OUR COMMUNITY HEROES PUTTING...

HOPE IN ACTION!

HEROES SURROUND US EVERY DAY! READ MORE OF THEIR STORIES INSIDE...

INcredible Support!
Heroes surround us every day. This past year we have been inspired by the many heroes in the brain tumour community. Not just the Health Care Professionals who have worked so tirelessly, but also the patients who have had to summon tremendous courage to walk into a hospital alone, the kids who have shown tremendous resilience, and you. If you are reading this publication, you are our hero!

In this publication we will show you how you have inspired us to support the brain tumour community in new ways.

As we approach the 40th anniversary of our organization, we hope that we can soon gather and hug. No matter what the future brings, we will remain here for you. With your support, we will be here until our hero researchers can find the cause of, and a cure for, all brain tumours.

With heartfelt appreciation,

Susan Marshall
Chief Executive Officer
Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada
2019–2021 STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

AS OUR CURRENT STRATEGIC PLAN COMES TO AN END, WE REFLECT ON WHETHER WE HAVE SERVED YOU, OUR HEROES, IN THE WAY THAT WE HAD INTENDED. HERE ARE SOME HIGHLIGHTS.

Goal 1: Advocate for Fairness
i. Assess and seek to remove barriers to care
ii. Engage governments in providing an equitable, effective, and accessible system of care
• Mapped the gaps in funding and standard of care using Temozolomide
• Developed a position paper regarding dexamethasone shortage
• Conducted radiosurgery survey
• Conducted community consultation on impact of COVID-19
• Advocated for Proton Beam therapy availability in Canada
• Raised awareness about medical isotopes in treatment of patients

Goal 2: Expand Funding for Research
i. Support increased funding for research in basic science and quality of life
ii. Grow the Brain Tumour Registry of Canada and leverage its findings
• Implemented 3-year approach to funding research with new $50,000 Feature Grants: Quality of Life (2019), Glioblastoma (2020), & Pediatric Brain Tumours (2021)
• Completed 5-year funding of Pediatric Impact Grant (2019)
• Committed investment through Brain Tumor Funders Collaborative with 3-year immunotherapy focus (2019-2021)
• Launched Brain Tumour Registry of Canada with first incidence report (2019), first survival report (2020) and first Pan-Canadian incidence and mortality report (2021)

Goal 3: Increase Awareness and Education
i. Strengthen the delivery of information to our community
ii. Improve awareness nationwide of the signs and symptoms of brain tumours
iii. Raise awareness of the effects, incidence, and prevalence of brain tumours
• Hats for Hope awareness campaign
• Support, information and education for Young Adults and Young Adult Pediatric Survivors, Siblings, and Caregivers
• Launched Caregiver Handbook
• Launched SUPERKIDS education program
• Launched new organizational, Brain Tumour Walk and Community Events websites
• Expanded virtual communication tools and formats
• Creating App

Goal 4: Build our Community
i. Invest in people and tools that will allow us to achieve our goals
ii. Regularly & consistently evaluate and improve our culture and engagement
iii. Track our efforts for growth and success
Volunteers
• Volunteer recognition including new Youth and HCP Awards
• Expanded Volunteer training
Sustainability
• Conducted numerous surveys to identify ways to support and improve
• Fostered stakeholder relationships to achieve goals
• Assessed risk and enhanced policies to guide work of the Foundation
• Managed financial resources through uncertain times to achieve Foundation’s mission and goals.

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2022–2024, THESE STRATEGIC GOALS CONTINUE TO BE RELEVANT AND AMBITIOUS. THERE IS MORE TO BE DONE AND WE VALUE YOUR FEEDBACK. TOGETHER WE WILL HELP BRAIN TUMOUR PATIENTS AND SURVIVORS LIVE LONGER, BETTER, AND WITH HOPE.
Supporting Our Brain Tumour Heroes!

Because of your support, virtual programming was made possible for all the heroes in the brain tumour community. Here are some of the connections that you made possible this year:

- Support: including the New Young Adult Virtual Support Group
- BrainWave Activities
- Brain Tumour Webinar Series
- Coffee Chats with Denis
- Community Call-Ins
- Caregiver Events
- Concert Series
- SuperKids
- Young Adult Retreat
- French Language Symposium

Sibling Support Project
Brain tumours affect the whole family. For siblings of children with brain tumours, it can be an especially trying and emotional experience. The Sibling Support Project was created by five McGill nursing students to help kids make sense of their feelings about their sibling’s diagnosis.

www.braintumour.ca/sibling-support-project/

App Coming Soon
New to your phone this year will be the first Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada app. Here you can find our handbooks in a new, fully accessible format, information on support groups, chat, and more. In future we will also include information from brain tumour centres across Canada.

