

WhyNot.

FEBRUARY 2014

MAGAZINE



THIRTY GALA YEARS

THE
Great Valentine Gala



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WhyNot.

Great Valentine Gala

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Canadian Foundation for Physically Disabled Persons, a charitable organization founded in 1985, assists people with physical disabilities to live fuller lives. Its mission is to create awareness in the public, business communities and government of the abilities of persons with disabilities and their needs in the areas of housing, employment, education, accessibility, sports and recreation and research. In the past 30 years, the Foundation has raised substantial funds, which it has distributed to a wide variety of organizations and events. These include the Canadian Disability Hall of Fame, the Eternal Flame of Hope, the Rotary Cheshire Home, the Canadian Helen Keller Awards Luncheon, the annual Great Valentine Gala, the King Clancy Awards, the Corporate Awards, the WhyNot Marathon, the first Canadian Marathon for the Paralympics, Jeff Adams' CN Tower climb and Rolling Rampage on the Hill.

IN THIS ISSUE

A Gala Welcome 4

8 **A Gala Celebration**
The Great Valentine Gala celebrates 30 years of service to Canadians who live with disability

The 2014 King Clancy Awards 15
The CFPDP salutes this year's King Clancy Award winners Kenneth Fredeen and Bernard Gluckstein

18 **A Tribute to His Honour**
The CFPDP introduces The Honourable David C. Onley Award with inaugural winner Dr. Geoff Fernie

Storming the Hill 20
The third annual Rolling Rampage on the Hill takes the nation's capital by storm

23 **A Gala Night to Remember**
Comedian and vocal impressionist André-Philippe Gagnon entertains the 30th annual Gala

Leading by Example 26
Saluting the CFPDP's 2014 Corporate Award winners, Scotiabank and the Canadian Paralympic Committee

28 **Going for Gold**
Team Canada gears up for the 2014 Sochi Winter Paralympic Games, March 7-16





Canadians have proven time and again that they are generous. I have seen this in communities across the country: people coming together to support a number of worthy causes. Taken as a whole, these individual giving moments help build a stronger Canada.

Those who give of their time, talent or resources are adding to our compassionate society and setting an example for all of us to follow. Their kindness and heart are evident, and they make a difference with their giving. What's more, they inspire others to contribute to their community, on scales both large and small, helping those in need.

All of you at the 30th Great Valentine Gala are supporting the Canadian Foundation for Physically Disabled Persons in bringing hope to those living with disabilities. I thank you for your generosity and I wish all of you a wonderful evening.

David Johnston
Governor General of Canada

It is with pleasure that I send greetings to the Canadian Foundation for Physically Disabled Persons (CFPDP) as you host your *30th Great Valentine Gala*.

Since the inception of the CFPDP, you have been dedicated to raising the awareness of the disability community's needs, and celebrating their abilities and achievements in many ways. This special annual Gala is a platform for the presentation of your King Clancy Awards, and Annual Corporate Awards, that recognize individual achievement, and other invaluable contributions to the cause of Canadians who live with a disability.

You have successfully developed materials that raise awareness for the public, government, and business community; supported numerous organizations with similar goals; hosted seminars, meetings, and conferences that address shared values; as well as providing financial support to individuals with disabilities.

As The Queen's representative in Ontario, and Honorary Patron of the CFPDP, I congratulate this evening's recipients, and send my best wishes for an enjoyable evening.

David C. Onley
Lieutenant Governor of Ontario

I am honoured to join you this evening as Honorary Co-Chair of the Canadian Foundation for Physically Disabled Persons' 30th annual Great Valentine Gala.

As one of this country's most successful and enduring charitable events, the Great Valentine Gala has made a very real and measurable improvement in the lives of a great many Canadians who live with physical disability. Under the perennial direction of Vim Kochhar and his CFPDP team, the generosity of gala supporters has aided initiatives in support of Paralympic sport, community sport and recreation programs, assistive housing, job training and placement, outreach and public education.

However, the importance of this gala event doesn't end with fundraising. It is also an entertaining and influential forum for recognizing the outstanding achievements of Canadians with disabilities and the many important issues and ideas they embrace. And tonight, on the occasion of the Great Valentine Gala's 30th anniversary, it's sure to be a memorable party.

On behalf of everyone at Cineplex, I want to thank Vim Kochhar and the CFPDP and all of you who endorse and support their very important work on behalf of Canadians with disabilities.

Ellis Jacob
President and CEO,
Cineplex Inc.

Messages



It gives me great pleasure to join you as Honorary Co-Chair of the Canadian Foundation for Physically Disabled Persons' 30th annual Great Valentine Gala.

Since 1985 this gala evening has provided much needed support and recognition for the issues and exemplary achievements of the more than two million Canadians who live with some form of physical disability. As the cornerstone of the CFPDP's long-running campaign to change the way Canadians think about disability, the Great Valentine Gala has played a key role in the provision of important national awareness projects, funding for essential community services, and ongoing and substantial support for our nation's Paralympic athletes and programs.

IBM has been a longtime and committed partner in the service of this great cause, creating technology and innovative business practices that allow people with disabilities to reach their full potential.

On behalf of IBM Canada, I want to thank the CFPDP's many dedicated volunteers and patrons whose generosity and hard work play such an important part in the Great Valentine Gala's remarkable success. To all of you, and everyone who supports this great cause, thank you.

