



The Ottawa
Hospital
Foundation

La Fondation
de l'Hôpital
d'Ottawa

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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RIDE THE RIDEAU RAISES \$1,829,544 IN SUPPORT OF CANCER RESEARCH AT THE OTTAWA HOSPITAL

OTTAWA – More than 715 participants cycled 100 km from Ottawa to Merrickville earlier today and raised an incredible \$1,829,544 in support of cancer research at The Ottawa Hospital.

In just its second year Ride the Rideau, fuelled by Nordion, more than doubled the number of participants. Funds raised from the event support cancer research, including the development of personalized therapies for cancer patients and clinical trials.

Cancer is now considered the leading cause of death in Canada. There are few of us who have not been touched by cancer, said Steve West, CEO of Nordion, title sponsor of the ride.

Added West, who also participated in the event, “We all took the 100km challenge on with the cancer cause in mind. As a company, Nordion is extremely proud to support Ride the Rideau as it continues to contribute to cancer research that will benefit patients in the Ottawa region, and around the world.”

Last year, proceeds from the ride helped to build the new Centre for Innovative Cancer Research at The Ottawa Hospital. This year, funds will go to support a number of related cancer research initiatives, including clinical trials and the development of novel targeted therapies. “Each cancer, like each patient, is different,” said Dr. Duncan Stewart, CEO and Scientific Director of the Ottawa Hospital Research Institute and a Ride the Rideau participant. “By developing personalized therapies that are tailored for each patient, we will be able to give people treatments that are more likely to work from the very beginning. This means longer and healthier lives for our patients.”

Once again, Ride the Rideau has attracted riders and supporters from all walks of life, from baristas to CEOs of major corporations. Many individuals and businesses in our community have stepped up to support the cause including Greg Kane, Chair of The Ottawa Hospital Foundation Board of Directors, Merrickville Mayor Doug Struthers and Ride the Rideau’s biggest champions, Robert Merkley of Merkley Supply Ltd. and

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Claude Des Rosiers of Boone Plumbing.

“The overwhelming support that we have received from some of the biggest names in the Ottawa business community shows how crucial cancer research is,” said Tim Kluge, President and CEO of The Ottawa Hospital Foundation. “And everyone, from our riders to volunteers and sponsors, have played a part in building a better Hospital for us all.”

Ride the Rideau is a 100km bike tour from Ottawa to Merrickville-Wolford in support of groundbreaking cancer research at The Ottawa Hospital. In 2010, more than 315 people took in the inaugural ride and together raised more than \$940,000. For more information about this event visit www.ridetherideau.ca

The Ottawa Hospital is a multi-campus, academic health sciences centre, serving 1.2 million residents of Ottawa and Eastern Ontario, both in English and French. It provides care for more patients than any other hospital in Canada, and boasts specialty centres in cancer, heart, kidney and vision care, as well as rehabilitation services. For more information, visit The Ottawa Hospital Web site at www.ottawahospital.on.ca.

The Ottawa Hospital Foundation's mission is to inspire and enable people to support the highest quality health care at The Ottawa Hospital and lifesaving research at the **Ottawa Hospital Research Institute**. For more information, visit The Ottawa Hospital Foundation Web site at www.ohfoundation.ca.

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