We are grateful to The Adam Fanaki Brain Fund for making the app possible, and for their generous support of our handbooks and support programs.

“This app will be a game-changer for patients living with a brain tumour and their caregivers. We are proud to support it.”
– Janet Fanaki of The Adam Fanaki Brain Fund

More information coming soon.
HEALTH CARE HEROES...

Front-line health care professionals continue to rise above the call of duty. Every hero needs to take care of their mental health. The same is true for our Health Care Professionals. In May 2021 over 350 Health Care Professionals registered for a Symposium, just for them, with tips and tricks for self-care. This also gave us the opportunity to say thank you.

SUPERKIDS!

AN EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM THAT WORKS TO RAISE AWARENESS, FOSTER EMPATHY, KINDNESS AND UNDERSTANDING ABOUT BRAIN TUMOURS AND HOW THE BRAIN WORKS.

This program is designed to help educate kids and teenagers by providing free downloadable lesson plans covering a variety of topics suitable for Kindergarten to Grade 12. We are grateful to the following organizations for their support: Westminster College Foundation, Edmonton Public Teachers, and an anonymous Foundation.

"I LOVE THE SUPERKIDS PROGRAM BECAUSE IT OFFERS SUCH A GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR CHILDREN TO LEARN ABOUT EMPATHY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION THROUGH LESSON PLANS THAT ALLOW THEM TO GET AN IDEA OF WHAT IT IS LIKE TO LIVE WITH A BRAIN TUMOUR. FOR TEACHERS, THE SUPERKIDS PROGRAM’S FANTASTIC RESOURCES MAKE IT EASIER TO SUPPORT CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES WHO ARE EXPERIENCING A LIFE-CHANGING DIAGNOSIS.”

— HOLLY O’NEILL
SUPERKIDS COMMITTEE VOLUNTEER

LEARN MORE AT:
WWW.BRAINTUMOUR.CA/SUPERKIDS

THIS WINTER...
GRAB YOUR CAPE, PULL ON YOUR SPANDEX TIGHTS AND CHECK OUT THE NEW FUNDRAISING WEBSITE JUST FOR SUPERKIDS!
WWW.SUPERKIDSEVENTS.CA
CELEBRATING THE HEROES WHO WALKED THEIR WAY

ONCE AGAIN, PEOPLE AFFECTED BY BRAIN TUMOURS WERE DETERMINED THAT A PANDEMIC WOULD NOT STOP THEM FROM COMING TOGETHER TO FIND STRENGTH, CONNECTION, AND HOPE.

United in a common goal, to see an end to brain tumours, people walked, cycled, climbed stairs, and did the event ‘their way’ on June 27, 2021. Last year’s Cup of Hope team captain, Kyleigh Provenzano walked with fellow brain tumour survivor and teammate Shaylan for 27kms in honour of the 27 Canadians diagnosed with a brain tumour every day in Canada. Some people even made new connections, spotting people wearing the items from the new incentive program.

Everyone was supported online by Al’s Flower Pouch by A.M.A. Horticulture, our proud hashtag sponsor for the second year in a row. #BrainTumourWalk hashtags were used all over social media, raising funds and awareness one hashtag at a time.

THE CUP OF HOPE IS AWARDED TO THE TEAM THAT RAISES THE MOST FUNDS DURING THE ANNUAL BRAIN TUMOUR WALK PROGRAM. CONGRATULATIONS TO TEAM TAYLER WHO RAISED $34,502.50 IN 2021!
Our co-founders Steve and Melodie Northey say it best as they reminisced about previous brain tumour walk events...

"One of the staples of the brain tumour walk, and definitely the most moving part of the event, is the survivor photo, where survivors gather wearing their blue shirts in celebration of their successes and in tribute to those who passed on."

"When you look out and see the field of blue you realize that they are the heroes of the organization," Steve says. "We do it for them, but they are the ones who fight the good fight."

Read more of their story and about the history of the brain tumour walk at www.braintumour.ca/sprint

$1.5M was raised by 2,889 participants! 475 teams gathered 15,790 gifts for the 2021 brain tumour walk — with donations still coming in!!!

www.braintumourwalk.ca
YOUR 2020
HOPE IN ACTION!

YOUR IMPACT...

$523,873 INVESTED IN RESEARCH

- 1 Research Fellowship
- 2 Research Studentships
- 5 Glioblastoma Feature Grants
- Brain Tumour Tissue Bank
- Brain Tumour Registry of Canada
- The Pam and Rolando Del Maestro Family Undergraduate Student Research Competition Awards

PLUS...

