



Ontario Parents Advocating for Children with Cancer

*2013
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 2013

September 2013

President's Report

Another great year for OPACC is in the books!

It started right after our last Annual General Meeting with the National Inside Ride. All who attended had a great time and the folks that spoke on how OPACC helped their families cope did a fantastic job, I couldn't have heard better words of praise for all we do! Last year's event raised just over \$20,000! This year's event is coming up in a month, we've set a goal of \$30,000 ... are we gonna make it? Time for our Big Push ... recruit teams! Recruit Riders! This is a great opportunity for OPACC!

I take this opportunity now to raise a glass to The Little Grape That Could and partnering with them as one of the charities of choice for proceeds of sales to be distributed to. Next time you or your friends go to the liquor store look for their bottles and follow the instructions on the bottle so that OPACC receives some of their dispersed funds!

In our Advocacy role we initiated a petition and gathered over 1,100 signatures to address the parking increase at Sick Kids. We were also part of a CBC Marketplace spot "Hospital Parking Pain" that highlighted hospital parking issues across the country. This opened a dialogue with Sick Kids to highlight the issues our families face and the expense of parking sometimes means the parent misses a meal for a day or two.

Because of astute eyes and social media, OPACC was able to turn a negative that drew families' ire into a positive with Starbucks providing drinks and snacks for our now twice a week drop-ins. We continue to develop our relationship with Starbucks.

Our Resource Development Coordinator now represents OPACC on the Canadian Cancer Action Network (CCAN)'s Membership Engagement Committee. We were well represented at the Pediatric Oncology Group of Ontario (POGO) conference with a table and poster and were joined by future board members!

Now to welcome new Board Members, six of you altogether! I couldn't be happier with the quality of people who decided to take a bit of their time to try to help families of children with cancer by helping govern OPACC. Welcome and thank you to Vicki, Marlene, Diane, Tina, Tracey, and Nicole!

For all who attended our second Family Fun Day at CJ's Skateboard Park, thank you for so much fun! I have never seen so many of our kids having so much fun and the staff enjoying it just as much! And a big SHOUT OUT to Jay for hosting!

The Parent Liaison Role increased with the addition of John Pasternak. He's such a warm caring guy. When I first met him at The James Fund Retreat two years ago, right away he understood what OPACC was all about and had been looking for what we've been gradually building. John's a very resourceful man and has helped OPACC get good deals on things we've needed.

It took a little longer than most had hoped but with small baby steps we were able to launch our "Sharing Hope" coffee table book. If you haven't seen it, it's available on our website for \$20. The purchase of a book allows OPACC to Share Hope with newly diagnosed families.

OPACC responded to the diluted chemotherapy news as some kids received some of the diluted chemo. Here again shows OPACC will continue to be a voice for our kids.

Susan represented OPACC with the Sick Kids Child Life team, presenting our joint reflection letters project at the Child Life Council's Annual Conference in Denver. Attending as a committed Child Life Professional was one of our new Board Members, Vicki!

Most recently we began a partnership begun with Million Dollar Smiles to ensure broader support for families affected by childhood cancer.

We are launching our third-party fundraising activity Kaps4Kids With Cancer. Stay tuned for details! At the end of the month we'll be holding our second Parent Facilitator Training Course. I'm looking forward to taking it!

October 5th folks ... a Big Push. Our goal is \$30,000 – let's do this! The Inside Ride!

Always,
David Munro
President & Chair

Treasurer's Report - Fiscal 2012/2013

TREASURER'S REPORT FISCAL 2012/2013 (*Un-audited*)
Year End May 31/13

Report prepared by James Thomson (Treasurer)

STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES

Fiscal 2012/2013 (June 1/12 – May 31/13)

Year End May 31, 2013

REVENUES	May 31st 2012	May 31st 2013
Grants	85,654.00	87,900.00
Donations	16,836.00	40,308.00
GST Rebate	19.00	3,785.00
Bank Interest	145.00	8.00
Total Income	102,657.00	132,001.00
EXPENSES		
Salaries	68,791.00	95,629.00
Bank Services Charges	35.00	42.00
GST/HST Paid	3,349.00	6,827.00
Administration	0.00	0.00
Travel/Transportation	1,735.00	5,982.00
Equipment Purchases	1,954.00	0.00
Loan Payments	0.00	0.00
Program Expense	14,134.00	25,272.00
Total Expenses	89,998.00	133,752.00

EXCESS/DEFICIT OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	12,659.00	(1,751.00)
---	------------------	-------------------

BALANCE SHEET AS AT

May 31st 2013

Assets

Cash \$76,392.00

Total Assets \$76,392.00

Liabilities

Retained Earnings/Equity \$76,392.00

Current Liabilities \$ 0.00

Total Liabilities \$76,392.00

Board of Directors

David Munro, President and Chair
Barbara Johnson, Director
Stathi Afendoulis, Director
Helen Robertson, Director
Lisa Skinner, Director
Vicki Hartman, Director
Marlene Oleiro-Hignell, Director
Tina Smith, Director
Diane Belsey, Director
Tracey Keighley-Clarke, Director
Nicole Forfar, Director

Staff (non-voting)

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

Ontario Parents Advocating for Children with Cancer
524 Bayfield Street North
P.O. Box 20005
Barrie, ON L4M 5E9
info@opacc.org
www.opacc.org
Registered Charity #846324168RR0001