foundation
Kathleen M Richardson Foundation
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Gerdau Ameristeel
McMillan Family Foundation
Yamaha Motor Canada Ltd.
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Wildman Associates Wealth Management
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Ron Mitchell
Dan Ferko
Robert Cronin
Sheila Ross
Kaatza Foundation
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