

NEWS RELEASE



For Immediate Release
Sep. 1, 2011 | 115-11

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Laurier students organize charity golf tournament to support Parkinson's research

WATERLOO – Two Laurier students are reviving a charity golf tournament through the Sun Life Financial Movement Disorders Research & Rehabilitation Centre (MDRC) in honour of the tournament's previous organizer: Bryan Jonas. Jonas, who has Parkinson's disease, had organized four golf tournaments to raise money for the MDRC before his affliction grew worse.

"Bryan Jonas and his family have been tremendous supporters of our research for a number of years now," said Quincy Almeida, director of the MDRC. "When he initially established the tournament, he was amazed with how much our team was doing to support Parkinson's in our community, and knew that we could do even more with a little help."

Master of Science students Matt Sacheli and Haseel Bhatt decided to revive the tournament after speaking with Jonas during a rehabilitation session last year.

"Parkinson's disease is very debilitating and so the research into the disease is very important," said Sacheli. "Bryan inspired us to bring the tournament back, because it's a great way to raise money and increase awareness of Parkinson's disease and the quality of research that's being conducted at Laurier."

The Bryan Jonas Golf Tournament for Parkinson's is open to all patients of the MDRC and members of the Laurier community. The tournament takes place September 22, 11:30 a.m. at the Elmira Golf Club. The entry fee is \$130 per golfer or \$500 for a foursome. The price includes a cart, 18 holes of golf, driving range balls, dinner and a welcome package. "There are also going to be great prizes!" said Sacheli.

To register, download the brochure from www.wlu.ca/documents/47685/Golf_brochure.pdf and return it to the MDRC at 66 Hickory St. W., Waterloo, or fax it to 519-884-3577. For more information, email mdrc.golf@gmail.com.

The money raised will help fund student opportunities to present Parkinson's research at international conferences.

"Students are one of the driving forces behind the MDRC," said Almeida. "It is even more impressive that students like Matt and Haseel have been inspired to carry on this charity tournament, in addition to the hours they already dedicate to Parkinson's research at our centre."