



Ontario Parents Advocating for Children with Cancer

264 Dunsmore Lane
Barrie, Ontario
L4M 7A7
www.opacc.org

Presidents Message – Fall 2006

I am so very pleased to be the President and Chair of Ontario Parents Advocating for Children with Cancer (OPACC). Even though OPACC has been around for a while and I have been involved for about six years, this past year has been a very exciting time for us.

In February 2006, OPACC became incorporated as a Not-for-Profit. In March, our board of directors was elected, and soon after OPACC filed for registered charitable status and on November 10, 2006 we received notification that we were granted our charitable status (status number pending). These were important steps for our group to take and will help us move forward in order to help our families deal with the many aspects of the Here and Now of childhood cancer. As an organization, OPACC knows many of the most important issues families face when dealing with childhood cancers as almost all the current board members have traveled that agonizing journey.

OPACC has a mandate to have in place Parent Link positions throughout the province. The role of the Parent Link will be to be there for our families to assist them in finding the resources they need so they can better care for their families. These roles are nothing new, as some may remember there was a volunteer in that position at the Hospital for Sick Children a few years ago. There are also established positions in other parts of Canada and the United States.

As both OPACC's Board President and a parent who has traveled the journey of childhood cancer, I encourage all families of children with cancer to become members of OPACC. Since we've all paid dearly through our own personal childhood cancer journey, there are no membership fees.

One or two of us can yell, but together, as a provincial voice, we can have a truly louder voice that will be heard. Help us help our families.

Always,
Hannah's Dad

Dave Munro
OPACC Board President & Chair