- 8 childhood brain tumour survivors were awarded Youth Education Awards
- 4 Health Care Professional (HCP) Professional Development Awards
- 570 people received support through the virtual support group program
- 3,200+ people received support through 4 Private Facebook Support Groups
- 6,200+ handbooks were distributed in both languages
- 570+ webinar series participants
- 34,000+ social fans and followers

WE FOUND YOUR RESOURCES TO BE EXTREMELY HELPFUL DURING A DIFFICULT TIME.

— LAUREN

@BRAINTUMOURFDN
YOU GAVE...

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**Annual Program**
$1,143,922 through our annual program, as follows:
- $543,909 to advance our mission
- $217,735 through grants and sponsorships
- $308,778 donated in tribute
- $73,500 Legacy of Hope gifts

**Brain Tumour Walk**
$1,166,309 raised – 42% of our fundraised revenue
- 3,647 participants
- 584 teams
- 32 businesses sponsored a Brain Tumour Walk in their community
- 1 hashtag sponsor!

**Community Events**
$476,275 raised by 25 community events, including 364 Facebook Fundraisers
- 4,600 Hats for Hope toques purchased
Vikes Kick Cancer
In November 2020, following his astrocytoma grade IV diagnosis, the Vikes Men’s and Women’s Soccer teams collectively ran 270 kms over 3 days in support of their former teammate and Captain, Mackenzie Rigg. Their event raised an incredible $81,418.20! $50,000 of this amount was immediately invested in Dr. Sheila Singh’s feature grant, with the remainder still to be invested in future research projects. Thank you to the Vikes and all who supported Vikes Kick Cancer! www.braintumour.ca/vikes

Dunn with Cancer
The DUNN with Cancer Research Fund was established in 2020 in memory of Allison Dunn, a mother of three, who was diagnosed with glioblastoma on February 18, 2020. Allison’s diagnosis was unexpected, as over a two-week period she went from hiking with her children to being told she had an inoperable tumour with an average life expectancy of 18 months. When chemotherapy and radiation treatment had minimal impacts, Allison passed away peacefully on June 17, 2020, 4 months less a day after the tumour was discovered.

Determined to fund research and foster innovation, Allison’s family and friends established the DUNN with Cancer run, which took place for the first time on September 19, 2020. Funds raised went to the DUNN with Cancer Research Fund, to expand the field of researchers and help fund new innovative concepts. The event raised over $226,000!

With the funds raised so far, two brain tumour feature grants have already been started and one Fellowship grant will be announced soon. The 2nd Annual DUNN with Cancer run will take place at Springbank Park in London, Ontario, on September 18, 2021. Learn more www.dunnwithcancer.com/

Liedtke MetaLab Research Fund
We are grateful to MetaLab for starting the Liedtke MetaLab Research Fund, in honour of colleague and friend Quentin Liedtke, and for funding two Feature Grants. John Trant and his lab expressed their gratitude on Twitter.

www.braintumour.ca/research
Sheila Singh – McMaster University  
Project Title: “Targeting Glioblastoma Recurrence with anti-ROBO1 Immunotherapy”  
“My lab and I are extremely grateful to Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada for supporting this promising work on the development of immunotherapy for GBM. By developing a therapy that specifically targets tumour cells at recurrence, we hope to alleviate disease burden and extend survival of GBM patients. Thank you Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada!”

David Fortin – Universite de Sherbrooke  
Project Title: “Radioisotope Embedded in GlioTrap for Glioblastoma Treatment”  
“To eliminate glioblastoma tumour cells, we have developed a device that can be implanted in the tumour cavity following tumour removal. In a global project coined GlioTrap, we have designed a biocompatible gel to deliver molecules that can attract tumour cells. This gel also releases slowly antitumour drugs…with minor or no toxicity.”

Phedias Diamandis – University Health Network/Princess Margaret Cancer Centre  
Project Title: “Development of deep learning approaches for deciphering and targeting intra-tumoural heterogeneity in Glioblastoma”  
“I am humbled and excited that our work was selected for a 2020 Feature Research Grant by Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada. In this project, we couple some of our most exciting technologies we’ve worked on including mass spectrometry-based proteomics and artificial intelligence to develop a platform that could allow doctors and scientists to more routinely assess biological variation found in patients’ glioblastomas.”

