

Every day, 27 Canadians are diagnosed with a brain tumour

Fredericton survivors, families and friends raising funds and awareness for brain tumour research and patient programs

Fredericton, NB – Every hour of every day, more than one Canadian learns they have a brain tumour. It's a diagnosis that changes life in an instant – for the patient and their loved ones. This weekend, Fredericton area brain tumour patients, survivors, their family and friends are coming together for the annual Spring Sprint. The event is run by a dedicated group of local volunteers determined to improve the lives of those affected by a brain tumour and is part of the national effort by Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada to raise funds and awareness about the disease.

With teams like *Val's Pals* who have participated since 2012 in honour of brain tumour survivor Valora and *The Lazy Susans* in honour of the very special Susan Sullivan who passed away from a brain tumour in 2002, the Fredericton Spring Sprint is always a day of support for everyone affected by a brain tumour. As part of the day's events, recognition will also be given to community leader David Kelly. David was an important force for the brain tumour community in Fredericton for more than 10 years. He helped drive the support group and the Spring Sprint to success and raised important awareness every day. David received Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada's Volunteer of Distinction Award in 2014 not long before he passed away and the organization's Award for Community Service has now been named in his honour.

All funds raised by the Fredericton Spring Sprint go towards programming like the local support group and resources including handbooks and a storybook for children. Funds also go towards critical brain tumour research. "Supporting patients and families and searching for the cause of and a cure for brain tumours is our focus," explains Carl Cadogan, Chief Executive Officer of Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada. It is expected that at least 120+ people will gather at the Hugh John Flemming Centre as part of the movement to end brain tumours this Saturday.

About Belleville Spring Sprint

When: Saturday, May 23, 2015; Opening ceremonies: 11:00am

Where: Hugh John Flemming Centre

What: 2.5km or 5km walk/fun run to raise funds and awareness for brain tumours

To register or learn more: www.springsprint.ca

About Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada

Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada offers hope to those affected through education and a national network of support programs. Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada also funds brain tumour research through annual grants, fellowships and research studentships. All activities are supported solely by the dedication and determination of donors - individuals, corporate sponsors and foundations. Since the organization's founding in 1982, more than \$4 million has been directed to brain tumour research. Learn more at Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada's website:

www.BrainTumour.ca.

About the Fredericton Spring Sprint – Why do we walk?

Fredericton Spring Sprint is part of the national movement to end brain tumours. In 2015 there are walks taking place from Victoria to Halifax. The national goal is to raise \$1.7 million. By signing up and fundraising as part of a brain tumour walk, patients, survivors, family and friends support the specialized programs and resources that empower patients to be their own best health care advocates and fund the ground-breaking research that will find a cure for the disease.

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For further information or to coordinate attendance at the event, contact:

Megan Winkler, Director of Community Engagement
mwinkler@braintumour.ca or 1-800-265-5106 x 232