THE FLAME QUARTERLY I WICC ONTARIO CHAPTER



Susan Walsh speaking at the 2017 Relay for Life Event

Walking for the Past and the Present

by Kate Kourtsidis, WICC Relay Communications Manager

The Canadian Cancer Society and Women in Insurance Cancer Crusade (WICC) **Toronto Relay For Life** will feature a series of special presentations, including a heart-felt eulogy for six-time Relay For Life participant Susan Walsh, who lost her battle with cancer on **April 20, 2018**. The inspiring event will take place at **Downsview Park on June 15**, from 6 p.m. to midnight.

"Susan Walsh was an inspiration. Individually, she raised over \$26,500 for the Canadian Cancer Society, and her team, Team Susan, raised over \$46,000. She believed that research is the key, which is why WICC and the insurance industry are lacing up for the 10th year in a row to support this life-changing cause," said Marilyn Horrick, Co-Chair, WICC Ontario.

In 2012, Walsh decided to enroll as a Relay For Life participant with her company team and was diagnosed with triple-negative breast cancer just two days before the event.

"Thus truly began my advocacy for cancer patients and cancer research," said Walsh in 2017 when asked why she Relays. "I walk because no matter what type of cancer you may have or where you are being treated, you may benefit from the Relay because [all] money raised helps fund research across Canada."

Cancer survivor Bobbie Goldie of Chubb Insurance (U.S.) will be flying in all the way from Georgia, U.S.A., for the Relay to present the tribute for long-time...

[story continued on page 4]

DID YOU KNOW?

Studies show that tattoos make it more difficult to find skin cancer, since a malignant mole can take on the colour of the tattoo surrounding it. Learn more <u>here</u> or speak with your doctor.





spring 2018

Grant Funding Update

WICC Selects 2018/19 Grant

Every few years the WICC Ontario Chapter allocates funds to specific grants to fund cancer research projects.

This year a portion of WICC dollars are going to support a **3-year**, **\$74,500** Innovation Impact Grant with Dr. Patrick Gunning of

the University of Toronto.

The study investigates the UBA5 enzyme in cancer proliferation and as a promising

Grant Funding Opportunities

target for secondary therapy. The emergence of drug resistance during cancer treatment is a significant concern and a substantial clinical challenge.

With the support of an Innovation Grant, Dr. Patrick Gunning developed a small molecule that could block UBA5 by binding to a unique area on the protein. Dr. Gunning will now refine the design of this inhibitor to make it more potent and targeted. He will then study its ability to slow breast tumour progression in mice and whether it can sensitize breast cancer cells to chemotherapeutics. This could allow lower doses of chemotherapeutics to be used, which could prevent or delay drug resistance.

CCS Applauds Federal Plans to Require Health Warning on Cigarette Itself by Canadian Cancer Society

31 May 2018 - OTTAWA The Canadian Cancer Society is applauding the announcement today by Minister of Health Ginette Petitpas Taylor of plans to require a health warning directly on the cigarette itself. "A health warning on the cigarette itself would be a cost-effective communications opportunity to convey a health message given that there are 27 billion cigarettes sold each year in Canada," says Rob Cunningham, Senior Policy Analyst, Canadian Cancer Society. "A warning on the cigarette will continue to work when away from the package, such as when a teenager asks a friend for a cigarette."

"A health warning on the cigarette itself would also make cigarettes less attractive and provide an additional measure to reduce contraband. By requiring a marking on cigarettes intended for legitimate sale in Canada, law enforcement authorities would have a further tool to respond to illegal cigarettes."

An amendment for regulatory authority to require a health warning on the cigarette itself was approved with allparty support by the House of Commons Standing Committee on Health during consideration of Bill S-5.

Minister Petitpas Taylor also announced her support to require the slide and shell format for pending plain and standardized packaging regulations. This format was recommended by health organizations to enhance the effectiveness of the regulations.

"We strongly support the requirement for slide and shell packaging format," adds Cunningham. "Among the benefits, this format will increase the size and thus the effectiveness of health warnings."

The announcements by the Minister of Health were made as part of the launch of Canada's Tobacco Strategy, the new strengthened federal tobacco control strategy.

Tobacco use is the leading preventable cause of disease and death in Canada, killing more than 45,000 Canadians annually. Tobacco is responsible for \$6.5 billion in annual health care costs.

LINK to CCS media release

FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITY: WICC Candles for Sale

by Donna Cassidy, Chair Breakfast Event

Candle sales have been at the heart of WICC's fundraising history since the beginning, over 20 years ago. Now after an approximate 10 year hiatus, the WICC Ontario Board of Directors have revived this fundraising effort with glass pillar candles to help raise funds for cancer research.

