

**WICC Relay for Life donations ended up exceeding \$415,000! Thank you!**

**Save the Date**

# WICC 2016 Relay For Life Event

by Shari Dodsworth, Chair RFL & Event Communications Sub-Committee

Insurance industry professionals with the Women In Cancer Crusade (WICC) came together on June 21st, at Downsview Park in Toronto to raise more than \$415,000 in support of the Canadian Cancer Society’s Relay For Life.

Relay For Life is the Society’s signature fundraiser and the WICC event raises money to fund lifesaving research. This annual insurance industry-exclusive event was a brilliant success with 546 registered participants accepting the baton and walking the Relay track.

As presenting sponsor, Economical Insurance donated \$109,500 to support this event and several other Relay For Life events in Ontario and Quebec. “As a member of the insurance community, we were quite proud to support the event in such a significant way,” said Tom Reikman, Economical’s chief operating officer. “It’s a powerful thing to stand together with our colleagues and competitors, united in our fight against cancer.”

Event participants were fervent in their fundraising efforts, with the Northbridge Insurance Navigators team re-

ceiving honors as top fundraisers after raising almost \$26,000. “I am so proud of both my team and the industry for their passion and commitment to fighting cancer,” said Relay For Life Co-Chair Shari Dodsworth, senior vice president, Sales & Distribution at Northbridge Insurance. “This is the seventh year that we have joined WICC in Relay For Life and we are showing no signs of slowing down!”...

[story continued on page 5]



## Platinum Volunteer Award

WICC sincerely appreciates the many dedicated volunteers who have made our past twenty years such an overwhelming success. On November 9th we will honour one outstanding volunteer at the WICC Ontario Breakfast for Cancer event being held at the Fairmont Royal York Hotel in downtown Toronto. For submission guidelines go to: [www.wicc.ca](http://www.wicc.ca) or email [info@wicc.ca](mailto:info@wicc.ca)

## DID YOU KNOW?

New research shows that DOGS can sniff out breast cancer at early stages. How is this possible? Consider that humans have 5 million sensory receptors; dogs have 300 million. This new canine/cancer research is underway in Britain. Click to see firsthand how these family dog’s helped alert their owners to deep-seated breast cancer.

<https://www.facebook.com/HuffPostBC/videos/947928208650297/>



## Broker Bash — Thursdays

Make new connections and strengthen existing industry friendships on the last Thursday of each month from 5pm to 7pm. GTA’s Broker Bash is held at The Fifth Social Club, 225 Richmond St W, Toronto. We thank First Insurance and the Broker Bash events across Canada for being such big WICC supporters. We look forward to seeing you there!

# WICC Golf at Angus Glen

by Marian Adamson, Chair Golf

132 golfers attended the 17th Annual WICC Ontario Golf Tournament on July 13 at Angus Glen Golf Club in Markham, Ontario. A very hot summer's day welcomed golfers and in honour of WICC's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year, WICC celebrated the day with greeters and specialty food stations throughout the course. A WICC cheque in the amount of \$25,000 was presented to the Canadian Cancer Society by WICC Ontario board members: Marian Adamson, Chair Golf Committee; Marilyn Horrick, Ontario Co-Chair; and Kimberly Hrycko, Chair Treasurer. 🔥



Photo Credit: Canadian Underwriter magazine



WHERE INDUSTRY LEADERS MEET

# WICC at NICC 2016

by Erica Enstrom, BC Chapter Co-Chair

The NICC Conference that took place in beautiful Vancouver, BC last month was another huge success, as were WICC's fundraising efforts. Thank you for supporting WICC over this two day conference that featured a silent auction and 50/50 draw. We're pleased to report that over \$10,000 was raised for WICC BC's Chapter. Over 30 highly desirable items were donated by industry partners and insurers across Canada, many of which sparked fierce competition between bidders. MSA Research also provided an honorarium per speaker, which translated to almost \$15K in total dollars raised! Special thanks go to WICC volunteers from ICBC, DAS and Northbridge. 🔥

# ENTERPRISE: 10 Years of Incredible Support

by Sonia Manson, Chair Communications



Craig Snelgrove, Enterprise VP/General Mgr; Alex Orloff Enterprise Group Sales & Marketing Mgr; Vanessa Chiu, Corporate Dev. Officer, Canadian Cancer Society.