Dan Fortin
President,
IBM Canada

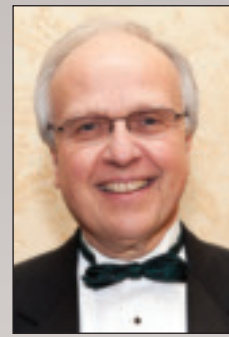


Greetings and welcome to our celebrations for the 30th Annual Great Valentine Gala.

This is a very special night for the Canadian Foundation for Physically Disabled Persons. The Gala is where life began for the CFPDP and, like all birthdays, Gala night is always accompanied by competing feelings of arrival and renewal. There is gratitude for our past achievements and resolve for the challenges that lie ahead. The overriding feeling on Gala night, however, is a great sense of belonging to something much bigger than any one of us would ever dare conceive. That inspiring sense of community is a product of the tremendous support the CFPDP receives from wonderful people like yourselves who share our faith in a better world for Canadians who live with disability. Tonight, as we look back on the joys and accomplishments of our 30-year partnership with Canadians, the CFPDP counts itself especially grateful to have so many wonderful friends.

On behalf of everyone here at the Canadian Foundation for Physically Disabled Persons, I want to thank our generous patrons and volunteers, our many talented partners in the disability community, and everyone across the country who has helped to make this great journey so rewarding. Thank you one and all.

The Honourable Vim Kochhar
Chair,
Canadian Foundation for Physically Disabled Persons



What a great pleasure it is to join you once again in celebrating the Canadian Foundation for Physically Disabled Persons' Great Valentine Gala.

This year marks the Great Valentine Gala's 30th anniversary and what an inspired and rewarding journey it has been! As a longstanding Gala supporter and board member of the CFPDP, I know what an important role this wonderful evening plays in the Foundation's outstanding work on behalf of Canada's disability community. Since 1985 and the first Great Valentine Gala in aid of Paralympic sport and the Cheshire Homes Foundation, the generosity of Gala supporters has made an immeasurable difference in the lives of Canadians who live with disability. Whether in the areas of sports and recreation, vital services, or the CFPDP's many inventive and influential awareness projects, the Great Valentine Gala has played a pivotal part in the disability community's historic struggle for equality and opportunity.

I want to extend my heartfelt appreciation to each and every one of you for joining us to celebrate this wonderful event. And thank you to all of the Gala's dedicated volunteers and patrons who make this great night possible. Thank you one and all.

George Przybylowski
Chair,
The Great Valentine Gala

ages

Congratulations!

Unifor is pleased to sponsor the Great Valentine Gala.

As a union, we appreciate the outstanding work of the Canadian Foundation for Physically Disabled Persons and the difference that the CFPDP is making in the lives of thousands of Canadians with disabilities.



Jerry Dias
National President



Peter Kennedy
Secretary Treasurer



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When it comes to moving people, our efforts go beyond building cars.

Mazda Canada proudly supports the Canadian Foundation for Physically Disabled Persons. Because events like the Great Valentine Gala move people in ways that even a car company never could. For more information about Mazda's Mobility Program, contact your local Mazda dealer or visit us at www.mazda.ca.





The Canadian Foundation for Physically Disabled Persons' cherished annual gala celebrates 30 years as a beacon of hope and opportunity for Canadians who live with disability

2014

ON FEBRUARY 8TH, more than 600 friends and supporters of the Canadian Foundation for Physically Disabled Persons will gather at Toronto's Westin Harbour Castle Hotel for a cherished rite that has become one of this country's signal tributes to the aspirations and achievements of Canadians who live with disability. Launched in 1985, the CFPDP's Great Valentine Gala has played an indispensable supporting role in the disability movement's historic struggle for access and inclusion. On February 8, the Foundation and its beloved Gala celebrate a major milestone in that devoted partnership: 30 years of working together in the inspired cause of a better world for everyone who lives with disability.

"It's going to be a very special night," promises Gala founder and CFPDP chair, the Honourable Vim Kochhar. "The Great Valentine Gala is where it all began for our Foundation and on February 8 we'll be celebrating 30 years of amazing partnership and progress in the service of a great cause. I think that's cause for celebration."

Over the course of three decades, the CFPDP and its premier fundraiser have raised more than \$25 million dollars on behalf of peo-

ple with disabilities and the issues and vital services they espouse. Those funds, in turn, have been earmarked for a broad array of projects including accessible housing, emergency inter-



PHOTOGRAPHS BY STEVE BLACKBURN



vention and education for Canada's deaf-blind community; publishing and national awareness projects like the Canadian Disability Hall of Fame and the WhyNot Marathon; and long-term and substantial financial support for the nation's Paralympic and para-athletes programs.

Originally conceived as a one-off fundraising event in support of the Cheshire Homes Foundation and Canada's Paralympians, the first Great Valentine Gala proved so successful it spurred the creation of the CFPDP and Kochhar was installed as chair. Today, while still a committed sponsor of core initiatives like Cheshire Homes and Paralympic sport, the CFPDP has become a service provider in



CBC Newsworld's
Suhana Meharchand,
Gala Emcee.

its own right, creating, organizing and administering an engaging lineup of national promotional events and awareness projects focused on one all-inclusive goal: changing the way Canadians think about physical disability. The man behind that expanded role and vision is the CFPDP's perennial bellwether and founding chairman. And after 30 years at the helm, Kochhar's passion for the cause burns as bright as ever, although he's quick to share the credit for

the Foundation's remarkable success. "What drives this organization is teamwork and it starts right here with our executive director Dorothy Price and administrator Rob Ham. Nothing would ever get done around here if it



Canada's 2012 Paralympic medal winners are presented with the 2013 King Clancy Award. They are joined by Lt. Gov. David C. Onley, Minister of State for Sport Bal Gosal, Sabi Marwah, Vice-Chair & COO of Scotiabank and CFPDP Chair, Hon. Vim Kochhar.