As seen at the 2018 WICC Gala, WICC volunteers from CHUBB which included Sam Thomas, Lance Fraser and Sarah Silcher, gave party goers a new way to wish loved ones a "Happy Mother's Day".

WICC's soy-based candles are available in two sizes and a variety of scents including Himalayan salt, coconut, lime basil mandarin, and Muskoka memories. All candles are Canadian made, eco-friendly, clean burning, GMO-free wax, with a cotton wick





Ellen Moore of CHUBB stated that "Candle sales have been a great way to easily supplement our donation efforts for WICC. Staff have been snapping up the candles quite quickly."

The Guarantee and Northbridge Insurance have also been quick to join the ranks of companies using this classic item to support WICC.

As of mid-May, WICC's already raised over \$3,000 in candle donations. Small candles sell for \$5 each and the large version is \$20.

For more information about how to bring candles into YOUR workplace, please contact Donna Cassidy at <u>dcassidy@chubb.com</u> or 416-359-3280.

Enjoy Our NEW à la carte Format – WICC Golf at Angus Glen!

by Marta Sampaio, Co-Chair Golf Event



Join us for GOLF at the Angus Glen "BEACH" Golf Club on Wednesday, July 11th for WICC Ontario's 19th Annual Golf Tournament!

Get into our **BEACH THEME and wear your best Hawaiian shirt, beach shorts and sun hat!** Let us spoil you with a delicious BBQ lunch on the patio as you soak up the sun, enjoy a round of GOLF 18-holes, 9-holes (with spa treatment) or GOLF Clinic (with spa treatment), as you indulge in tasty cocktails throughout your day followed by a flavourful sit-down dinner. There will also be golfer giveaways, raffle prizes, and silent auction, along with many other surprises!

Are you intrigued yet? Don't miss out! Register by June 8th, 2018 and also receive an EXTRA BONUS of a complimentary 18-hole round of golf at Angus Glen Golf Club!

Last year's WICC Ontario Golf Tournament helped raise \$38,000 for cancer research. Enroll today and let's beat this record!

Note that many valuable Sponsorship Opportunities are now available! Check out all of our Sponsorship options <u>here</u> or contact WICC Golf Event Chair Marta Sampaio at 647-282-5580 or <u>marta@encompassmedicals.ca</u> for further info.

Event Details:

- \Rightarrow Golf tickets are \$2,200 per foursome +HST
- \Rightarrow Individual \$550 per golfer +HST. Single players are welcome!
- ⇒ Golf registration includes: 18-holes; 9 holes + spa; or Clinic + spa; in addition to two meals (per person), the golfer giveaway and a golf cart.
- \Rightarrow Dinner-only option is offered at \$100 per person +HST. Includes a sit-down dinner in the Great Hall.

Register <u>here</u> today and see you on the beach!

FAST FACTS

"Sleeping 6 hours or less is associated with a 40% increased risk of developing cancer,

> relative to those sleeping 7 hours a night



hours a night or more."

hours

Source: Why We Sleep by Matthew Walker, PhD, Pg. 184

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Learn more at <u>www.wicc.ca</u> or <u>www.cancer.ca</u>

WICC 2018 Gala Photos!





['Walking for the Past and the Present continued from cover page]

friend Susan Walsh. Goldie will be accompanied on stage by Horrick.

Throughout her six years of on and off cancer, Walsh never shied away from the battle with the disease.

It is individuals like Walsh who inspire others to gear up and join the fight with hopes of one day eliminating this life-altering illness.

"I have known so many people affected by cancer it felt like a charity event I could really connect to, the energy of the whole evening felt really powerful," said Paul Martin, WICC Relay Co-Founder, when asked about his involvement with the Toronto Relay For Life 10 years ago. WICC aims to help raise funds for cancer research and awareness of the event itself, all while encouraging team spirit at this uplifting celebration. Everyone who joins the Relay is there to appreciate life and remember loved ones who have left us, in a loving, caring atmosphere.

"Whether you're supporting a team, walking the track or just want to donate, you will not regret it, I promise," added Martin.

All proceeds help researchers discover life-saving treatments and allow the Canadian Cancer Society to offer support programs to those living with cancer and to their families.

Accept the baton! To register a team or participate in other Relay For Life events, visit <u>relayforlifeontario.ca</u> or call 1-866-201-6202.

National Sponsors Luncheon

by Ian Portsmouth, Chair Media

Dr. Kelly Metcalfe was the keynote presenter at the National Sponsor Luncheon of the Women in Insurance Cancer Crusade (WICC), which educates the charity's supporters about its work.