Embodying a culture of caring, Enterprise Holdings has contributed well over \$312,000 to WICC Ontario since 2007. These funds have come from Golf Tournament proceeds, grants from the company's philanthropic arm, the Enterprise Holdings Foundation, as well as silent auction donations and event volunteers.

In speaking with Elisa Gutierrez, administrative supervisor for Enterprise's Toronto Group (administrative wizard of planning and perfected execution), she explains that Enterprise shifted its annual golf tournament proceeds from a variety of disparate charities solely to WICC, back in 2007, "when I took over running our corporate golf tournament. Not only did we review the financial health of our annual

event in search of improvements, but we also took another look at how we could best support the causes that matter most to our employees and customers." Elisa continued, "I personally don't know anyone not somehow touched by cancer. Our collective families and communities deal with this challenging reality every day. Aligning with WICC is a natural fit for our golf tournament because we are able to funnel funds directly to the Canadian Cancer Society while supporting leading edge research that promotes the elimination of cancer in our lifetime."

Enterprise's golf tournaments have raised on average \$28k per year, with this year's July tournament ... [story continued on page 4]

ENTERPRISE HOLDINGS.



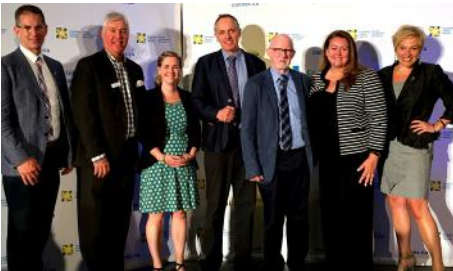
Report on Events



Photo Credit: Stephen Huza

Ottawa DRIVE FORE HOPE

WICC Ottawa's 6th DRIVE FORE HOPE was held on a beautiful sunny August day at Camelot Golf & Country Club. The event was another great success with approx. \$12,000 raised and 114 golfers in attendance. Next year's date: August 14, 2017. New contact: [ChristineLacroix@Diresco.ca](mailto:ChristineLacroix@Diresco.ca)



CCS Awards of Excellence

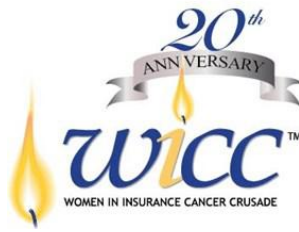
Members of the WICC Ontario board were invited to attend the CCS Awards for Excellence on July 22nd to recognize key contributors in helping reduce cancer cases, Canada-wide. WICC is doing its part, thanks to the support received from the Canadian insurance industry and partnership with CCS, to fund research projects most likely to have the best chance of finding a cure.

FAST FACTS

**40%** New cancer cases & deaths continue to rise as the Canadian population grows and ages. **15** Year estimate expected over the next 15 years.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Learn more at [www.wicc.ca](http://www.wicc.ca) or [www.cancer.ca](http://www.cancer.ca)



WICC Breakfast Details:

Date: Wed. November 9, 2016  
 Time: 7am to 9am  
 Location: Fairmont Royal York Hotel, Toronto  
 Tickets: \$50 per person + HST

# 19th Annual WICC Ontario Breakfast for Cancer

by Barb Reddick, Breakfast Committee

Join us on **November 9th at 7am** for our panel discussion taking place at the Fairmont Royal York Hotel, with Bobbie Goldie and Dr. Uri Tabori.

Panel Speaker: Bobbie Goldie



When Bobbie was diagnosed with breast cancer on December 4th 2015 she began working tirelessly to continue to be a wife, mom, friend,

aunt, cousin, employee, leader, and peer. As this is a struggle every day, she continued to expand her toolbox, and started a blog as her logical next step... to share her journey, good days and bad.

On July 29th Bobbie was told that she was cancer free. She continues to pursue her career at Chubb Canada in Major Accounts and also keeps her focus and dedication on her family. We are very pleased to welcome Bobbie to join your group of panellist, experts in the medical field, Dr. Uri Tabori and others, for WICC's Breakfast for Cancer taking place on November 9th.


