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Running for cancer research

By Peter Angione

The 12th Annual Terry Fox Run for cancer research was held this past Sunday on the campus of Dalhousie University. Participants were of all ages and came from all walks of life. They came together at the Dalhousie site, then set out on foot, by wheelchair, on bicycles, or by whatever means they chose to raise money for cancer research.

The Dalhousie site organized a barbeque and entertainment for children in conjunction with the walk/jog route, making the day a relaxing and fun way to celebrate the memory of a fine young Canadian and, at the same time, contribute to cancer research.

The Terry Fox Run has grown

steadily in the number of run sites, participants and dollars raised each year. This year more than three thousand runs were held right across Canada, with another one hundred sites in thirty-four different countries. It is now the largest single fund raising event for cancer research in the world.

Organizers said the run in Halifax attracted four hundred people and raised about \$18,000. Officials said \$6,500 was raised in Dartmouth, while Scotiabank donated \$120,000 to the event.

Last year, approximately a half of a million people ran, walked, or wheeled for several kilometres raising more than \$7.5 million dollars nationwide to help in the fight against cancer and to increase research. Worldwide, over \$90 million has been raised in Terry's name.

Terry started his Marathon of Hope on April 12, 1980 in St John's, Newfoundland. After dipping his foot into the Atlantic Ocean Terry started on a journey that would take him through six provinces. Terry had to stop just outside Thunder Bay, Ontario on September 1, 1980. Terry died on June 28, 1981, one month before his 23rd birthday. He left us with a legacy of hope that continues to inspire so many today.

The Terry fox run is an annual event, coordinated by The Terry fox Foundation, to raise financial support and increase awareness of the need for cancer research. Cancer is the number two cause of death in Canada, after heart disease and stroke.

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