PHOTOGRAPH BY CASEY PATRICK

KING CLANCY AWARD WINNERS

- 1 Richard Beecroft
1 Carl Hiebert
1 Ron Turcott
- 1 Robert Wilson Jackson
1 Beryl Potter
1 Mona Winberg
- 1 Rick Hansen
1 Jackie Rodger
1 Kerry Grant Wadman
- 1 John Black Aird
1 Arnold Boldt
1 Vicki Keith
- 1 Barbara Turnbull
1 Terry Fox
1 André Viger
- 1 David Onley
1 Dick Loiselle
- 1 Gary McPherson
1 Jeff Tiessen
1 Karl Hilzinger
- 1 Reverend Robert Rumball
1 Joanne Bouw
- 1 Rob Snoek
1 Spencer Bevan-John
1 Jack Donohue
- 1 Kurt Browning
1 Betty and Rolly Fox
1 Rhona Winifred Mickelson
1 Robert Steadward
- 1 Jeff Adams
1 John and Jesse Davidson
1 Henry N.R. Jackman
- 1 Joan Mactavish
1 Amy Doofenbaker
1 Dave Shannon
- 1 Jim Knox
1 Kelly Klassen
1 Frank MacIntyre
- 1 Terry Kelly
1 Stephanie McClellan
1 Walter Gretzky
- 2 Stephanie Dixon
2 Lisa Franks
2 Patrick Jarvis
- 2 Jim Sanders
2 Joyce Fairbairn
2 Chantal Petitclerc
- 2 Henry Wohler
2 Diane Dupuy
2 Daniel Wesley
- 2 Linda Crabtree
2 David Crombie
2 Gord Paynter
- 2 Canadian medal winners
2 at the 2004 Athens
2 Summer Paralympics
- 2 Steven Fletcher
2 Tom Jeary
2 Joanne Smith
- 2 Canadian medal winners
2 at the 2006 Torino
2 Winter Paralympics
- 2 Robert Hampson
2 Andrew McLean
2 Shirley Shelby
- 2 Canadian medal winners
2 at the 2008 Beijing
2 Summer Paralympics
- 2 Frank Bruno
2 Debbie Low
2 Julian Fantino
- 2 Canadian medal winners
2 at the Vancouver/Whistler
2 2011 Winter Paralympics
- 2 Faye Blackwood
2 David Legg
2 Rick Mercer
- 2 Canadian medal winners
2 at the London 2012
2 Summer Paralympics

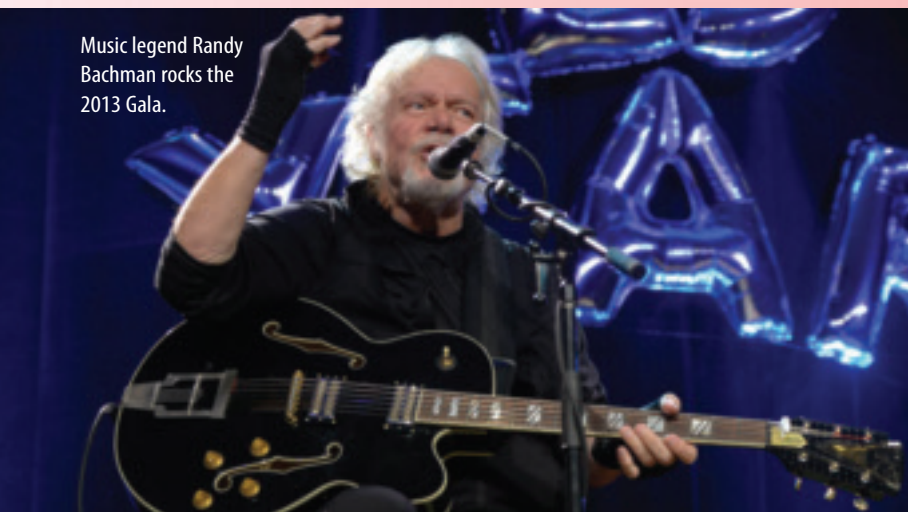
Gala Tombola sellers make the rounds.



Bracing for a surprise!



Music legend Randy Bachman rocks the 2013 Gala.



wasn't for Dorothy and Rob. And we've also been blessed over the years to count on the support of a lot of truly wonderful friends and volunteers. The disability community is like one big extended family. The cause is what brings everybody together and it just seems to bring out the best in everyone. It's something you notice right away on Gala night. You really get the feeling we're all in this together and that's something really special," says Kochhar.

Sharing that sense of community is the CFPDP's abiding goal, notes Kochhar. The constant aim, he says, is driving home the disability community's message to the widest possible audience. "I like to think that's been one of our big strengths as an organization, the ability to adapt with the times and keep our message current. We've never been satisfied to just stay the course. Over the years the Foundation has grown and evolved in ways no one could have predicted back in 1985 and I think that vitality has really helped us reach out to Canadians," says Kochhar.

Here is a short list of some of the many projects that have benefited over the years from the generosity of Great Valentine's Gala supporters:

- Rotary Cheshire Homes, the world's first truly barrier-free housing complex for people who are deaf-blind.
- The Canadian Helen Keller Centre: Canada's first training facility for the deaf-blind.
- Paralympic and para-sport: For thirty years



Ellis Jacob, President & CEO, Cineplex Entertainment and Joe Goodbaum, SVP & President, TELUS Retail, receive the 2013 Corporate Award from IBM President John Lutz (far right) and CFPDP Chair, Hon. Vim Kochhar (far left).

