

*Editorial*

# He gave us hope

*"If I ran to a doctor every time I got a little cyst or abrasion I'd still be in Nova Scotia. Or else I'd never have started. I've seen people in so much pain. The little bit of pain I'm going through is nothing. They can't shut it off, and I can't shut down every time I feel a little sore."*

— Terry Fox, July 29, 1980

For 25 years the name Terry Fox has been synonymous with heroism. Over 143 days and 5,374 kilometres (3,339 miles) the freckle-faced 22-year-old amputee from British Columbia defined bravery, determination and selflessness. He accomplished more in four and a half months of 1980 than most of us could dream of achieving in a lifetime.

Running the equivalent of a marathon each day, Terry became an instant symbol of hope to all who battled cancer. His impact didn't end there. Terry's remarkable effort reminded all who witnessed it that no matter how rough we think our lives are, there are people who have it much worse. He taught us that heroes sometimes have to fail in order to succeed. He dared us to challenge ourselves every day of our lives. Most importantly he taught us the power of the individual to effect monumental change.

Five months after cancer's return forced Terry to abandon his miraculous journey just outside Thunder Bay, his dream of raising \$1 from every Canadian — \$24.17 million — was realized.

This Sunday marks the 25th consecutive year that Terry Fox Runs will be held as fund-raisers in the battle against cancer. People in 50 countries across our planet will add to the \$360 million that has already been raised for cancer research in Terry's name.

One of the bittersweet ironies of Terry's legacy is that had he been diagnosed with the same rare form of bone cancer today, chances are very good that he would have survived and would have likely kept his right leg. Millions of Canadians live and live better because of the life-saving research efforts that have taken place since Terry set off across Canada from St. John's on April 12, 1980.

Had Terry Fox lived to celebrate the 25th anniversary of his Marathon of Hope, he would have been 47.



## Letters to the editor...

### A 'road closed' sign means the road is closed!

Dear editor,

I am amazed at the amount of people in Georgetown that

cannot read road signs, but yet are somehow able to drive their cars.

I live on Eighth Line in an area where well overdue road construction is being done. The street is closed off, and yet, no one seems to notice the signs or the cones that close off the road.

I have spoken to the Town to try to get them to close the road off entirely, but they cannot do that due to the need for emergency access.

And that is fine with me. Where I have a problem is that even though the road is "closed" and the sign states "local access only", people just keep driving through.

People are not only making my life difficult by driving on a dusty road in front of my home, but are endangering the lives of the construction workers. I have witnessed several drivers going through the con-

struction in progress by weaving through the different machinery.

Do these drivers realize that it is illegal to drive through a closed road that is designated for local traffic only? Yes, it is a \$110 fine plus demerit points.

What a great cash grab this could be for our police force! Also, if anything happens while they are on this road, their insurance does not cover them.

What a risk to take just to save yourself two minutes in detour.

Come on people, use your brains and the detour, these construction companies do not spend money on signs just for the fun of it. Please obey the road signs, and then, once they re-open Eighth Line, you can speed through like usual.

Wendy Julien-Crosby  
Georgetown

### Reader wonders if MPP is a being a comedian

Dear editor,

On October 21, 2001, the great, late commentator Dalton Camp wrote a column about the Harris legacy. Let me give you two quotes:

"The entrenched cynicism of Harris Toryism lacked the inspiration of conviction. As partisans, they were good at looking out for themselves. When this led to oversight and public injury, they seem surprised and they probably were. Selfishness had become natural to them." And:

"I suspect the time will come— perhaps soon— when we will clearly see the Harris years as those of squandered opportunities of abandoned responsibilities and crippling narrowness of vision."

To Mr. Chudleigh, the time to see clearly the harm the neo-conservatives have done to Ontario, has not come yet, judging by his columns and letters to the editor.

Or maybe we should not take Mr. Chudleigh seriously. Maybe he is a comedian who wants to laugh at his version of the mess the Harris gang left behind.

In this case I will do him the honour to be amused. After all, when we consider that the Harris reign started with "boot camps" and ended with Ernie Eves, we have to admit that this hiccup of politics from the south of the border is great material for comedy.

John Sommer, Georgetown

### Letters to the editor

Letters to the editor must include an address and daytime telephone number. Unsigned letters will not be published. Letters should not exceed 200 words and may be edited.

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