

Media Alert

**We believe that people affected by brain tumours should never walk alone.
This June in Winnipeg, they won't!**

Winnipeg, MB – In this 35th Anniversary year, Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada will be returning to Winnipeg for its 12th Annual Brain Tumour Walk, a unique opportunity to celebrate survivors, honour and remember those who have passed away, and raise awareness about this devastating disease. Run by Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada and local volunteers, this event will raise money for programs, services, and life-changing research. The fundraising goal for Winnipeg's Brain Tumour Walk is \$75,000.

"Patients and families are the heart of Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada. The Brain Tumour Walk will support the hundreds of people in Winnipeg affected by a brain tumour diagnosis and we're so thrilled to see the excitement and support ramp up for this event," says CEO, Susan Marshall. "Together we make a real difference in the lives of those affected by brain tumours."

Media Availability/Photo Opportunity:

- **What:** A celebration of hope, perseverance, and the beauty of community that has been 35 years in the making!
- **Availability:** Joshua Lieberman, survivor and Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada Ambassador
- **Where:** Assiniboine Park Conservatory Tent, 55 Pavilion Cres, Winnipeg MB
- **When:** Saturday, June 24, 2017: 8:30am - 12:00pm
- **Survivor Photo:** 9:45 am
- **Opening Ceremonies begin:** 9:50 am
- **Walk begins:** 10:00 am

About Joshua Lieberman:

Joshua is a healthy, active young person who enjoys playing sports and living life to the fullest. So on April 26, 2016, it came as a shock when he lost control of his motor skills. "My parents told me that I was shaking for about two minutes, although it felt like an eternity for them." Those two minutes, however, lead to 24 hours in the hospital, two different CT scans, and an MRI. "I felt great, as if nothing had happened, but when the doctor came back to tell me the results of my MRI my whole life changed in an instant." Diagnosed with a grade 1 pilocytic astrocytoma – a non-malignant glioma subtype that grows in the cerebrum, optic nerve pathways, brainstem, and cerebellum – the recommended treatment was surgery. "The tumour was in a good location for removal and it was relatively small, but it was crucial that we act quickly and schedule surgery to remove it. I knew my life was going to change, but I couldn't process what that meant for me at the time," he recalls. More than a year later, Joshua is happy to report a clean bill of health, and with time comes perspective: "Upon hearing my diagnosis, I felt lost. I was lucky to have my family and a close support network throughout this experience, but no one should have to feel this way." Now, Joshua volunteers his time with Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada as they work together to find the cause of and cure for brain tumours.

"I am passionate about the Winnipeg Brain Tumour Walk because I have been personally impacted by a brain tumour. By participating in the 2017 Brain Tumour Walk, I am making a commitment to end brain tumours and to help provide the essential information and support that every person affected by this disease deserves." – Joshua Lieberman

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To schedule an interview with Joshua Lieberman or for further information about the 2017 Brain Tumour Walk events, please contact:

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