



RAPPORT

From the Editor

On February 2, 2006, Warton Willie failed to see his own shadow, which means we will be getting an early spring. Unfortunately, scientist say that the prediction of groundhogs are only 37% guaranteed and therefore you may have better luck flipping a coin to see whether or not spring will arrive six weeks sooner. Which asks the question, what (if anything) is a 100% guaranteed? Then I thought about the people who are associated, support, and are part of the NOFCC. These dedicated individuals are the same people that work all week, do the family thing, plus anything else that comes up, and then, somehow/someway are able to squeeze out enough time to help out others. So, why do these people volunteer their time and energy into helping others? My guess is everyone has their own reasons for helping out others and the people I've spoken to about volunteering do it for a number of reasons such as: the enjoyment of just being able to help; being part of a greater good; knowing that the connections they have can help others; and understanding that the experiences they went

through—others are now going through it. For me, it is a combination of these reasons that I became part of the NOFCC family, however it is not the main reason. Sure I can empathize with the feelings and concerns of what the parents of children with cancer are going through because I've been there. Throughout it all, I had more questions than answers and now each day I question the 'powers that be' as to why this had to happen to my family. And then I look back on my daughter's attitude during her battle with cancer and what I discovered is that her courageous spirit is shared by many other children with cancer. Although as parents, we are there every step of the way to encourage them, love them, hug, laugh, and cry with them. But when it comes right down to it, their battle with cancer is their own. And it is with this courageous spirit that these children can teach us that no matter how...
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BENEFIT CONCERT

- Featuring: The Northern Pikes Opening Act: High Deafinition
- Sunday March 26, 2006, 7:00 pm at St. Andrew's Place 111 Larch St.
- Tickets are on sale for \$20.00 and can be purchased at: Black Cat Too, Jett Landry Music, & Sklar Pepler Furniture

Proudly Sponsored by:

Jan Oystriek of Re/max Crown

Amazing Persona, Bristol Machine Works, City Surplus, CTV, Laking Toyota, Northern Life Pizza Hut, Q92, The Sudbury Star, & Travelodge Hotel

Rock & Roll NOFCC Style

Local concert organizer Bob Bale has graciously selected the NOFCC as his pick to hold a benefit concert featuring the ageless rock group the Northern Pikes with special guess High Deafinition.

Bob is no stranger to putting on concerts and raising money for good causes. Bob's love for music and his willingness to help others less fortunate is his motivation. For years, Bob has

been entertaining the public by bringing in up-coming bands, along with high profile groups. Most recently, Bob raised about \$9,000.00 for his Out of the Cold Concert Series with proceeds going to St. Andrew's hot meal program for those in need. On behalf of the NOFCC family...Thank you Bob.

SANTA CAME, HE SAW, HE CONQUERED!



“Whatya mean I need to show you ID kid.”

On Saturday December 3rd, 2005, the NOFCC had its' Annual Christmas Party at the Canadian Hearing Society. The occasion was filled with activities for the kids, live music, door prizes, great food and desserts, gifts for all the children and their siblings, and of course Santa himself.

The Board of Directors would like to thank everyone who came out for this joyous occasion and thank our many sponsors for donating prizes, gifts, food, and the hall. A special thanks goes out to the band **'Just Us'** for providing the great entertainment.

It was especially nice to meet the families we are helping and a couple of families made the journey from Sault Ste. Marie, Espanola, and North Bay just to attend.

Christmas is a great time to reflect on the importance of family and the spirit of giving. This spirit was amazingly displayed by Christian a young boy the NOFCC is currently helping. He raised \$163.00 through a cookie sale. Way-to-go Christian!!!

Next year's Christmas Party will be held on December 2, 2006 at St. Clements.

AGM & NOFCC Update

The NOFCC's Annual General Meeting was held on November 14, 2005 at the Northeastern Ontario Regional Cancer Centre. The AGM was opened to all persons who are interested in the mandate and activities of the NOFCC.

The members of the NOFCC would like to thank all those who attended our AGM. A special thank you goes out to David Hicks who took the time to offer his experience and Chaired the AGM, making it run very smoothly and adding to its' success. By having this AGM, the NOFCC was able to recruit a new Board Member and the group warmly welcomes David Langlois.

In other NOFCC news, Vice President Ron KiviKink has given up his position and will take on more of an advisory role. Micheline Ferguson has been elected the new President and Lorraine Chartier will assume the duties of Past President.

And finally, the NOFCC would like everyone to know that we now have a new mailing address at:

NOFCC

P.O. Box 261

Garson, ON P3L 1S6

Kinsmen to the Rescue

The Kinsmen Club of Sudbury has done it again. Their success is undoubtedly a result of the continuous and outstanding dedication to the community. Twenty charities benefited from the \$105,000.00 raised during the 23rd annual house draw. Northern Ontario Families of Children with Cancer is genuinely grateful for being one of the recipient charities.

The Kinsmen Club of Sudbury has always been very supportive and has encouraged us time and time again. I often wonder where NOFCC would be without their support.

I left the 23rd Showcase Sweepstakes Community Sponsorship & Recipient Charities Evening, as I have done in the

past, with complete admiration for them and all the volunteers who donate so much of their time year after year. With a combination of human qualities & exceptional skill, these sixteen men have had a significant impact on their community and have raised 8 million dollars since 1982 for you, for us, the community.

