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Area residents are gearing up for breast cancer fundraiser

Long list of Miltonians to participate in Weekend to End Breast Cancer event

By **ROBIN DOWNTON-POIRIER**
Special to The Champion

Being diagnosed with breast cancer is every woman's nightmare. It's the most frequently-diagnosed cancer among women and statistics show that 102 women lose their battles with breast cancer each week.

Money for research to find a cure for the dreaded disease is desperately needed.

In response, many people in the community have made a commitment to participate in the second annual Weekend To End Breast Cancer event and raise the required \$2,000 in pledges per walker.

Last year's event helped raise \$8.2 million for research and equipment as well as enhancement of clinical support services and dedicated operating rooms for breast cancer patients.

The Weekend to End Breast Cancer event is a 60-km walk over two days through the neighbourhoods of Toronto to raise money for breast cancer research at Princess Margaret Hospital.

Participants will arrive at Downsview Park on the afternoon of Friday, Sept. 10 for opening ceremonies and tent assignments. Bright and early the next morning, after breakfast, the walkers (up to 5,000 of them) will begin their journey through

Toronto, stopping for lunch and rest stops. After completing 30 km, walkers will return to the park for showers, meals and much-needed rest. They will begin again on Sunday morning and complete another 30 km, finishing the event by celebrating with family and friends.

To fundraise, walkers are asking friends, family, and acquaintances and local businesses for support. Some local bars have even agreed to offer 'voluntary cover charge' nights with the proceeds going to the participants. Other participants are holding dances and garage sales. The fundraising can be as unique as the individual.

"Last year I didn't start early enough (to fundraise) for the MS 10-km walk," said Sherry Shannon-Vanstone, a participant from Campbellville. "I learned my lesson. (For this event) I have made a list of individuals that I will contact and I have already spoken to several businesses. We receive a lot of support from the event organizers as well and they give some great ideas for fundraising."

The manner in which participants train and fundraise is up to them but a key factor is support. Support from family and friends is important to their success.

Ms Shannon-Vanstone, a consulting

business owner, joined the Weekend to End Breast Cancer event in early January as she was disappointed in not being able to participate last year due to a travel commitment. Her husband, Scott, has been training with her by joining her on her walks as she increases her distance.

As well, Ms Shannon-Vanstone plays tennis regularly, does Pilates and works with a personal trainer.

Kendra Duncan, a participant from Milton, has the full support of her husband, Christof Altorfer (also a participant), and her children, Ryan and Kiera. The family walks together in preparation for the weekend and is planning several events to fundraise.

"I am a breast cancer survivor and my mother has breast cancer last year," said Ms Duncan. "I have a daughter and a sister and I hope they never have to go through breast cancer. Anything I can do to help I'll do. I thought about my children and how great an example this would be setting for them."

Participants can choose to walk as an individual or as a member of a team, with each member still responsible to raise \$2,000.

Just as varied as the unique team names (Breast of All, Chicks For Breasts, The Vandoos, Sister Pledge) are the reasons why people have joined the event.

Many, like Cindy Ferencz of Milton, are

• see PARTICIPANTS on page 21



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PUBLIC NOTICE

PROPOSED GUELPH LINE (REGIONAL ROAD 1)
PHASE 1, PRELOADING CONSTRUCTION
TOWN OF MILTON
PROJECT FILE: PR-2078B

Notice is hereby given that the Council for the Regional Municipality of Halton proposes at its meeting on Wednesday, June 2, 2004 at 9:30 a.m. to pass a by-law for the construction of approximately 1 km of Guelph Line from 1300 m north of 15 Sideroad to 700 m south of 20 Sideroad, Town of Milton.

Construction drawings showing the proposed work may be reviewed at the Planning & Public Works Department, Halton Regional Centre, 1151 Bronte Road, Oakville.

For further information, or to arrange an appointment to review the detail design drawings for the preloading construction please contact Mr. Joseph Choi, P.Eng., Manager, Design Services at extension 7610.

Toll Free: 1-866-4HALTON
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E-mail: Choij@region.halton.on.ca

Jane Clohecy
Acting Commissioner of Planning &
Public Works



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