



Ontario Parents Advocating for Children with Cancer

2021
ANNUAL
REPORT

About Us

Ontario Parents Advocating for Children with Cancer (OPACC) was established in 1995 with a mission to support parents and families of children diagnosed with cancer in Ontario. OPACC's members are parents, guardians, and close relatives of children diagnosed with cancer, as well as childhood cancer survivors. We have been a Registered Charity since 2006 under charity number 846324168RR0001.

OPACC supports families through free programs and services, including peer-to-peer, psychosocial support offered both in-hospital and virtually through our Parent Liaison program (the only one of its kind in Ontario); community-based parent support groups throughout Ontario; financial support offered through our Hospital Parking Program and Gift Card Program; and with important advocacy efforts at the local, Provincial, and national level. Learn more at www.opacc.org

Mission and Goals

Vision Statement:
OPACC will be the leading voice and expert resource for families and organizations navigating the childhood cancer journey

Our overall mission is to be the parent voice for families with children diagnosed with cancer across Ontario. Other core goals include:

- To establish the Parent Liaison role where deemed appropriate in collaboration with local stakeholders;
- Strengthen existing parent support groups and support the establishment of new parent support groups;
- Establish a collaborative process for sharing and collecting information with parents through mentoring and educational activities;
- Establish financial sustainability

Chair's Report 2021

Welcome and thank you for joining our 2021 OPACC Annual General Meeting! My name is Emily Hammond and I am OPACC's Board Chair. I was inspired to join OPACC after seeing the amazing work they were doing in our cancer community. My own son Griffin was diagnosed with Rhabdomyosarcoma in 2011 when he was 22 months old. Since then, I have worked hard to raise awareness and support for Childhood Cancer in Ontario. I am honoured to serve and give back to this organization who helped us so much.

This year marks 26 years of OPACC supporting childhood cancer families in Ontario. We were founded in 1995 on the principle of parents supporting parents, and that has not changed. Despite the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic during the past year, OPACC remains committed to supporting and empowering families. OPACC continues to provide support to families through our unique Parent Liaison program which offers peer-to-peer, psychosocial support and information navigation so that parents know they are never alone on this overwhelming journey. Although our Parent Liaisons have not been able to return to the hospitals since March 2020, they are still offering virtual support to families in many forms, including private Zoom chats, phone calls, texts, emails, social media messages, and weekly virtual drop-in support group sessions. Families continue to find OPACC through referrals from their healthcare teams at the hospitals, online searches, social media, and recommendations from friends and family. Since our last AGM in June 2020, 111 new families have been supported through OPACC.

In this past year, we have also been able to provide families with support such as:

- Grocery gift card program to help with the costs of buying food;
- Comfy Cases program to bring cheerful, hand-sewn pillowcases to children in hospitals;
- Monthly speaker series featuring virtual presentations on a variety of topics of interest to childhood cancer families, including schools, siblings, nutrition, and mental health...and more!

For the year ahead, we are optimistic that as the pandemic is brought further under control, we will return to some semblance of a normal life. Our Parent Liaisons will be able to return to the hospitals, run a Parent Facilitator training session to establish new parent support groups throughout Ontario, resume fundraising events, present new speakers for our families, continue raising awareness, our community groups will be able to resume meetings, and more. OPACC is not funded by the government nor by the hospitals. We continue to seek further sources of funding to ensure OPACC's sustainability this year and beyond, including from foundation grants, third-party fundraisers, and donations from generous individuals and businesses in the community. We look forward to working alongside our Board, staff, and funding partners to drive our important work forward.

Thank you,

Emily Hammond
Board Chair, OPACC

Treasurer's Report - Fiscal 2020/2021

TREASURER'S REPORT FISCAL 2020/2021 (Un-audited)
Year End May 31/21

STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES

Fiscal 2020/2021 (June 1/20 – May 31/21)

Year End May 31, 2021

REVENUES	May 31st 2020	May 31st 2021
Grants	27,599.75	68,800.01
Donations	48,885.34	109,424.33
Sales	0.00	4,360.45
GST/HST Rebate	4,991.69	4,544.00
Payroll Recoveries	5,262.03	17,725.18
Total Income	86,738.81	204,853.97
EXPENSES		
Salaries	96,929.77	60,236.77
Bank Services Charges	65.50	202.48
GST/HST Paid	6,518.91	3,172.22
Travel/Transportation	1,552.01	158.89
Program Expense	30,942.82	63,830.14
Total Expenses	139,009.01	127,398.02
EXCESS/DEFICIT OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	(52,270.20)	77,455.95

BALANCE SHEET AS AT

May 31, 2021

Assets

Cash	\$176,263.45
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Total Assets	\$176,263.45
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Liabilities

Internally Restricted (MDS & Comfy Cases)	\$62,837.88
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Retained Earnings/Equity	\$113,425.57
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Current Liabilities	\$0.00
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Total Liabilities	\$176,263.45
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Board of Directors

Emily Hammond, Chair
Stathi Afendoulis, Secretary
Denitha Breau, Treasurer
Lisa Skinner, Director
Anna Lopes, Director
Helen Robertson, Director
Dr. Anne Klassen, Director
Michaela McLean, Director
Korin Visca, Director
Claudia Kugelmass, Director
Dino Radocchia, Director

Staff (non-voting)

Susan Kuczynski, Lead Parent Liaison
Michelle Da Costa, Parent Liaison
Karen Szukalo, Parent Liaison
Sarai Porretta, Administrator

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