CONGRATULATIONS

February 2014

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**BERNARD
GLUCKSTEIN**

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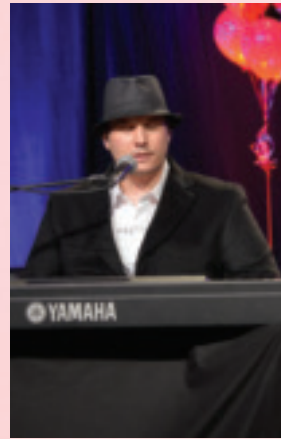
Cineplex congratulates
the Canadian Foundation for Physically Disabled Persons
on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the Great Valentine Gala.



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2013 WINNER



The 2013 Great Valentine Gala organizing team.



Adrien Breda, 2011 CNIB iFactor winner.



Cecly Tonks, winner of Porter Airlines tickets with Deborah Lewis.



Lt. Gov. David C. Onley, Sabi Marwah, Vice-Chair & COO, Scotiabank, Minister of State for Sport Bal Gosal, and CFPDP Chair, Hon. Vim Kochhar, presenting the 2013 King Clancy Awards and Podium awards.

the CFPDP has been an ongoing and substantial sponsor of Paralympic athletes and the Canadian Paralympic Committee.

- The WhyNot Marathon: the CFPDP's epic 11,000 km national torch relay in 1996 enlisting 8,000 torch bearers and 150,000 runners in over 700 communities in support of the Paralympic Games.
- The Canadian Disability Hall of Fame: The CFPDP's flagship awareness project, the Hall of Fame is a permanent public tribute to the achievements of people with disabilities. Located in downtown Toronto, it is chaired by the Honourable David Crombie and is open to the public 365 days a year.
- The Eternal Flame of Hope: Ignited in 1996 by Governor General Roméo LeBlanc, the flame

still burns on the public square of Toronto's Metro Hall as a permanent symbol of the dreams and triumphs of people who live with disability.

- Sports and recreational programs for people with disabilities, including Ontario Sports for the Disabled and the 1998 Wheelchair Rugby World Championships in Toronto.
- Canadian Rotary Clubs have received over \$400,000 from the CFPDP for projects assisting people with disabilities across the country.
- WhyNot. Magazine: Published five times a year, WhyNot. Magazine promotes the issues and achievements of the disability community.
- Rolling Rampage on the Hill: A unique event on Parliament Hill in Ottawa inviting the world's best wheelchair racers to compete for a prize purse of \$30,000 donated by Scotiabank.

2014 Great Valentine Gala Committee Members

GALA CHAIR
George Przybylowski

FOUNDATION CHAIR
The Hon. Vim Kochhar

ADMINISTRATION
Dorothy Price

EVENTS COORDINATION
City Events

COMPUTER CONSULTANT
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Roy Ashforth
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KING CLANCY AWARDS
Rob Snoek
Barry Coke
Dorothy Price
Mark Lecker

CORPORATE AWARDS
Cindy Accardi
The Hon. Vim Kochhar

V.I.P. RECEPTION
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Barry Coke
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Presenting the 2014 King Clancy Awards

The Canadian Foundation for Physically Disabled Persons' King Clancy Awards are presented annually in recognition of outstanding personal achievement and important contributions in support of Canadians who live with disability. This year's award recipients are **Kenneth Fredeen** and **Bernard Gluckstein**.

Kenneth Fredeen

As **General Counsel** and Secretary to the Board of Deloitte LLP, Canada's largest professional services firm, Kenneth Fredeen knows first hand the value of diversity in the workplace as a wellspring of growth and innovation for Canadian employers. "Diversity is a vital source of talent and innovative thinking and it's critical to Canada's economic success," says Fredeen. "I don't mean to downplay human equity but that will only get us so far. The key is to understand that an inclusive workplace is a more productive and creative workplace and that is good for business. It's the range and depth of people's experience that fosters new ideas."

As past chair of Deloitte's Diversity Council and a founding member and secretary of Legal Leaders for Diversity and Inclusion, a national organization of general counsel dedicated to promoting a more inclusive legal profession, Fredeen has risen to national prominence as a passionate and articulate advocate for a more inclusive



Canadian workplace. In 2012, that outspoken leadership earned him an appointment by the Government of Canada to spearhead a federal panel investigating labour market opportunities for people with disabilities. In January, 2013, the group reported back and Fredeen and his panel's findings were unequivocal: "The important thing from our report is that hiring people with disabilities is good for business. It's good for the economy. This is an approach most people don't take on this topic. We firmly believe it's true. The evidence we were able to collect from employers proved this to us time and time again."

But the virtues of inclusion don't stop with the disability community, notes the genial lawyer who grew up in Saskatoon. "I don't understand why we're prepared to leave so many people on the margin when there's so much to be gained from the range of perspectives and experience that diversity provides. It can be grounded in gender, race, sexual orientation, disability, culture, religion,

age... All have abilities and experiences that will make organizations better. Inclusive organizations attract and retain top talent and the organizations who get it right are the ones who will be successful,” says Fredeen.

At Deloitte, Fredeen is executive sponsor of the firm’s LGBT People’s Network and is actively involved in mentoring a diverse and talented team of younger personnel – experience, he notes, that has taught him more than he can teach. He has also chaired Deloitte’s GTA and national United Way campaigns and currently serves on the United Way’s Legal and Major Individual Giving cabinets. In 2012, Fredeen’s exemplary community service was honoured with the Queen’s Jubilee Medal and in 2013 he was named one of Canada’s 25 most influential lawyers and judges by Canadian Lawyer magazine.