Amit Singnurkar – Sunnybrook Health Sciences Center  
Project Title: “Mapping of Essential Amino Acid Metabolism for the Detection of Glioblastoma Multiforme Spread in Post-Surgical Patients”  
“This award will support our work in building a comprehensive research and therapeutics capability for glioblastoma patients by adding nuclear oncology and molecular imaging with positron emission tomography to the already impressive portfolio of research and innovation at Sunnybrook.”

John Trant – University of Windsor  
Project Title: “A universal drug delivery vehicle to transport drugs across the blood-brain barrier to target Glioblastoma”  
“The technology we are designing in the Trant Lab (are) triggerable (i.e. by light, heat, enzymes) polymer nanocapsules that are suitable for crossing the blood-brain-barrier (BBB) and localizing only to specific cells expressing certain surface markers. This project proposes to show that we can use these to cross a model BBB in zebrafish.”

WWW.BRAINTUMOUR.CA/RESEARCH/FEATURED-PROJECTS/
HATS FOR HOPE!

OCTOBER 24 IS BRAIN CANCER AWARENESS DAY. 2020 WAS THE THIRD YEAR WE ASKED CANADIANS TO MARK THE DAY BY PUTTING ON A HAT AND SHARING A PHOTO ON SOCIAL MEDIA WITH THE HASHTAG #HATSFORHOPE

BY THE NUMBERS

• 4,600 toques sold!
• $28,755 raised!
• 5,000,000+ people reached online
• 6,000+ social media posts
• 1 hashtag sponsor!

THANK YOU,

DYNACARE FOR DONATING 27 CENTS FOR EVERY MENTION OF #HATSFORHOPE ON SOCIAL MEDIA, IN HONOUR OF THE 27 CANADIANS DIAGNOSED WITH A BRAIN TUMOUR EACH DAY. SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR PARTNERS AT NEW ERA GRAFIX FOR THEIR SUPPORT IN SELLING AND DISTRIBUTING THESE TOQUES.

HATS OFF TO ALL OF YOU!

JOIN US ON OCTOBER 24, 2021, WHEN WE WILL DO THIS AGAIN! WE HOPE FOR EVEN MORE INVOLVEMENT AS THIS MEANS MORE AWARENESS OF ALL TYPES OF BRAIN TUMOURS. THANK YOU!

ADD TO YOUR COLLECTION WITH THIS COMFY, CUSTOM-MADE, 2021 HATS FOR HOPE TOQUE. PURCHASE, PASS, AND POST ON OCTOBER 24, 2021.

WWW.BRAINTUMOUR.CA/HATSFORHOPE
James died 3 years ago leaving a Legacy of Hope to Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada to ensure that others receive the same support and caring as he did.

Thank you, James, you have made a lasting difference.

A growing number of Canadians are combining their charitable giving with their estate planning. Gifts in people’s wills, or through other future gifts, have become an important source of funding for charities like Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada.

After providing for your loved ones, a gift in your will can be a tangible expression of appreciation for the support provided to you or your loved ones while continuing to impact others in the future.

If you would like to learn more about creating a Legacy of Hope to Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada through your will or estate plan, please contact:

Suzanne Fratschko Elliott
Sfelliott@braintumour.ca
519-642-7755, ext.227

“BEING PART OF A BRAIN TUMOUR SUPPORT GROUP, KNOWING I’M NOT ALONE, IS INCREDIBLY REASSURING. THE INFORMATION, PEER SUPPORT, AND CARING I RECEIVE IS BEYOND WORDS AND BRINGS ME SO MUCH HOPE TO FOCUS ON LIVING DESPITE MY DIAGNOSIS”.

— JAMES, LEGACY OF HOPE SUPPORTER
Volunteer Heroes

We could not do what we do without the heroes who give their time and energy to the brain tumour community.

Each year we recognize them for their outstanding contributions. In 2020 we congratulated these volunteers in an online ceremony that you can watch here: www.braintumour.ca/volunteer.

Volunteer of Distinction Award Recipients
- Sandra Lisi and Dee Ferlisi, Brampton Brain Tumour Walk Coordinators
- Dayna Magnuson, Whitehorse Brain Tumour Walk Coordinator
- Myriam Boucher-Pinard, GOcervo Committee Member
- Éloïse Carré, GOcervo Committee Member

David Kelly Award for Community Service
In 2020, we recognized a family with this award for community service in support of the Canadian brain tumour community. The Hak/Elliott family has supported the Foundation for the last 19 years and have raised over $40,000 with Hak/Elliott golf tournament. Their continued support makes them one of the longest running events to support the cause and they continue to educate their community on the impact of this disease. Congratulations go to: Donna Elliott, Stephen and Marlene Mackenzie.

