



Nordion CEO and avid cyclist Steve West, with his wife, Eunice, participated in the inaugural Ride the Rideau.

THE OTTAWA HOSPITAL FOUNDATION

Last year, more than 300 cyclists went the distance for groundbreaking cancer research at The Ottawa Hospital, riding 100 kilometres from Ottawa to Merrickville and raising \$940,000 as part of Ride the Rideau.

While it took everyone involved – riders, their supporters, volunteers and sponsors – to make the cycling fundraiser a success, it wouldn't have been possible without longtime Ottawa Hospital supporter Nordion.

Nordion, a global specialty health science company located in Kanata, is also title sponsor of The Ottawa Hospital Gala. Upon hearing about the Ride, they responded immediately and were the first company to get behind the cycling event in its inaugural year.

"Without their faith in The Ottawa Hospital, we never could have launched the event that is now transforming the future of cancer care in our community," said Susan Doyle, President and CEO of The Ottawa Hospital Foundation.

As title sponsor of Ride the Rideau, Nordion will be instrumental in helping the Foundation achieve its 2011 fundraising goal of \$1.8 million.

"We are very proud of this partnership and opportunity to support The Ottawa Hospital," said Nordion CEO and avid cyclist Steve West, who is leading the charge. "Events like these really contribute to making a difference in the lives of cancer patients. With funding, we can continue to lead this bold new era of medical research and discovery in the hopes of someday finding a cure. This event also provides participants a great opportunity to have a little fun and challenge our own cycling goals along the way."

West, who recruited his entire senior management team and encouraged his employees to ride and volunteer last year, also sits on the board of directors for The Ottawa Hospital Foundation.

The goal is an ambitious, but achievable one, West said. "Together as a team and with the support of all of our family and friends and the many who have been touched by cancer, we believe it is achievable to double the size, the funds raised, and ultimately the impact Ride the Rideau will have in 2011," he said.

The event will be held on Sept. 10. For more information visit the Ride the Rideau website at www.ridetherideau.ca.



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Sports

Louis Riel Rebelles girls win OFSAA soccer gold

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After coming close to not being able to compete at all, the Louis Riel Rebelles girls soccer went on to win OFSAA gold on June 5 in Hamilton.

The team's victory on the field came after a victory in the courtroom on the eve of the provincial championship. The team successfully fought against a disqualification decision by the National Capital Region Secondary School Athletics Association which in turn allowed the team to jump on a bus, drive through the night in time for the June 2 start of the OFSAA AAA soccer championships.

Rebelles coach Joé Fournier said his team was impressed with the way his team was able to put the off-field issues out of mind in order to focus on their games.

"The farther they got in the championship the better they played. The girls were amazing," Fournier said.

The team's off-field troubles started when Fournier realized he had made an error on the team's official roster, leaving off the name of one player. He contacted the NCRSSAA and admitted to the clerical error, which led to the team's disqualification meaning runners-up Colonel By Cougars were sent to the championships in Hamilton. The decision did not sit well

with Fournier.

"I did not think the team would get disqualified. I thought at the most I would get a penalty for the error," Fournier said.

Asked if would admit the error over again knowing the consequences; Fournier said he would never think twice about it.

This is the second time this year a team has been disqualified by the NCSSA over a clerical error made on a team roster. The Earl of March Lions boys rugby team from Kanata were disqualified for the same omission of a team player's name.

Marg McGregor, the CEO of Canadian Interuniversity Sport, said the NCRSSA need to review and change its eligibility rules.

"I clearly think changes are merited because it is not a student-athlete friendly approach," she said. "I'd be surprised if there's not changes after what has occurred in Ottawa."

Such administrative slip-ups happen in university sports McGregor added.

"We don't penalize the student athlete and we do not penalize the team by disqualifying them," she said. "Mistakes happen. There should be penalties but it shouldn't be the gravest penalty."

NCSSAA officials were unavailable for comment as of press time.

With files from Blair Edwards

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10TH SEPTEMBER 2011