Bernard Gluckstein

A Canadian leader in the field of personal injury litigation, Toronto lawyer Bernard Gluckstein has built his fifty-plus-year career and reputation on a passionate commitment to helping victims of catastrophic injury and acquired disabilities reclaim a life of meaning and fulfillment. In a branch of the law that has not been widely touted for its social conscience, Gluckstein has set an industry benchmark for conscientious personal care and client engagement, pro bono work, and active and substantial philanthropic and executive support to the many non-profit organizations, hospitals and medical services that play such a crucial role in his clients’ rehabilitation and recovery.

For Gluckstein, the practice of personal injury litigation is a responsibility that extends far beyond the purview of a client’s legal file. And everything, says Gluckstein, hinges on the question of quality of life. “The

first thing I always say to a client is, ‘We’re going to get you the best possible care’. Obviously we want to obtain financial security but all the money in the world isn’t going to help if you don’t get the proper care and attention. It’s a personal commitment. Our clients become a part of our family and that relationship doesn’t end just because the case is finished. Our job is to help them reestablish themselves and be reintegrated into society.”

For someone who has suffered a catastrophic injury, the road to recovery can be a very long one involving not just huge financial costs but serious long-term physical, emotional and psychological challenges. To help his clients navigate

that arduous journey, 15 years ago Gluckstein took the innovative step of hiring a full-time medical consultant – a first for Canadian personal injury litigators. A registered nurse with a Masters degree in education, Dianne Henderson was working as Executive Director of the Brain Injury Association of Niagara when Gluckstein asked her to join the firm. What compelled her to take him up on his offer, remembers Henderson, was Gluckstein’s extraordinary empathy and commitment to his clients’ welfare. “Bernie believes in people and that helps them to believe in themselves,” says Henderson. “I was astounded when he would receive messages of ‘thank you’ each and every day – thanking him for making a contribution, for providing an opportunity, for giving someone a chance when no one else would. Bernie is the conscience of our firm and a role model for all personal injury lawyers.”

Over the years, Gluckstein has provided executive and substantial financial support to numerous non-profit disability organizations in Ontario. Currently a Director of Spinal Cord Injury Ontario, he is a former director of, and counsel to the Canadian Brain Injury Coalition and the Ontario Brain Injury Association.

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Ottobock is a proud supporter of the Canadian Foundation for Physically Disabled Persons. For more information about Ottobock products, please visit www.ottobock.ca or speak to your Prosthetist today and find out how you can sign up for a free knee trial!



PRESENTING

The Honourable David C. Onley Award

In tribute to our 28th Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, the Canadian Foundation for Physically Disabled Persons introduces The Honourable David C. Onley Award in recognition of extraordinary service to Canadians who live with disability. The inaugural winner is pioneering rehabilitation scientist **Dr. Geoff Fernie**.

The Director of Research and Senior Scientist at Toronto Rehabilitation Institute, Dr. Geoff Fernie is a pioneering research scientist and the visionary administrator behind Toronto Rehab's growing reputation as one of the most advanced rehabilitation research programs in the world.

A biomedical engineer by training, Fernie's passion is the search for practical, workable solutions to the common problems of daily living for an aging population and people who struggle with different forms of disability. The original impetus, says Fernie, was a summer job working with kids who had severe disabilities. Some of the children were thalidomide cases with missing limbs and he was struck by the fact that their prosthetic arms were little more than a cosmetic prop they wore when they wanted to look like everybody else. If they needed to comb their hair, they had to use their feet. "I just fell in love with the whole idea of doing something to help these kids," remembers Fernie.

Thirty years later, he is still focused on inventing practical solutions to everyday problems, but the scope of Fernie's life's work has grown to encompass two broad objectives: the prevention of injury and disease; and helping people to live at home and pursue a life of greater independence. His work in the area of injury prevention has developed innovative mobility products, non-slip winter footwear and improvements to accessibility and building codes. In the area of disease prevention he has made important advances in reducing hospital



infections by improving hand hygiene and participated in the development of a device that could significantly reduce cardiovascular complications arising from sleep apnea. He has also developed helpful products that make it easier for people to be independent and live at home, including innovative wheelchairs and bathroom aids, and useful devices for reducing the incidence of back and shoulder injuries caused by lifting and moving people.

However, Fernie's greatest contribution to rehabilitation science may well be his administrative function at Toronto Rehab where he has overseen a more than ten-fold growth in the institute's research capacity. The abiding goal, says Fernie, was building the research arm's ability to solve problems and bring more practical, innovative products to market. But he also wanted to create an exciting, state-of-the-art environment where the brightest research minds and students would want to come and work. Opened in 2011, Toronto Rehab's \$36-million iDAPT Centre (Intelligent Design for Adaptation, Design and Technology) is a network of 15 state-of-the-art labs, workshops and services credited with revolutionizing the science of rehabilitation. Considered by many to be the finest research facility of its kind in the world, iDAPT provides cutting-edge technologies that allow researchers to recreate real-life conditions in which they can study and produce practical new therapies and well-designed products aimed at improving the quality of life for everyone, regardless of age or disability.



June 18, 2014

**JuneFest 2014 celebrates
Deaf-Blind Awareness Month**

Mel Lastman Square, 5100 Yonge St.

