

# Georgetown father and son to trace Terry Fox's steps to Thunder Bay

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Longtime Georgetown resident Stephen Dame has been an admirer of Terry Fox for his entire life.

When he was only five months old, he watched as Terry ran by his carriage on Highway 7 in Georgetown. His mother still tells him the story.

Then as a student in town, he participated in Terry Fox runs with his elementary and high schools.

Later on, after moving to Ottawa, he used Terry as inspiration to whip himself into shape, losing 90 pounds and eventually gaining the strength and endurance to run 13 kilometres on a regular basis.

"I would keep picturing Terry as I was running, thinking, if he can do that, I can do this," he

said. "And I would run down to the Terry Fox statue on Parliament Hill and touch his foot for good luck every day."

Dame says he's been running ever since.

Today, Dame lives in Georgetown with his family. He has been organizing the Terry Fox Run in town for the past four years.

"I think that while Terry knew that he was dying, he essentially said this can't end with me, this has to go

- Stephen Dame

on, and so I feel a bit of an obligation to him to be honest," Dame said.

This year however, it's not only about the run.

Dame will be taking his 5-year-old son Conrad with him on a journey he has wanted to take for quite some time.

The pair will be travelling from Georgetown to Thunder Bay, Ont., beginning July 3,

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Stephen Dame and his son Conrad pose alongside a poster of Terry at Georgetown's Terry Fox Run in 2017.

stopping to run at sites that Terry ran through on his Marathon of Hope.

Dame says he plans to visit the Terry Fox memorial in Thunder Bay, as well as the last-

mile marker just before that.

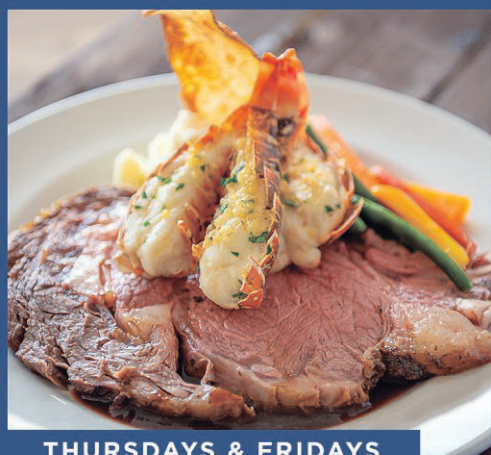
"We're going to get out and try to run in as many of the major stops, like Sault Ste. Marie and Wawa and Terrace Bay and then we'll run the last little bit from Thunder Bay, which may be emotional," Dame said.

The journey is expected to take six days and Dame says he and Conrad will be documenting their travels via Twitter (@foxrungeorgetown) and he hopes to use their adventure to inspire more people to participate in Georgetown's 2018 run, taking place on Sept. 16 at the Gellert Community Centre.

Dame says the event means a lot to him personally, and that this year the run will see Georgetown topping the \$400,000 mark for the amount of funds raised in total since 1981.

"I think that a lot of the people who show up and participate every year are doing it to, of course, find a cure to this terrible disease, but also to keep Terry's journey going, to keep his mission alive until we find a cure," Dame said.

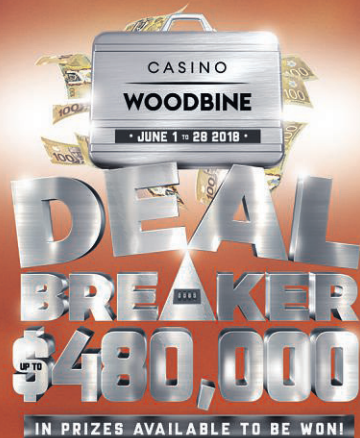
"It means a great deal."



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