



Ride the Rideau for Cancer

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The Ottawa Hospital Research Institute (OHRI) is building for the future and they are asking the city to come for the ride. More specifically, a fundraising bike ride called Ride the Rideau.

Participants will bike 100 km along the Rideau River on September 11, 2010. This event is in its first year, and is being put on to raise money for OHRI's new cancer floor in a building that is having its finishing touches put on as we speak.

"We're stretching our brand a bit, but I'm really excited. We need to raise \$6.1 million to make money for the floor," said Danielle St. Aubin, vice president of communications and donor relations for the Ottawa Hospital. "Everyone has known someone who's been touched by cancer."

Researchers would like to perform new clinical trials to test viruses that selectively attack cancer cells while leaving normal cells intact with the CyberKnife, a pain-free, non-invasive radio surgical treatment for tumours anywhere in the body.

To take part participants must raise \$1,500 minimum. Of course the researchers at OHRI are getting geared up in lycra and taking part in the ride themselves.

"I'm a researcher looking to help the treatment of cancer. I'm also a cyclist, and I'll be participating and trying to raise \$1,500. The entire floor that I work on will be helping me," said Anna O'Brian.

To sign up for Ride the Rideau, visit www.ridetherideau.ca or call 613-798-5555 ext. 19821, or email events@toh.on.ca.

"This is the inaugural event for us. This is all about research and the fight against cancer. I am going to be cycling, and I have recruited much of the upper management to take part. I'm not sure how well we'll do. I guess I'll start training now," said Tamara Benjamin, Vice-President of Communications.

"It's going to do two things: one it's going to raise the profile of the great work we're already doing, and it's going to raise some important money for researchers who are already working on trials for us," said Denis Jackson, District Vice-President of Scotiabank.