The Health Care Professional Award
New in 2020, the Health Care Professional Award recognizes an individual in the healthcare field that has shown exemplary and compassionate care for the brain tumour community.

In 2020, the organization recognized Dr. Arjun Sahgal, Radiation Oncologist at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Odette Cancer Centre.

The Outstanding Youth Award
Also new in 2020, the Outstanding Youth Award. This award recognizes youth who have provided considerable time and effort in assisting the brain tumour community while making a positive impact. In 2020, the organization recognized three young heroes with this award:
- Mckenna Lumley, Glitter Glam
- Isabella Coffey, Ottawa Brain Tumour Walk Committee member
- Andie McGugan, Bracelets 4 Brains

Congratulations to all award recipients!!

www.braintumour.ca/volunteer
January 25, 2021, was a big day for eight-year old Ethan Hayes and his mom Cindi Shoot. They received word that his cancer was gone – nearly two years to the day from his original diagnosis and one year after his last treatment.

Ethan was diagnosed with medulloblastoma, sub-type 3, that had traveled from his brain to his spine. He underwent four surgeries, endured several complications, and traveled to the United States for experimental treatment prior to the welcome news.

As part of his experimental treatment, Ethan received 30 proton therapy treatments. In February, Ontario Health issued a report which recommends publicly funding proton beam therapy for pediatric cancers and a subset of adult cancers requiring curative radiation therapy.

Thank you, Ethan, for reminding us that life-changing advancements are being made every day. We continue to make strides since our organization was formed, almost 40 years ago.

We hope you will join us on this day in remembering Kelly, celebrating the advancements made, and looking to the future. Our vision is to find the cause of and a cure for brain tumours while improving the quality of life for those affected. With your help, we will be here until that day comes.

Thank you.
2021 WEBINAR SERIES

THE BRAIN TUMOUR WEBINAR SERIES IS FREE AND - NEW FOR 2021 - EACH WEBINAR WILL FEATURE BOTH A SPEAKER FROM THE WORLD OF BRAIN TUMOUR RESEARCH AND/OR MEDICINE AS WELL AS A PERSONAL STORY OF HOPE FROM A BRAIN TUMOUR SURVIVOR. THE FINAL SESSIONS FOR 2021 WILL BE:

🌟 Navigating the Twists and Turns of Survivorship: School and Work Considerations for Youth and Young Adults
Tuesday, September 21, 2021
Barb Williams, Provincial Coordinator, School and Work Transitions Program at the Pediatric Oncology Group of Ontario (POGO) and Stephanie Doucet’s story of hope.

🌟 In Search of New Treatment Strategies for Medulloblastoma
Tuesday, October 5, 2021
Dr Tamra Ogilvie, Associate Professor, Biochemistry & Medical Genetics at the University of Manitoba and Mckenna Lumley’s story of hope.

🌟 Changing the Caregiver Experience: Ways to Take Charge and Support Yourself and Your Loved One Living with a Brain Tumour
Tuesday, October 26, 2021
Melina Ladouceur, Cancer Coach & Survivorship Care at the Ottawa Regional Cancer Foundation and Erin Dykstra’s story of hope.

🌟 Genomic and Molecular Markers in Glioma: Where Are We Now?
Tuesday, November 23, 2021
Dr. Mary Jane Lim-Fat, Neuro-Oncologist at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre and Kyleigh Provenzano’s story of hope.

"THE LECTURE FROM THE NEUROSURGEON (DR. JOHN SINCLAIR) WAS SO EASY TO UNDERSTAND AND SO HOPEFUL AND INSPIRING AND SUCH A GREAT REMINDER AND MOTIVATOR OF HOW IMPORTANT IT IS TO KEEP RAISING FUNDS AND SPREADING AWARENESS. I LOVE SEEING EVIDENCE OF NEW ADVANCEMENTS."

REGISTER FOR THESE WEBINARS NOW AT BRAINTUMOUR.CA/PAINBINARS

IF YOU HAVE BEEN INSPIRED TO RAISE FUNDS YOUR WAY TO #ENDBRAINTUMOURS, CHECK OUT OUR NEW FUNDRAISING WEBSITE WWW.ENDBRAINTUMOURS.CA

Vision:
To find the cause of and a cure for brain tumours while improving the quality of life for those affected.

Mission:
To reach every person in Canada who is affected by a brain tumour through support, education, information, and research.

Values:
These values inform everything that we do to create impact and meaning for the brain tumour community in Canada:

Hope, Caring, Integrity, Accountability and Collaboration

Connect with us on social media @BrainTumourFdn

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