Toronto, Ontario

12:00pm to 4:00pm



**Call for Nominations for
The 4th Annual JT Award
Deadline: April 18, 2014**

For more info visit www.junefest.ca



**ROTARY
CHESHIRE
HOMES**

JuneFest is hosted by the Canadian Helen Keller Centre (CHKC) and Rotary Cheshire Homes (RCH). This festival celebrates June as the official Deaf-Blind Awareness Month in the Province of Ontario, as well as the achievements of those living with deaf-blindness. Proceeds from the event go to providing services to people who are deaf-blind. To learn more about JuneFest 2014 please visit www.junefest.ca

STORMING THE HILL

The Canadian Foundation for Physically Disabled Persons hosts Ottawa's third annual Rolling Rampage on the Hill

IT WAS A GREAT DAY FOR RACING in the nation's capital last October 10 when the Canadian Foundation for Physically Disabled Persons convened its third annual Rolling Rampage on the Hill.

Conceived as a vehicle for promoting the continued growth and popularity of Paralympic sport in Canada, the third annual Rampage on the Hill showcased 18 of the world's elite wheelchair racers representing nine nations in heated pursuit of \$30,000 in prize money donated by Scotiabank. Top honours in the men's event went to veteran wheelchair racing great Ernst Van Dyk of South Africa and the women's honours were captured by stellar up-and-comer Madison de Rozario of Australia. Just 19 years of age, de Rozario first came to the attention of the world when she won a silver medal at the Beijing Paralympics as a 14 year-old member of Australia's 4x100m relay team.

Staged on the normally placid grounds of Parliament Hill's central traffic loop, the 2013 Rampage also featured 16 wheelchair relay teams of able-bodied enthusiasts testing their skills on the Rampage track, and a raft of children's relays. Spectators for the event included some 2,500 students from Ottawa and Gatineau region elementary schools and hundreds of parliamentarians and their staff.

"The reception for the Rolling Rampage in Ottawa has really been fantastic," says CFPDP executive director Dorothy Price. "The enthusiasm of the young people and the support and involvement of the parliamentary community have been

tremendous. I think it really bodes well for the future of Paralympic sport in this country. People love it, they get it, and they want to support it. And that's what the Rolling Rampage is all about, sharing the excitement."

The brainchild of the CFPDP's chair, the Honourable Vim Kochhar, the original Rolling Rampage was staged on Queen's Park Circle in downtown Toronto. Launched in 2003, the Toronto event garnered widespread interest and was even covered live in 2005 on CBC's Sports Saturday. The idea of moving the race to Ottawa began to take shape shortly after Kochhar's appointment to the Senate of Canada in January, 2011. For the veteran disability advocate, setting up shop in the nation's capital afforded an irresistible opportunity to carry on the cause of his life. And the Rolling Rampage, says Kochhar, has all of the essential ingredients for a compelling public awareness campaign.

"This is the kind of event that changes the way people think about disability. It's really exciting, it's a lot of fun and it shows people in a very powerful way what people with disabilities can do. I think wheelchair racing challenges the whole concept of the wheelchair as a symbol of disability. When you watch those athletes blow by you at 30 miles an hour, what you're seeing is a symbol of total freedom."

The 2013 Rolling Rampage on the Hill was co-chaired by Senators Yonah Martin and Jim Munson with Minister of State for Sport Bal Gosal as special guest and honorary patron.

Senator Yonah Martin, CFPDP Chair Vim Kochhar and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police join Minister of State for Sport Bal Gosal to congratulate the elementary school relay winners.



PHOTOGRAPH BY DENIS DREYER



The third annual Rolling Rampage on the Hill in high gear.



Senator Yonah Martin, Minister of State for Sport Bal Gosal and CFPDP Chair Vim Kochhar join Men's 10k winner Ernst Van Dyk.

Frank Bilodeau, Vice President, Scotiabank, Ottawa, CFPDP Chair Vim Kochhar, Senator Yonah Martin, Minister of State for Sport Bal Gosal present Women's 10k winner Madison de Rozario with her prize cheque.



Women's 10k winner Madison de Rozario.





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A GALA NIGHT TO REMEMBER

Internationally renowned comedian and vocal impressionist André-Philippe Gagnon brings his one-man hit parade to the 30th annual Great Valentine Gala

Dubbed “the man of 400 voices”, André-Philippe Gagnon has won over audiences around the world with his note-perfect vocal impressions of musical entertainers spanning the history of popular music from Louis Armstrong to Psy of fleeting Gangnam fame.

A veteran performer who has broken box office records and earned international critical acclaim, Gagnon has come a long way from his humble beginnings doing Tweety Bird impressions as a youngster in his native Quebec. By one recent estimate, he has delivered more than 5,000 shows to live audiences totalling some 6 million people in countries around the globe.



Gagnon first shot to international acclaim in 1985 with his hilarious vocal recreation of the star studded charity single “We Are the World”, featuring Gagnon’s memorable impressions of all 18 of the track’s celebrity vocalists, both male and female. After showcasing the vocal tour de force at Montreal’s prestigious Just for Laughs Festival, Gagnon was invited to perform his cover of the chart-topping single on The Tonight Show with Johnny Carson. Seen by 15 million American TV viewers, Gagnon’s “We Are the World” became an overnight sensation which he would go on to perform in sold-out venues from New York to Paris to London and Switzerland.

In 1998, Gagnon was invited to join Celine Dion’s ‘Let’s Talk About Love’

world tour, culminating in a performance before an astounding 150,000 spectators in a single evening.

