



Ontario Parents Advocating for Children with Cancer

*2024
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 2024

Welcome and thank you for joining our 2024 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 **29 years** of OPACC supporting childhood cancer families in Ontario! We were founded in 1995 on the principle of parents supporting parents, and we remain 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. Our Parent Liaisons offer both in-person and virtual support to Ontario childhood cancer families. Since our last AGM in June 2023, **149 new families** have been supported through OPACC and we currently have **1,187** active member families.

In addition to our Parent Liaison program, we also continue offering community support through our local parent groups and financial support such as hospital parking reimbursements, grocery and gas gift cards, hospital meal vouchers, and free resources. Our Million Dollar Smiles program has recently been able to once again continue sponsoring free lunches and dinners for our families at SickKids. Our Comfy Cases program has delivered 2,199 pillowcases so far this year to children undergoing medical care throughout Ontario, and that number will keep growing throughout the year. Our Courage Capes program provides lovingly handmade superhero capes to kids at the Ronald McDonald House in Hamilton and has now grown to include a chapter in Ottawa.

For the year ahead, we are looking forward to reaching more families to support, presenting new guest speakers, participating in community events to promote awareness, and more. We would also like to thank the funding received through our charitable gaming events at the Kennedy Road Charitable Gaming Association in Scarborough, which supports our key Parent Liaison Program. OPACC is not funded by the government nor by the hospitals. Instead, we rely on funding from grants, third-party fundraisers, and donations from generous individuals and businesses in the community. I would like to personally commend the staff and volunteers of OPACC, as well as the OPACC families themselves, for encouraging and supporting each other in so many ways.

Thank you,

Emily Hammond
Board Chair, OPACC

Treasurer's Report - Fiscal 2023/2024

TREASURER'S REPORT FISCAL 2023/2024 (Un-audited)
Year End May 31/24

STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES

Fiscal 2023/2024 (June 1/23 – May 31/24)

Year End May 31, 2024

REVENUES	May 31st 2023	May 31st 2024
Grants	5,000.00	2,500.00
Donations	296,711.39	124,793.58
Sales	6,729.11	3,907.34
GST/HST Rebate	2,331.41	5,765.00
Charitable gaming	65,749.85	118,680.26
Total Income	310,771.91	255,646.18
EXPENSES		
Salaries	97,560.21	142,816.00
Bank Services Charges	4,474.00	320.95
GST/HST Paid	8,271.92	10,165.67
Travel/Transportation	859.21	974.67
Program Expense	48,266.24	91,196.38
Total Expenses	159,431.58	393,708.57
EXCESS/DEFICIT OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	151,340.33	166,350.92

BALANCE SHEET AS AT

May 31, 2024

Assets

Cash \$307,922.70

Total Assets \$307,922.70

Liabilities

Internally Restricted \$133,681.46

Retained Earnings/Equity \$174,241.24

Current Liabilities \$0.00

Total Liabilities \$307,922.70

*Thanks to our Major Funders & Partners in
Fiscal 2023-2024*



MERCK



Board of Directors

Emily Hammond, Chair
Denitha Breau, Treasurer
Stathi Afendoulis, Director
Lisa Skinner, Director
Anna Lopes, Director
Helen Robertson, Director
Michaela McLean, Director
Claudia Kugelmass, Director
Evelyn Wilson, Director
Patti Bauer, 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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