



Ontario Parents Advocating for Children with Cancer

*2012
ANNUAL
REPORT*

About Us

OPACC was established in 1995 and is comprised of representatives from parent groups, parent contacts, and other family members from across the province. Our members are parents, guardians, survivors, or close relatives of a child/teen diagnosed with childhood cancer. We have been a Registered Charity since 2006 under charity number 846324168RR0001.

OPACC meets four times a year: In person in May and September in Toronto and by teleconference in February and November.

OPACC has advocated on behalf of our children/teens and our families with appropriate regional, provincial and national bodies such as POGO (Pediatric Oncology Group of Ontario), Childhood Cancer Foundation – Candlelighters Canada (CCF) and the Canadian Cancer Society (CCS) Ontario Division.

We have supported, collaborated and had input into initiatives such as:

- Pediatric Oncology Working group report for the Ministry of Health (1994)
- Development of Satellite Oncology program as well as long-term follow-up clinics in the province
- Financial Assistance program for families of children/teens with cancer through POGO and CCS
- CCS pediatric handbook and children's cancer brochure
- POGO handbook on provincial resources for families of children with cancer in the province
- CCF National Conference (2000)
- Steering Committee/cluster groups for POGO 5-year plan for Ministry of Health and Long Term Care (2005)
- Past representation on POGO Psycho-social committee, CCS Pediatric Advisory committee and the Childhood Cancer Foundation Candlelighters Canada board.

Mission and Goals

OPACC Educates, Advocates, Supports and Enables families of children with cancer.

OPACC's overall goal is to be the voice for families with children diagnosed with cancer across the Province of Ontario. Other core goals include:

- To establish the Parent Liaison role where deemed appropriate in collaboration with local stakeholders
- Strengthen existing parent support groups
- Support the establishment of new parent support groups
- Establish a collaborative process for sharing and collecting information with parents through mentoring and educational activities
- Establish financial sustainability

President's Report 2012

September 2012

President's Report

An exciting year for OPACC has just finished, and it is so nice after working so hard for so long to finally see some things come to fruition. For years we had very little funds and so many great ideas, with the most important concept being parent advocacy.

Susan has been in her role as Parent Liaison at Sick kids for almost two years and I can tell you from meeting only a few families this past year that they are so thankful for her being there for them. Well done Susan! You are such a wonderful person and do such a great job in your role but also in giving OPACC a reliable, warm, caring face.

Another of our accomplishments could not have been completed without our Administrative Coordinator, Sarai. To finally have our Policies and Procedures completed was a requirement of our OTF grant. I know it wasn't an easy task but she came through for us! Sarai has been an important addition to OPACC and has done a tremendous job! Without the Administrative Coordinator I know we wouldn't have accomplished as much as we have.

In preparing for this report I asked Sarai to highlight some of the things we've accomplished in the past year ... WOW, we've done quite a bit and because of this we are getting noticed! Some of these highlights include:

- had a table at the POGO Symposium
- presented an abstract and a poster at the POGO Symposium
- participated in co-facilitated parent intervention group at Sick Kids
- held a Parent Facilitator training session
- held a Family Fun Day at C.J. Skateboard Park & School
- was involved with new EI legislation (ongoing)
- HSC drop-ins (ongoing)
- worked together with Child Life at Sick Kids for the reflection letters project to collect stories from families, for families to put in a binder in the Oncology Program (ongoing)

- developed a binder to give out to families so they can easily keep track of important information regarding their child's treatment
- produced an OPACC tote bag to give out to families because we know there is a lot of 'stuff' they have to bring with them back and forth to the hospital or clinic
- Sarah Mueller of The Design Truth joins OPACC as graphic designer (donating services)
- James Thomson hired as new Community Engagement and Resource Development Coordinator

This represents some of the work we have been doing to help our families. As I mentioned before we also have to "take care of business" and Sarai has been on top of that.

We have an exciting and busy year coming up. The next few weeks and months will be quite full of activities, such as:

- Toronto Inside Ride 2012 to benefit OPACC (September 15th at Square One in Mississauga; partnering with Coast to Coast)
- New materials available for Parent Liaison to distribute (Carla Can Sing doll gift packages, ParticipACTION pedometers, new tote bags and health record binders)
- Sharing Hope book (working with Smiling Eyes photographers/Christine Kufske; goal is to get it published by the end of the year; already have nearly 40 families participating)
- planning a second Family Fun Day at the skateboard park
- recruiting new Board members
- recruiting new members

I look forward to moving OPACC forward and growing our organization to a bigger and better one that will continue to serve our families in ways we know we can.

Thank you all for your hard work!

Dave

Treasurer's Report - Fiscal 2011/2012

TREASURER'S REPORT FISCAL 2011/2012*(Un-audited)*
Year End May 31/12

Report prepared by James Thomson (Treasurer)

STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES

Fiscal 2011/2012 (June 1/11 – May 31/12)

Year End May 31, 2011

REVENUES	May 31st 2011	May 31st 2012
Grants	79,000.00	85,654.00
Donations	387.00	16,836.00
GST Rebate	0.00	19.00
Bank Interest	3.00	145.00
Total Income	79,390.00	102,657.00
EXPENSES		
Salaries	13,670.00	68,791.00
Bank Services Charges	35.00	35.00
GST/HST Paid	355.00	3,349.00
Administration	0.00	0.00
Travel/Transportation	159.00	1,735.00
Equipment Purchases	1,179.00	1,954.00
Loan Payments	0.00	0.00
Program Expense	3,446.00	14,134.00
Total Expenses	18,844.00	89,998.00

EXCESS/DEFICIT OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	60,546.00	12,659.00
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BALANCE SHEET AS AT

May 31st 2012

Assets

Cash \$78,143.00

Total Assets \$78,143.00

Liabilities

Retained Earnings/Equity \$68,218.00

Current Liabilities \$ 9,925.00

Total Liabilities \$78,143.00

Board of Directors

David Munro, President and Chair
Barbara Johnson, Director
Stathi Afendoulis, Director
Helen Robertson, Director
Lisa Skinner, Director
John Pasternak, Director

Staff (non-voting)

Susan Kuczynski, Parent Liaison
James Thomson, Resource Development and Community
Engagement Coordinator
Sarai Porretta, Administrative Coordinator/Recording Secretary

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