In THE ONE-MAN HIT PARADE, Gagnon borrows the famous voices of vocalists spanning the musical history of the last sixty years. Bringing together artists who have never appeared on the same stage before – including Frank Sinatra, Elvis, Barry White, Tracy Chapman, Axl Rose, Gnarlz Barkely, Maroon5 and Susan Boyle – Gagnon’s show features an unforgettable parade of hits. The result is a combination of music, comedy and creativity that is guaranteed to thrill and entertain revelers at the Canadian Foundation for Physically Disabled Persons’ 30th annual Great Valentine Gala. If Gagnon’s crowd-pleasing performance at the 20th annual Great Valentine Gala is anything to go by, it promises to be a very memorable evening indeed.



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2014 Great Valentine Gala

Presented each year at the Great Valentine Gala, the CFPDP Corporate Awards recognize the exemplary

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Scotiabank continues to build a brighter and more inclusive future for all of its stakeholders

As Canada's most international bank, with operations in more than 55 countries, Scotiabank considers diversity an important competitive advantage in attracting and retaining talented employees, providing exceptional service to all its customers, and partnering effectively with communities.

That's why Scotiabank is committed to creating and maintaining an inclusive and accessible workplace for all its employees, and to engaging a diverse workforce that reflects the communities in

to support its employees and make the Bank a better place to work through employee resource groups such as Scotiabank Universal Access, which is dedicated to removing accessibility barriers in the workplace, and the Scotiabank Alliance for Mental Health. Group members share experiences and best practices, and bring forward recommendations for improvement. In 1998, the Bank created the Scotiabank Fund, a centralized fund that provides employees with disabilities with the resources, technology, services and equipment they need to perform their jobs and advance in their careers.

Scotiabank is also committed to accommodating the needs of customers with disabilities, and has established a Global Accessibility Committee to help design and implement accessibility strategies for both customers and employees. Since 2003, all new and renovated branches and facilities in Canada have met or exceeded the Canadian Standards Association (CSA) accessibility guidelines, including automated banking machines. More than 90 percent of all public areas in existing branches are now accessible.

Scotiabank also supports people with disabilities in communities around the world through its Scotiabank Bright Future philanthropic program. For example, for the past 10 years, the Bank has supported Paralympic athletes with a Podium Fund for medal winners and prize money for Rolling Rampage on the Hill in Ottawa, a race for elite wheelchair athletes. Scotiabank has also provided donations and program support for organizations such as the Canadian National Institute for the Blind (CNIB) and Goodwill Industries.

Together with its community partners, Scotiabank continues to build a brighter and more inclusive future for all of its stakeholders.



which it operates – including persons with disabilities.

Since 2002, the Bank has had a dedicated Manager,

Workforce Diversity, to recruit persons with disabilities through outreach initiatives with organizations such as the Ontario Job Opportunity Information Network (JOIN), a mentoring program for persons with disabilities who are ready to enter or re-enter the workplace. Scotiabank is the title sponsor for JOIN's annual employer conference and participates in its career fair.

Scotiabank is continuously looking for ways

Corporate Award Winners

contributions of Canadian companies and organizations in support of people with physical disabilities.

Canadian Paralympic Committee

From playground to podium, the Canadian Paralympic Committee is always working to improve athlete development

Any athlete who dreams of competing at a Paralympic Games faces a long road which can present sudden twists and potholes. The goal of the Canadian Paralympic Committee (CPC) is to assist athletes on that journey and make Canada a world leader in Paralympic sport.

With the Sochi 2014 Paralympic Games fast approaching – March 7-16 – the CPC, a non-profit private organization with 25 member sports organizations, remains committed to its mission of a sustainable sport system in Canada that enables athletes with a disability to reach the podium at Paralympic and Parapan American Games.

To advance and enhance this goal, the organization is refining its strategic direction and policies to better meld the services the CPC offers with those provided by local, provincial and national organizations. A priority is to work with its membership and sport partners to align and co-ordinate efforts to support athletes and coaches as much as possible.

President Gaétan Tardif says the CPC must maintain its role of helping identify potential athletes with a disability and showing them the path to Paralympic success. Once that journey begins, Tardif believes an athlete's development and training is best conducted through the local, provincial and national sports organizations. The CPC then connects with athletes at the end of that road, offering the final "push to the summit" for elite athletes involved in international competition.

"Our role is really to try to help connect all

the dots," says Tardif. "We have lots of competition out there. We are going to have to work a little smarter and harder." Refining and improving the country's system of developing Paralympic athletes is necessary if Canada hopes to remain competitive in future Paralympic Games against countries that are ramping up investments in Paralympic sport. A more efficient, streamlined system of athlete develop-

London 2012 Paralympic Games closing ceremony



ment will also help improve the recreational opportunities for all people with physical disabilities.

"In the end, we are building capacity," says Tardif. "Ultimately, not all athletes with a disability will make the Paralympic Games, but those who do will inspire a lot of people along the way and they create an infrastructure that a whole lot of people can use. This is about enhancing a system that will ultimately help win more medals for Canada."

WhyNot Going for Gold

Team Canada is geared up and ready to perform at the Sochi Winter Paralympic Games March 7-16

by Jim Morris

*Perform in the moment,
take pride in the journey.*

These words are more than an aphorism for the Canadian team heading to the 2014 Paralympic Games in Sochi, Russia. It's a commitment athletes like Mark Arendz have made toward a goal.

"Come Games time all that matters is performing on that day, in that moment," explained Arendz, the reigning World Cup biathlon champion and a Sochi Paralympic Games medal contender. "I have trained the last four years and beyond to make sure that, in that particular moment, I get it right.

"In order to succeed you have to perform in the moment. If you can't take pride in your journey to the Games, you won't succeed."

