



April 2012

“What You Do Matters!”

National Volunteer Week – April 15th – 21st

National Volunteer Week is a time to recognize all that volunteers help to make possible for local charities, such as our Foundation. Volunteers provide the most precious of commodities – their time, talents, and compassion. Our Foundation would like to recognize all of the many volunteers that help with our events and in our office throughout the year. What you do matters!

Volunteering is a very rewarding experience. If you'd like to learn more about how to volunteer for our Foundation, please call our office and speak with Renata. We have many volunteer opportunities available, including office work, errands, assisting at events selling tickets, golf tournament hole marshals, information booths, registration, committee members, etc.



“As a patient at the Windsor Regional Cancer Centre, and having had the opportunity to take advantage of the many programs and services it offers, I feel the need to do what I can to give back to the Centre's Foundation by volunteering where and when I can. The services offered here are of the best in Ontario and supporting them through volunteering for fundraising events and such, ensures they will continue to be offered and available for years to come.”

-*Tim Mayer*, patient and volunteer



“I feel that a person must give back to the community that gives to them. I have been a Windsor business person for several years and I fulfill my need to give back by volunteering for the Windsor & Essex County Cancer Centre Foundation. There is a need for the residents in Windsor and Essex County to have the best equipment and care possible – there is only one way to provide this and that is by having events such as ours to help raise funds for the Foundation.”

-*Sue LeClair*, Chair of McGregor Music Festival for over 20 years



“As a Board member since 2006, I have had the opportunity to use my professional expertise, and passion for our community to benefit the WECCCF. I appreciate the opportunity to collaborate with other Board members, staff, and our event partners to advance the mission of the Foundation: To reduce the impact of cancer in our community.”

-*Robyn Molyneau*, CCF Treasurer



Seeds4Hope

2012 Competition Announcement

The Cancer Centre Foundation is pleased to invite applications for funding of new and innovative cancer research from eligible, locally-based researchers.

Application materials for the 2012 competition will be available for downloading from the Foundation's website on the following dates:

March 21st

*2012 General Guidelines
for Researchers*

April 1st

Full Application Package

Please be aware that changes have been made to the Seeds4Hope grants program. Applicants must use 2012 application materials.



Dan Leader, Royal Canadian Legion, presents a \$7,500 cheque to Irene Vermey, Manager Medicine, WRH, and Bob Copland, Secretary, Cancer Centre Foundation.

2220 Kildare Rd.

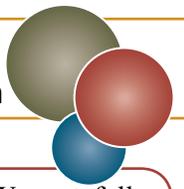
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April 2012

Exciting Events!

Our Foundation is privileged to partner with wonderful people in our community for fund raising events. We gratefully acknowledge our event partners from March:

University of Windsor students put on two pasta dinner fund raisers at Boston Pizza on Walker Road. Many thanks to Nemanja Petrovic, Deanna Eglin, Anthia Au, Arnie Suryawan, and Fangjian Shang.

A University of Windsor Flag Football Tournament was held on March 17th and 25th. Teams of 7 participated in the fund raising event. Thanks to Erika Robbins, Ashley Parker, Guila Germani, Shapan Brown, Mingyang Zhou, Menghui Li, and Ivan Chan.

The Italian Women's Club held "An Evening of Fashion" on the 30th, including fashions from local boutiques, in support of Seeds4Hope. Special thanks to the event organizers and attendees!

Coming Events

15th – 4th Annual Ladies Day Spring Expo... *today it's all about you!* Takes place at the Caboto Club from 10am-5pm, and features shopping, fashion shows and entertainment. \$500 cash giveaway every hour! Free goody bags to the first 500 women. Admission is \$5. Tickets are available in the Foundation office. Proceeds support Seeds4Hope.

21st – 2nd Annual Feel the Teal takes place at the Fogolar Furlan, Canada Hall. Champagne reception at 6pm, dinner to follow. Music by "Meadows" with Tom Hogarth, and a silent auction. Tickets are available from the Foundation office for \$80 (a \$40 tax receipt will be issued). Thanks to the event committee and event sponsors Midtown Dental Centre, Hogarth Hermiston Severs Law Firm, Delta Chi Early Childhood Centres, Shibley Righton Law Firm, Toscana restaurant, Budmar Health Facility Inc., and David A. Muzzatti.

Cancer Facts & News – Part 8: Dimensions of Cancer

By: Dr. Michael Dufresne, Seeds4Hope Administrator

The formation of new blood vessels, termed *angiogenesis*, is necessary at very specific times during normal growth and development in humans, and occurs by division of "vascular endothelial cells" (VEC) making up the wall of all blood vessels in the body. This process is highly regulated by naturally occurring proteins and small molecules, some acting as activators (i.e., stimulating angiogenesis), and others acting as inhibitors (i.e., blocking angiogenesis). In adults, the number of angiogenesis inhibitors generally exceeds the number of activators in adults. Consequently, the division of VECs and ultimately the growth of new blood vessels are blocked. However, research has demonstrated that over time, some of the cells within a cancer tumour acquire changes in their genetic material (i.e., mutations in DNA) that result in the unscheduled production of more than a dozen angiogenesis activators. Research has further identified two particular protein activators that appear to be especially important for sustaining tumour growth: *basic fibroblast growth factor (bFGF)*, and *vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF)*. These factors are synthesized inside tumour cells. Once secreted from the cells, they can encounter endothelial cells and bind to specific receptor proteins on the outer surface of these cells. This "**activator-receptor**" complex initiates a series of molecular signal events that lead first to the growth and division of endothelial cells that will make up the walls of new blood vessels, and ultimately to the creation of new blood vessels themselves. But activators are only part of the tumour angiogenesis story. Further research demonstrated that for tumour angiogenesis to begin, activators must overcome the dozen or so natural angiogenesis protein inhibitors (e.g., *angiostatin, endostatin, thrombospondin*) that normally block blood vessel growth. **Simply put, to trigger tumour angiogenesis, the production of activators must increase as the production of inhibitors decreases - a fine balance.** Understanding how angiogenesis is regulated in normal and tumour cells represents one of the most significant research breakthroughs in our understanding of and fight against cancer. **First**, through the discovery of angiogenesis activators, we now understand that the growth of new blood vessels (angiogenesis) is necessary for cancerous tumours to keep growing and spreading. **Secondly**, through the discovery of angiogenesis inhibitors, we can examine the question of whether such molecules might be used as therapeutic agents to halt or restrain cancer's growth. Please join me again next month for more on this remarkable story of progress.