



Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada  
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## Media Release

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For Immediate Release

**April 5, 2011**

### **Rowing Team Raising Funds, Awareness and Generating Hope for the Battle Against Brain Tumours**

(London, ON, April 5) Andrew Kaszowski wants Londoners to know that brain tumours are more common than people think – they don't discriminate and affect people of all ages. In 2010, Andrew came to the realization that within his extended circle of friends and family, almost 15 people had or have a brain tumour. Though the scope of this personal impact sounds shocking, when you consider that 10,000 Canadians are diagnosed with a brain tumour every year, the possibility becomes real. It was this realization that prompted Andrew to become involved with Spring Sprint, the annual fundraising event for Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada.

A member of the London Rowing Club, Andrew approached his team in 2010 to sponsor his fundraising efforts. It was then that he learned a teammate was fighting a brain tumour. The team rallied behind her, deciding to also run in the 2010 Spring Sprint and inspiring them to do more. This year, the team has banded together to once again to raise funds for Spring Sprint. "Our team has really come together, our friendship is stronger and the importance of this event is even more significant," Andrew says. "We are inspired by our teammate and her fight, and we also want to do what we can to help the many, many people who are battling brain tumours."

The funds raised help London-based Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada to provide patient support, education and information as well as funds critical research into the causes of and a cure for brain tumours. This includes research being conducted at London Health Sciences Centre and The University of Western Ontario. "As Londoners, we are especially proud that London is a leading centre in the world for brain tumour treatment and research," Andrew notes.

On Saturday, April 16, join Andrew and the *London Rowers Fighting Brain Tumours Team*, in support of London's Spring Sprint, featuring 2.5km and 5km routes for walkers, joggers and runners starting from Springbank Gardens (formerly Wonderland Gardens). The event is run by a dedicated group of local volunteers who are determined to improve the lives of those affected by a brain tumour.

"The prospect for all of the research that will be conducted as a result of the funds raised is very exciting," explains Susan Marshall, Executive Director of Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada. "Our vision is to find a cure for brain tumours and to improve the quality of life for those affected and we all move closer to this reality with the efforts of Spring Sprint."

Donations also support the brain tumour support group that meets monthly at First Baptist Church on Richmond Street; the Southern Ontario BrainWAVE Program supporting families with a child with a brain tumour; and the annual London Brain Tumour Information Day Conference for patients and health care professionals. Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada was founded in London, Ontario in 1982.



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"Spring Sprint is such an inspiring event," Andrew explains. "Seeing the community come together to support all of those affected by a brain tumour, it makes you realize how much you can do to help. Together, we are all hoping for the best for anyone with a brain tumour."

**Event: Spring Sprint for Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada**

**2.5km & 5km walk and run for walkers, joggers and runners.**

**Dates: Saturday, April 16, 2011: Check-in: 8:30 a.m. & Start: 10:00 a.m.**

**Location: Springbank Park, 285 Wonderland Road South, London, Ontario N6K 3T3**

**Register: [www.springsprint.ca](http://www.springsprint.ca) or 519-642-7755**

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**To coordinate an interview or for more information, please contact:**

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**Event Website: [www.springsprint.ca](http://www.springsprint.ca)**

**About Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada**

There are an estimated 55,000 people in this country living with a brain tumour and 10,000 new cases are diagnosed each year, many of those are children. Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada provides information through a free, comprehensive Patient Resource Handbook, live and web-based annual education events, and support through a Canada-wide, toll-free 1-800 line, website ([www.braintumour.ca](http://www.braintumour.ca)), and support groups that meet monthly across Canada. Brain tumour research is also supported through an annual grants-in-aid program and to date \$2.75 million has been directed to brain tumour research. Please visit Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada's website at **[www.braintumour.ca](http://www.braintumour.ca)**.