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PANDEMIC CAN'T DERAIL TERRY'S DREAM

ANNUAL TERRY FOX RUN ONCE AGAIN A VIRTUAL EVENT. **WRITES JON HURST**

This coming Sunday (Sept. 19), participants in Acton, Georgetown and all across Canada will be taking part virtually in the 41st annual Terry Fox Run.

Once again, the CO-VID-19 pandemic is not allowing us to gather together. However, as with last year's event, we remain united in spirit and devotion to Terry and his cause.

Participants can register and sponsors can donate by going to the official website, www.terryfox-.org. Over 9.000 Terry Fox Runs take place each year, and they are all organized and led by volunteers.

This helps to keep overhead costs low, with more money going directly to cancer research, as Terry originally wished.

Because Terry did not want anvone to profit by using his name, there are no corporate sponsors, and the Terry Fox Foundation is able to operate independently.

Terry Fox Runs are noncompetitive and inclusive,



JON HURST Column

and everyone is welcome, with no entrance fee or minimum pledge requirement. When people discuss who our greatest Canadians are, and there are many worthy candidates, Terry's name always comes to the top of the list.

Having watched his 1980 Marathon of Hope in person or having read or been told about it, people realize how truly amazing his quest was.

They marvel at his grit and tenacity, his ability to withstand the physical and emotional pain and his personal sacrifice for the dramatic advancement in cancer research and treatments.

That's the thing about Terry. He was driven not by his own circumstances, but by the pain and suffering he saw being endured by others in cancer treatment. He said, "Somewhere, the hurting must stop," and he did his best to stop it.

Today, through the Terry Fox Research Institute, new discoveries, technologies, tests and treatments have been made possible with research funding from the Terry Fox Foundation.

In 2019-2020 alone, \$21 million was available for cancer research and training; 46 projects for team science and research were funded; and there were 98 partners in funding and research.

Terry would certainly be proud of the advancements that have been made in cancer research, but I suspect he would be even more proud of the continuing success of the annual Terry Fox Runs held in his honour.

Be part of this year's Terry Fox Run. #TRY-LIKETERRY

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

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