Metcalfe, a University of Toronto nursing professor and Women's College Research Institute scientist, provided an overview of her research into the BRCA1 and BRCA2 gene mutations, which indicate a higher risk of developing certain types of cancer, and how pre-diagnosis genetic testing can spur preventative surgeries. The event was held March 7 at the downtown Toronto offices of Chubb.



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WICC Gala Night AWARD Winners

by Alexis Heatherington, Executive Director

The Board is very pleased to congratulate the following recipients for the 2017 WICC Awards that were presented at the WICC Gala last month.

LEW DUNN Award — MSA Research Inc.

For the past 10 years MSA has chosen

WICC as their Charity of Choice. MSA generously supports WICC's silent auction at their National Insurance Council of Canada conference which consistently raises \$15,000 to over \$20,000 each year for the local WICC chapter. MSA also pledges a contribution to WICC of \$100

per speaker. In 2017 alone, this amounted to a donation of \$4,500. To date, over \$130,000 has been raised through the WICC at NICC initiative. WICC is grateful to our friends at MSA Research Inc. for their passionate dedication to eradicating cancer in our lifetime.

GOLD FLAME Awards — Atlantic Fun Night

WICC's reach extends to the shores of Atlantic Canada thanks to a very dedicated New Brunswick group of supporters, led by Monique LeBlanc. Over the past 7 years, the Atlantic Fun Night event has raised over \$53,000. WICC thanks the Atlantic fund-

> raising team for ensuring the WICC flame continues to burn bright in the east.

Tribute — Jamie Knowles

Jamie Knowles is known to many in the insurance industry as the late husband of Carol Jardine and the father of Greg

Knowles and Neal Jardine.

Diagnosed with Multiple Myeloma in 2002, and given only months to live, Jamie battled back. Throughout his fight Jamie relied on and vocalized his appreciation of the Canadian Cancer Society, whether it be their research or volunteer drivers, his doctors or Princess Margaret's innovative treatment. His last evening out was to attend the 2007 WICC dinner, which he did using his walker.

Jamie passed away on May 10, 2007 and it is the wish of the Knowles-Jardine family to acknowledge Jamie's support for WICC with a tribute and donations in his honour every year. To date Jamie's tribute has raised over \$12,000.

This Gold Flame Award is presented in recognition of the Tribute to Jamie Knowles and his enduring legacy.

HALL of FLAME Award — OIAA Windsor

Since 2014, OIAA Windsor Chapter has hosted an annual fundraising event in support of WICC. This year's Gala took place on April 18th at the Ambassador Golf Club. To date, their efforts have raised an impressive \$23,900 to support cancer research initiatives. WICC is grateful to OIAA Windsor Chapter for their contributions and commitment to creating a world where no one fears cancer.

WICC-All You Need is Love

by Laurel DiMaso, Co-Chair Gala

On May 2nd over 640 guests were invited to celebrate our Gala theme "All You Need is Love" at the Fairmont Royal York Hotel. It was an epic British Invasion that even the Queen herself attended.

During cocktail reception, guests were able to visit Abbey Road, shop at the local British Marketplace, add their personal quote on the John Lennon Graffiti Wall or act as Kings and Queens on the British Thrones.

The British dinner included Classic Chicken Pot Pie, Striploin and Yorkshire Pudding with high tea service and dessert.

The Caverners hit the stage with their perfect portrayal of The



Beatles. With authentic instruments, costumes and amazing vocals, the band recreated an incredible performance that had the guests on their feet dancing to great songs from 'She Loves You' to 'A Hard Days Night'.

From Stilt Walkers, Roaming Tables, British Guards to Union Jack socks and hundreds of guests who embraced the theme with incredible costumes, it was a wonderful night in celebration of everything that this industry has done to support cancer research and awareness.

Awards were presented to our worthy Platinum National Sponsors... [story continued on back page]



['WICC—Love' continued from page 5]

...as well as WICC's annually coveted awards as outlined in the preceding article. The evening would have not been a success without our very generous Gala Sponsors. Thank you to our Entertainment Sponsor – Kanetix Ltd; Platinum Sponsors AMR Barristers & Solicitors, Informco, Intact Insurance, Canadian Underwriter and Paradigm Events. Our deep appreciation also to our 26 Gold, Rose, Silver, Bronze and Raffle sponsors.

Thank you to all the wonderful volunteers and the dedicated WICC Gala Committee who worked tirelessly to make this evening a success. With their support WICC presented the BIG cheque for \$125,000 to the Canadian Cancer Society.

More photos can be found on FB @WICCOntario



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