

TERRY FOX RUN GOES VIRTUAL FOR 2020

THE PANDEMIC WON'T STOP HALTON HILLS FROM CARRYING THE TORCH TERRY PASSED, WRITES JON HURST



JON HURST
Column

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This Sunday, Sept. 20, marks the 40th anniversary of the Terry Fox Run for cancer research. In this challenging year, with COVID-19 still in our midst and safety protocols still in effect, the 2020 Terry Fox Run has been changed to a virtual event for the protection and well-being of everyone involved.

The motto this year is "The 2020 Terry Fox Virtual Run: One Day. Your Way." Participants can register online at www.terryfox.org,

and they can contact their supporters to donate directly to them online. They will still rise Sunday morning ready to proceed, but instead of attending a specific run site as in every previous year, they can now walk, run, bike, wheel or stroll a route of their own choosing, safely. Anyone wishing to simply donate and support their local run site can either go online to sponsor a specific participant, or register and sponsor themselves. It's hard to believe it has been 40 years since

those three memorable days in 1980, July 22 to July 24, when Terry and his Marathon of Hope passed through Halton Hills. Many residents have cherished memories of seeing and even talking to Terry in 1980 as he ran through town, or during his previous attendance at a Cancer Society fundraising dinner.

I think we all believed that nothing could stop this heroic young man from completing his marathon, but sadly, on Sept. 1, just south of Thunder Bay, Terry ran his last mile. His cancer had returned, and he was flown home to Vancouver for treatment. During his 143-day odyssey, Terry showed us all that through his courage, determination and sacrifice, he could be instrumental in bringing the fight against cancer out of the shadows and to the fore-

front, as well as leading the charge for raising much-needed money for cancer research.

Terry said, "If I can't continue, it's got to keep going without me," and for four decades, Canadians across the country have attended Terry Fox Runs to do exactly that. If you've participated or volunteered in a Terry Fox Run, if you've given a dollar or more for cancer research, if Terry Fox is your hero, your hand is on the torch he passed, and you are part of his Marathon of Hope.

I know Terry would want to say to us all, "Thank you, for 40 years of caring and giving," but it really should be us all saying to him, "Thank you Terry, for showing us the way."

Jon Hurst is the chair of the Acton Terry Fox Run.



By Cory Soal
R.H.A.D.

... Lend Me Your Ears

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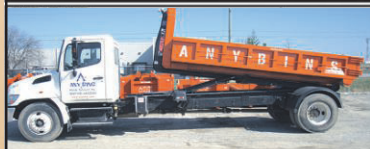
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