



Ontario Parents Advocating for Children with Cancer

*2014
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 2014

June 2014

President's Report

OPACC has continued to grow stronger as we connect with more families! So far, we have served more than 700 families in Ontario. This shows the great work that our Parent Liaison staff do at The Hospital for Sick Children and is proof positive that this is a very important role in the treatment of children diagnosed with cancer. We all know too well the psychosocial impact a diagnosis has on the family, and knowing there's someone who's been there and understands does help treat and heal the family.

Last Fall, we hosted our third Inside Ride event, which raised almost \$35,000 - what a great event and a lot of fun! We are already starting to prepare for this year's Inside Ride on October 18th at Playdium. I think we can hit the \$50,000 mark - do you? There's the challenge to you all!

Also last Fall, we held our second Parent Facilitator Training session, which was very well received. I took part in the training and learned a lot. The goal of the Parent Facilitator Training is to help develop community-based Parent Support Groups. Over the years, OPACC has been connected with support groups in Barrie and Kitchener-Waterloo. One of OPACC's Board Members, with the knowledge she gained from the training, wanted to start a group in Newmarket and, together with Parent Liaison John Pasternak, developed it into a successful group with great community support from The Optimist Club. From the second training session, another couple of participants developed a group in Hamilton. Well done, folks!

In October, OPACC will be sending representatives to attend and present at the 2014 SIOP Congress in Toronto, the largest annual

Pediatric cancer meeting in the world. It is rarely held in North America and this is an incredible opportunity to attend such an important conference right in our backyard.

OPACC has always enjoyed a wonderful relationship with The James Fund for Neuroblastoma Research. Over the last year, this relationship has been more formalized in that I joined their Board of Directors and Diana Birrell of The James Fund joined our Board. We also gained another Board Member in Anna Lopes from Million Dollar Smiles and finalized a Memorandum of Understanding with them. If you don't know about Million Dollar Smiles, check out their website at milliondollarsmiles.ca - they do great things for kids and families! Welcome Anna and Diana!

If you've never been to one of our Family Fun Days, you don't know what you're missing! I've been to a couple and I can honestly say my cheeks are sore afterwards from smiling watching our kids have so much fun in such the safe, wonderful environment that is C.J's Skateboard Park. We had our third one earlier this year and are looking forward to the next event in July!

OPACC's newest endeavour is our Kaps4Kids third-party fundraising event. These events are designed to create opportunities for schools and organizations to understand issues related to childhood cancer while supporting families going through a diagnosis with support in their communities. It also gives the school or organization the opportunity to raise funds for an organization committed to supporting families of children with cancer across Ontario.

Thank you all for your wonderful support, input, and suggestions. As long as we all work together, we will continue to make a difference in the lives of families of children with cancer!

Always,
David Munro
President & Chair

Treasurer's Report - Fiscal 2013/2014

TREASURER'S REPORT FISCAL 2013/2014 (Un-audited)
Year End May 31/14

Report prepared by James Thomson

STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES

Fiscal 2013/2014 (June 1/13 – May 31/14)

Year End May 31, 2014

REVENUES	May 31st 2013	May 31st 2014
Grants	87,900.00	94,956.51
Donations	40,308.00	34,355.71
GST Rebate	3,785.00	4,757.27
Bank Interest	8.00	5.65
Total Income	132,001.00	134,075.14
EXPENSES		
Salaries	95,629.00	103,625.14
Bank Services Charges	42.00	0.00
GST/HST Paid	6,827.00	6,356.61
Travel/Transportation	5,982.00	6,887.73
Program Expense	25,272.00	36,517.66
Total Expenses	133,752.00	153,387.14
EXCESS/DEFICIT OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	(1,751.00)	(19,312.00)

BALANCE SHEET AS AT

May 31st 2014

Assets

Cash \$57,170.40

Total Assets \$57,170.40

Liabilities

Retained Earnings/Equity \$57,170.40

Current Liabilities \$ 0.00

Total Liabilities \$57,170.40

Board of Directors

David Munro, President and Chair
Tracey Keighley-Clarke, Vice Chair
Diane Belsey, Treasurer
Barbara Johnson, Director
Stathi Afendoulis, Director
Helen Robertson, Director
Lisa Skinner, Director
Tina Smith, Director
Nicole Forfar, Director
Anna Lopes, Director
Diana Birrell, 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

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