Canada will send a team of around 50 athletes to the Sochi Winter Paralympic Games, which will be held March 7-16. The team's goal, established in collaboration with Own the



Josh Dueck, Para-Alpine

PHOTOGRAPH: Bogetti-Smith

Podium, Sport Canada and the winter National Sport Organizations, is to finish among the top three nations in gold medals won.

"A lot of things have to come together for that to happen," noted Chef de Mission Ozzie Sawicki. "It's a confident group. It's a positive group. It's been a good winter season of preparation. They are focused on the task at hand leading up to the Games."

Canada finished third in gold medals at the Vancouver 2010 Paralympic Games with 10. Canadian athletes also won five silver and four bronze. Germany topped the medal count with 13 gold, five silver and five bronze. Russia was next with 12 gold, 16 silver and 10 bronze.

"We have great medal opportunities in Sochi in all six sports," said Gaétan Tardif, President of the Canadian Paralympic Committee. "We have some experienced veterans that are aiming for repeat podium performances and young up and comers who have made their mark on the world stage over the past year."

Canada heads to Sochi expecting to do

well in team sports. Both the sledge hockey and wheelchair curling teams are the defending world champions. Canadian curlers have also won every Paralympic gold medal awarded, in both 2006 and 2010.

Ina Forrest was a member of the wheelchair curling team that won gold in Vancouver and at the last three world championships. The 51-year-old second from Armstrong, B.C., believes



Brian McKeever and guide, Robin McKeever, Para-Nordic

PHOTOGRAPH: Bogetti-Smith



Ozzie Sawicki

PHOTOGRAPH: Murnaghan

Canada's strong history in the sport lays the foundation for future success.

"I think that gives us confidence that we have the ability," said Forrest, a mother of three. "If we go into the Games and play up to our ability, we have a very good shot of making it on the podium.

"I look at it as a confidence builder. I don't find it as pressure. You play to

Brian McKeever, the 34-year-old visually-impaired skier who has won 10 medals, including seven gold, at three Paralympic Games.

"Brian is on track for outstanding performances in Sochi. He's been extremely consistent with his recent results at the World Cups and he also raced very strongly at the Olympic trials," said Sawicki.

three silver and a bronze, while Dueck earned a silver in slalom. Both Woolstencroft and Forest have retired.

In Sochi, the Para-Alpine goal is eight medals. That number is aggressive given Forest's retirement last year, Joines's decision not to race the speed events, and questions about veteran visually-impaired racer Chris Williamson recovering from a broken leg.



Mark Arendz, biathlon

PHOTOGRAPH: Bogetti-Smith

your best and see where you end up."

On the snow, both the Para-Alpine and Para-Nordic teams look strong.

Arendz, a 24-year-old from Hartsville, P.E.I., has already proven he can do well on the Laura Biathlon and Ski Complex at Krasnodar Krai. Last March, at the pre-Paralympic World Cup event, he won bronze in the 15-kilometre race to lock up the IPC World Cup biathlon title.

"The venue is a great facility," said Arendz, who lost his left arm above the elbow in a farming accident when he was seven. "The courses and weather are quite similar to that of Whistler, so I feel right at home. The courses are excellent and can be made to be very tough, depending on the weather."

Arendz competed at the Vancouver 2010 Paralympic Games, where his best result was a seventh.

"The magnitude of the entire event was well beyond my wildest expectations," he said. "At the time I thought I was ready but as I look back now, I know I was nowhere near. I was a starry-eyed 20-year-old thinking that success just happens. I now know better."

Leading the cross-country team will be

The Para-Alpine team will be a mixture of veterans like 33-year-old sit-skiers Kimberly Joines and Josh Dueck along with promising rookies like Mac Marcoux, a 16-year-old visually-impaired skier who has his older brother Billy Joe as guide.

Para-Alpine skiers claimed 11 medals for Canada at the Vancouver 2010 Paralympics. Lauren Woolstencroft won five gold, Viviane Forest had a gold,

"At this point we are focusing on the little details that will give us that extra competitive edge," said head coach Jean-Sébastien Labrie. "We are focused on the preparation and doing our best every day to be prepared."

For the first time, starting in Sochi, Para-Snowboarding will be included in the Games. The competition follows a format similar to snowboard-cross. Each rider will perform two or three



Brad Bowden, sledge hockey

PHOTOGRAPH: MMZ



PHOTOGRAPH: Vastrocky

Tyler Mosher, Para-Snowboard

timed runs, with only one rider on the course at a time.

Sawicki expects the sport will develop and expand at future Paralympics.

“The sport is fairly young,” he said. “It’s likely going through decisions on how classification becomes refined moving forward. It’s a big opportunity for the Para-Snowboard group to really put on a good show and build excitement. We now have four years in

which a lot of countries are going to focus on developing new athletes.”

In an unprecedented move to expand television coverage of Paralympic sports, the Canadian Paralympic Committee has secured the Canadian broadcasting right to the Sochi Paralympics and the 2016 Summer Paralympics in Rio de Janeiro. The deal will see more than 65 hours of broadcasting from Sochi and up to 350

hours of digital streaming using multiple platforms.

“It’s a major step forward for the CPC in building greater awareness for Paralympic Sport in Canada,” said Martin Richard, Executive Director of Communications and Marketing for the CPC. “It’s the first time that Canadians will get to witness the performances of our Canadian Paralympians during a primetime window.”



Wheelchair curling team, gold medal Vancouver 2010

PHOTOGRAPH: MMTI



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Together, we can build a bright future for everyone.

