

# 5 things about annual Terry Fox Run

On Sunday, Sept. 18 people from across the country will gather in their respective communities to take part in the Terry Fox Run to raise money for cancer research. The race is accessible to everybody with no entry fee, no minimum pledge and a non-competitive atmosphere. Participants can run, walk, blade or bike. Here are five things to know about the Terry Fox Run this year.

**1** The Terry Fox Run takes place in more than 9,000 communities across Canada. York Region has 11 locations for the run including Georgina, East Gwillimbury, King City, Newmarket, Aurora, Stouffville, Oak Ridges, Richmond Hill, Woodbridge, Markham-Unionville and Thornhill. If you want to find out more information about your local run visit [www.terryfox.org/Run/Find\\_A\\_Runsite](http://www.terryfox.org/Run/Find_A_Runsite)

**2** Millions of students from across the country also get involved through their schools, which host the Terry Fox School run every year. Terry Fox ran the equivalent of a marathon a day for 143 days during his 3,339-mile Marathon of Hope. Some schools try to equal that mark through the collective effort of its student body. More than three million students and educators took part in the first national school run day in 2005. A record \$45 million was raised that year.



**3** In 1981, the first Terry Fox Run was held at more than 760 sites in Canada and around the world. The event attracted 300,000 participants and raised \$3.5 million. Thirty-six years later, the run has raised more than \$700 million for cancer research.

**4** There are 14 schools in Canada named after Terry Fox, including Terry Fox Public School in Newmarket. There are 15 roads in Canada named after Fox, including Terry Fox Street in Markham. A nine-foot Terry Fox statue is located in Thunder Bay where Fox's run ended Sept. 1, 1980.

**5** When Terry Fox finally stopped running in Thunder Bay, he left this message for Canadians in his media conference. "That's the thing about cancer. I'm not the only one, it happens all the time to people. I'm not special. This just intensifies what I did. It gives it more meaning. It'll inspire more people... I just wish people would realize that anything's possible if you try. When I started this run, I said that if we all gave \$1, we'd have \$22 million for cancer research, and I don't care, man, there's no reason that isn't possible. No reason."

-Simon Martin



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