

Media Alert

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

Victoria, BC, May 23, 2017 – In this 35th Anniversary year, Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada will be returning to Victoria for its 22nd 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 Victoria's Brain Tumour Walk is \$25, 000.

"Patients and families are the heart of Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada. The Brain Tumour Walk will support the hundreds of people in Victoria 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:** Anna McIntosh, survivor and Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada Ambassador
- **Where:** University of Victoria, 3800 Finnerty Rd, Victoria BC
- **When:** Sunday, May 28, 2017: 8:30 am -12:00 pm
- **Survivor Photo:** 9:45 am
- **Opening Ceremonies begin:** 9:50 am
- **Walk begins:** 10:00 am

About Anna McIntosh (Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada Ambassador, brain tumour survivor):

Anna's journey with a brain tumour began with severe headaches. Attributed to menopause, it turned out that they were a warning sign of what was to come. With increasingly severe headaches and the addition of speech confusion, Anna's husband insisted upon additional testing. In the meantime, however, Anna suffered a seizure and was rushed to hospital. A CT scan revealed a massive growth on her brain, which was later diagnosed as a meningioma. Two days later, Anna underwent a lengthy surgery to remove a grapefruit sized tumour. Following 6 months of recovery, Anna's life was back on track. Eight years later, however, doctors detected a regrowth, and so began the "wait and see" game. In May of 2013, roughly ten years after her first operation, Anna underwent surgery a second time. A biopsy identified this tumour as an atypical type 2 meningioma, and although the entire tumour was removed, she underwent six weeks of radiation treatment as a preventative measure. Deeming herself "one of the lucky ones," Anna volunteers her time with Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada, volunteering as an Ambassador at the 22nd Annual Victoria Brain Tumour Walk.

"The Brain Tumour Walk is one of the highlights of our year. I walk to remind myself of how fortunate I am, and to give back to a foundation that is there to help so many others who are going through similar events."

– Anna McIntosh

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

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