Panel Speaker: Dr. Uri Tabori

Dr. Uri Tabori is a talented scientist and clinician who has quickly emerged as a world leader in childhood cancer re-

search. His work has greatly advanced our understanding of childhood brain tumours, especially in children with certain medical conditions that predispose them to cancer.

One of Dr Tabori's outstanding contributions includes a focus on the role of protecting the ends of DNA strands in the biology of childhood brain tumours. Dr Tabori's research acts as a springboard to use scientific knowledge to make a difference to cancer patients in the clinic.

Dr Tabori is committed to improving children's health worldwide. He is a strong advocate for Canadian cancer research, and generously volunteers his time and expertise with the Canadian Cancer Society and other research funding organizations. His outstanding potential has been recognized by prestigious awards and his research is having a direct impact on cancer care.

WICC is celebrating our 20th anniversary this year and the WICC Annual Breakfast for Cancer is entering its 19th year. Stay tuned for further information regarding our Breakfast for Cancer event as the group of Panel Speakers is destined to grow... 



# McKellar Tees Off for WICC

by Alexis Heatherington, Chair Executive Director

On June 20th, 148 golfers enjoyed perfect weather at the 18th annual McKellar Structured Settlements Women's Charity Golf Day held at Crosswinds Golf & Country Club in Burlington.

Upon arrival, participants were offered the opportunity to polish up on their skills with chipping, putting and driving clinics provided by the club pros. Following a delicious lunch it was time to hit the links. Attendees were allowed the option of playing either 9 or 18 holes. Anyone arriving back at the clubhouse early was treated to the first complimentary manicures and massages, along with delicious snacks.

Then it was time for more socializing and food in the main dining room. The post-golf meal was an amazing selection of food stations including a noodle bar, taco bar, desserts, sundae-making and (my personal favourite) a candy bar. Chinese take-out boxes were available to make the drive home a little sweeter.

Since their first charity golf day, McKellar has raised an incredible \$284,025 for WICC.

A big thank you goes to event sponsors: Financial Horizons Group (Title Sponsor), Sun Life Financial (Platinum Sponsor), Manulife Financial (Platinum Sponsor), BMO Life Assurance Company (Gold Sponsor) and the Riordon Design Group Inc. (Bronze Sponsor).

Thank you to all of the ladies who came out in support of this great cause!

Not only has McKellar hosted this incredibly popular annual golf tournament in support WICC each year, but they have also been a National Platinum Sponsor since 2005 and regularly send WICC donations in lieu of Holiday Gifts in honour of select clients. In 2015 McKellar Structured Settlements was awarded the WICC Gold Flame for their continued and tremendous patronage. 🔥



## Funds go to WICC Ontario!

Laura Mullin of McKellar Structured Settlements and Alexis Heatherington, WICC Chair, Executive Director, shake hands while handing off the generous donation from event day. Nice nails ladies!

### Our Valued National Sponsors



[**'ENTERPRISE'** continued from page 2]

...bringing in a record dollar amount of \$49.7k. This impressive figure also includes the \$10k grant donation from the Enterprise Holdings Foundation, the philanthropic arm of Enterprise Holdings, which, through its regional subsidiaries, operates the Enterprise Rent-A-Car, National Car Rental and Alamo Rent A Car brands.

This is the fourth time within the past 10 years that the Enterprise Holdings Foundation has awarded funds to WICC. The Enterprise Holdings Foundation provides financial resources to worthwhile nonprofit initiatives that are actively supported by Enterprise employees, their spouses, and loyal customers.. From the Enterprise Airport Run, Volleyball Tournaments, Rat Race and United Way Stair Climb Teams, to random branch-level fund-

raisers, it is clear that Enterprise's philanthropic heart runs deep in the local community.

For this, WICC Ontario Chapter is truly grateful to Enterprise and Elisa's professional dedication and determination to support WICC. In recognition of Enterprise Holdings' amazing generosity, the company has gained many industry accolades but from a WICC perspective, the company has also earned the following awards over the past nine years: Gold Flame awards in 2008 & 2013; Lew Dunn in 2009 & 2012; and Hall of Flame award in 2016.

