



## **Fifth anniversary festival expects 104 dragon boat teams and celebrates purchase of PRHC equipment**

### **Attention news desk:**

Peterborough—Organizers opened registration today for the fifth year of dragon boat festivals on Little Lake, set for June 18. 104 teams with a maximum roster of 24 per team—almost 2500 paddlers—will race 4 boats at time to raise awareness of breast cancer, and donations for the local Breast Assessment Centre at the Peterborough Regional Health Centre

Registration packages are available at Kawartha Credit Union, platinum sponsor, at their Monaghan Road branch. Susan Miller, Registration Chair, urges teams to register quickly as spaces are only available on a first-come first-serve basis. The closing date for team registration is April 22<sup>nd</sup>. A new fifth anniversary price of \$700 (one practice) or \$800 (two practices) comes with free team pictures for everyone on the roster.

“I can hardly believe we started out with 32 teams”, says John Gullick, Festival Chair. “We owe our tremendous growth to the enthusiasm and generosity of the community since this is a truly local event.” Len Minty, Race Director in charge of logistics says he’s pretty sure Peterborough runs the largest one-day festival anywhere.

Robert Wellstood, CEO at Kawartha Credit Union is proud to be platinum sponsor for the fourth consecutive year. “It’s always been an excellent fit for us,” said Wellstood. “We are a local organization interested in making a contribution to our community. We take pride in supporting the festival and its important cause.”

As in past years, all funds raised stay in the community and go to the PRHC’s Breast Assessment Centre. Last year the amount topped \$175,000. Today, the PRHC Foundation proudly announced the purchase of two pieces of leading edge technology from accumulated funds raised by the Dragon Boat Festival over the past four years.

The pace of technological change in diagnostic imaging technology is very rapid with great advances even in the last twelve months. After much research and analysis, physicians and staff of the Breast Assessment Centre decided the purchase of a dedicated high-end ultrasound system will offer tremendous benefits to patient's diagnosis and future treatment. The new unit will offer improved visualization as well as advanced applications not currently available with our existing technology.

Nancy Davis, Manager, Diagnostic Imaging at PRHC, says there are several advantages connected to the new ultrasound. The higher resolution images assist in the early detection of breast abnormalities. Improved images allow biopsies of suspected abnormalities to take place with an ultrasound that previously may have required a procedure in the operating room. “When we compare the new ultrasound systems to older technology, what was difficult to visualize on the older machine literally jumped off the screen on the new equipment,” says Davis.

Cyndi Gilmer, Director of Women’s and Children’s Services at PRHC, says the new ultrasound permits “easier detection of smaller cancers”. “Detecting and treating breast abnormalities can be like putting together a puzzle, and this new equipment will make an important piece of the puzzle much clearer,” says Gilmer.

The \$268,000 ultrasound unit has the potential to provide imaging services for approximately 2500 women per year and is used in the breast work-up phase of breast cancer diagnosis.

In addition to the new ultrasound, funds raised by the Dragon Boat Festival will allow the purchase of a \$66,000 AGFA Mamoray Daylight Film Handling System, ensuring optimum quality in the processing of films used in the breast screening clinic at PRHC’s Roger’s Street Site.

This exciting announcement pleased members of Survivors Abreast, the local dragon boat team of breast cancer survivors and hosts of the festival, since mammographic screening is known to be the cornerstone for the diagnosis of early, treatable breast cancer.

During the news conference, festival organizers thanked returning festival sponsors that so far include: Platinum—Kawartha Credit Union, Gold—CHEX T.V/Wolf/Kruz and Minute Maid Coca Cola, Silver—Americredit and Tim Hortons; Bronze—Investors Group and Peterborough This Week; Teak—The Examiner, Saturn, Purolator, Price Chopper, Country 105, Coach Canada, Saville Publishing, and Liftlock Fibre Fabrication-Home of Kawartha Canoes.

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# FESTIVAL 2004 FACT SHEET

## FESTIVAL PROCEEDS

Total raised \$196,706.78 (pledges and revenue)

- Portion donated to the PRHC \$175,123.57 (pledges and revenue).
- Portion to Survivors Abreast \$16,583.21 (revenue)
- Hold over for Festival 2005 \$5,000 (revenue)

## WINNING TEAMS

### Mixed Division

1. Dragon Flyers/downtown division 1:40.20.
2. The Skinny Dippers/community division 1:45.71.
3. The TAS Griffins/education division 1:46.40,
4. Healing Hands/medical division 1:48.97
5. Price Chopper/sponsor division 1:50.87
6. Cavan Bog Buccaneers/business division 1:53.13.

### Ladies Division

1. **Twohey's Titans—1:52.37**
2. Hot Baguettes third—1:54.03
3. Dental Dragon—1:53.30
4. Dragon Queens—1:54.98
5. Dragon 'R Butts—1:57.37
6. **PPP Pistilittes—1:57.77.**

### Breast Cancer Survivor Race

1. Knot A Breast— Hamilton—1:53.76.
2. Survivors Abreast— 2:01.68.
3. Chestmates —Kingston— 2:03.20

## PLEDGE WINNERS

### Winning Teams

1. Dave and The Puroonauts—\$7,578. The team name is engraved on a special plaque in memory of Dr. Jaroszonek and is displayed at the Peterborough Clinic.
2. GE Motor Maniacs team— \$7,226
3. Survivors Abreast team— \$6,758
4. Team Synergy— \$5263.44 and
5. GM Buick Dragons— \$3,788.05.

### Individual Winners

1. Dave Nicholls, Dave & The Puroonauts raised \$5384 and won a Kawartha Canoe donated by Liftlock Fibreglass Fabrication and a 6-month membership for GoodLife Fitness Club, Chemong Road.
2. Heather Angione, Team Synergy—\$1,690 won a 6-month membership to GoodLife Fitness Club, Chemong Road.
3. Shawn Wilson, Price Chopper—\$1,664.63.
4. Anne Munroe, Annie's Oars—\$1562,
5. Diane Benson, Survivors Abreast—\$1,215