Be proud of yourselves! We are! Congratulations on your success.

Micheline Ferguson
NOFCC President

Fishing 4 Children's Charities

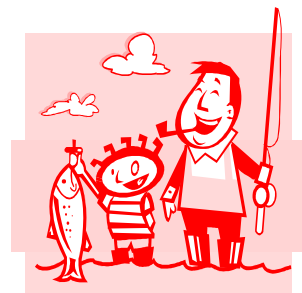
'Fishing 4 Children's Charities' will be holding their Annual Pike Tournament at Whitewater Lake in Azilda Saturday, July 15th, 2006. Last year's fishing derby netted the NOFCC \$11,000.00. This was the most money Fishing 4 Children's Charities made in a single derby since they started this wonderful event four years ago. Having worked closely with these wonderful people, it was quite evident that their dedication and commitment to helping the NOFCC exceeded everyone's expectations. The organizers of Fishing 4 Children's Charities were so taken by the work the NOFCC does that it has once again generously selected

NOFCC as recipients of this year's proceeds. The Pike Tournament is a one day event and the entry fee is \$200.00 for a team of two. This year, let's see if we can break last year's record—so if any of you know any fishermen/women or businesses willing to donate prizes, please let us know.

For more information contact:

Micheline Bastien 983-4497

Louise Gosselin 969-8664



"Remember son...size is everything."

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF SUPPORT

Thanking you for your recent and continuous support....

Affinia Canada Corporation Canadian Hearing Society Caruso Club Costco Dennis Venturi
 Espanola Order of the Royal Purple Lodge #180 Falconbridge Golden Grain Grandmother's Pie Shoppe
 Herc's Greek Eatery Ken Henson (Espanola) Kinsmen Club of Sudbury Meagan's Wings
 Minnow Lake Lions Club National Grocers Independent Grocer (Lasalle)
 New Sudbury Shopping Centre Onaping Falls Lions Pepsi Bottling Group Pierina Squarzolo
 Pizza Hut Praxair Raymond Assurance St. Andrew's Place Smith's Market Inc.
 Sudbury Community Foundation & The Professional Engineers of Ontario (Sudbury Chapter) Williams Coffee Pub
 Sudbury Wolves Community Club Ten Rainbows Foundation Tim Horton's Therese Allard

Special thank you to the Friends & Family of: Kay MacInnis, Aletha Clare & Andre St. Pierre—for you donations.

From the Editor *cont'd*

bad things get - we must fight on because if we lose hope, then all we have fought for was in vain. So, to answer the question presented earlier, I can tell you—that as long as there are courageous children fighting their battle with cancer, all while remaining positive throughout it all... so too will the NOFCC fight on. And that my friend is **100% GUARANTEED!!!**

Renissa's Message on page 4 was written by her the same day she was told that she went out of remission.

I often read her message whenever I feel down and sorry for myself. I use it as a reminder to move forward in life and to be positive in every step I take—just like she did throughout her short life.

I would like to invite all parents and their children to share any inspirational messages for our newsletter's Kids Korner — so that we can bring words of encouragement and hope for families of children with cancer.

The NOFCC's e-mail address and website are listed on the last page.

**NORTHERN ONTARIO FAMILIES OF CHILDREN
WITH CANCER (NOFCC)**

P.O. Box 261, Garson, ON P3L 1S6

Phone: 1-705-693-9227

1-888-993-9227

E-mail: nofcc@vianet.ca

www.vianet.ca/~nofcc

Striving to improve the lives of families dealing with childhood cancer.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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**PEDIATRIC INTERLINK NURSE FOR NORTHERN
ONTARIO—** ALLISON HICKS

What Do We Do.....

The Northern Ontario Families of Children with Cancer (NOFCC) is an independent registered charity that was established in 1998 by a group of parents of children with cancer. Being parents themselves, they recognize the particular difficulties involved in caring for a child with cancer and the geographic challenges of living in the north. NOFCC serves all families who have been touched by childhood cancer—families with a child on active treatment, those off treatment or receiving follow up care, and bereaved families. Our area expands north to Timmins and Kapuskasing, south to Parry Sound, east to North Bay and west to Sault Ste. Marie, and all areas in between.

Kids Korner

Renieessa's Message

You always have to stay positive and this is to all cancer kids across Canada.

You always have to stay positive because if you don't, you will be miserable and your life will be miserable and things can go wrong.

My Mommy always told me "If you want to get better you have to think good things and you will get better faster. You won't feel so sad and you will have more hope in yourself."

It is sometimes hard to be positive if you are sad, mad, worried, disappointed, confused or scared. But you have got to think to yourself: "You Can Do It. You Can Get Through This!"

Because if you don't take care of yourself and don't do nothing you might get sick again.

So always think positive and always have hope in yourself. Just always be brave and don't feel bad because you are not the only one with cancer.

Renieessa Boeswald

October 21, 2003

Age 9



*'With the Beauty of a Delicate
Butterfly and the Playful Spirit of
the Wind that Carries it, so too
Shall you be Remembered.'*

*Love Mom &
Dad*