This year's Enterprise Charity Golf Tournament surpassed their goal of \$35k with a final donation of amount \$48,850!

Thank you, Enterprise Holdings, for your continued generosity and support of our organization! 🔥

[**Relay for Life** continued from cover page]

More than 100 volunteers supported the six-hour event. “From the bottom of my heart, thank you, thank you, thank you to our hard-working volunteers, teams and generous sponsors behind WICC’s Relay for Life event. It was a smashing success,” said Mariellen Glover, vice president, Property & Shared Services, Intact Insurance and Co-Chair, WICC Relay for Life. “This annual cross-sector campaign exemplifies the industry’s dedication to finding the cure for cancer.”

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the Women In Insurance Cancer Crusade, with more than \$12.6 million raised for cancer research. WICC has partnered with the Canadian Cancer Society as its charity of choice for 20 years. The Society is the largest charitable funder of cancer research in the country.



Photo Credit: Canadian Underwriter magazine

“Canadians should be very proud of their insurers for stepping up and supporting the Canadian Cancer Society,” said Susan Drodge, the Society’s Director of Corporate and Community Partnerships in Ontario. “Year after year, insurance industry professionals demonstrate their commitment to those in their community touched by the disease.”

Watch the 2016 Relay for Life [Video](#). 🔥

## Sophia Stukas (Norkus): Full of Compassion and ‘Fight’

In Memory of WICC Founding Member, Sophia

WICC Ontario Chapter fondly remembers Sophia Stukas’ participation in the creation of WICC. Early founders of the organization set the ground-work for what has made WICC a sustainable and growing fundraiser for the Canadian Cancer Society. Sadly, on July 2nd, 2016, Sophia Stukas (Norkus) lost her 24 year battle to cancer.

Sophia’s friends and business colleagues have honored her enduring legacy in many ways. A tribute, sponsored by her loving husband Vitas, has been set-up for Sophia on the WICC website. If you wish to make a donation in Sophia’s name, you may do so using the following link: <http://wicc.ca/donate/>

On August 11<sup>th</sup>, Winton-Ireland, Strom & Green Insurance Agency (WSIG) held a Luminaria Ceremony at dusk on the



lawn of their offices. Sophia’s husband Vitas was able to fly out to California for the ceremony. Bagpipes played as friends and colleagues shared memories of Sophia. Funds raised (through the purchase of luminary bags) were donated to the Relay For Life/ American Cancer Society in Sophia’s name.



**Sophia Stukas (Norkus)**  
WICC Founding Member

If you didn’t have the honor of knowing Sophia personally, you can read an article written nearly 20 years ago about Sophia’s incredible compassion and initial battle with cancer. 🔥

[CLICK](#) to read Sophia’s STORY

# New Faces: WICC ON Board of Directors

by Ellen Moore & Marilyn Horrick, Ontario Chapter Co-Chairs

WICC extends a sincere **thank you** for the incredible contributions that these individuals have brought to the WICC Ontario Board:

- ⇒ Mariellen Glover, Co-Chair Relay For Life
- ⇒ Marcella MacDonald, Chair WICC Ottawa
- ⇒ Sandy MacSpadyen, Chair Gala
- ⇒ Barb Reddick, Chair Breakfast

We **welcome** the new Directors that have joined our Board this year:

- ⇒ Laurel DiMaso, Co-Chair Gala
- ⇒ Shari Dodsworth, Chair Relay for Life
- ⇒ Sonia Manson, Chair Communications

Over the past 20 years, the WICC Ontario Board has benefited from the unwavering dedication and passion of its volunteer Board of Directors. These amazing individuals come into the fold driven by a unique personal commitment to make a difference and do good things for WICC on the Board. As Co-Chairs, we witness every day the efforts of our Directors as they strive for harmony between commitments of work, family and volunteering on an active Board.

Please join us in thanking past Board Directors and welcoming these new individuals to our WICC Ontario Board.

If you're interested in volunteering for WICC in any way, please send a note to [info@wicc.ca](mailto:info@wicc.ca)



Laurel DiMaso



Shari Dodsworth



Sonia Manson



Canadian Cancer Society / Société canadienne du cancer

In partnership with:

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**Steve Wilson**

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