

Time to Think Pink

Writer's note: This article is for Marlene Cairns, Cecil Villard and his hard working and dedicated committee.

To anyone who was ever affected by breast cancer, or will be someday.

By **Martha MacIntyre**

The Cadre

Breast Cancer continues to be the most frequently diagnosed cancer among Atlantic Canadian Women. The Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation CIBC Run for the Cure is the Foundation's signature fundraising event, taking place in over 50 com-

munities across Canada, including 12 in Atlantic Canada. Thousands of dedicated, and hard working volunteers come together in communities, for a cause they feel so strongly about.

Every year at this time, thousands of Canadians come together to try to find a cure. It doesn't matter who you ask, everyone has felt the impact of breast cancer.

Cecil Villard encourages anyone who was never involved with the run before, to come out for the day.

"The more involved you become, the more survivors you meet, the more stories you hear and the result is you just want to do what you can."

He also noted that his two year commitment with the

run, has now turned into ten. Being involved with the yearly run, he says, "seems to be a good fit for me at this time in my life".

Three-time Survivor, Marlene Cairns considers herself and is a crime example that with the right state of mind on can beat cancer.

"Wow, I know I am lucky, I lost a friend this summer to breast cancer, she was three months younger than I, she didn't live to see her 50th birthday. I am grateful for everyday," said Cairns.

"Cancer keeps me humble and I can't thank everyone who helps fight this disease enough". Research has shown that breast cancer is not one disease, but many and will require multiple disciplines of research. Early detection is a person's best defense against breast cancer.

As Cecil Villard noted, there is a tremendous amount of research underway, for Breast Cancer. "Yes, we will find a cure, hopefully sooner than later. There is a tremendous amount of research underway and last year the Atlantic Chapter funded a full time chair for Breast Cancer Research at Dalhousie. So, we now have a dedicated team in the Maritimes working on this in collaboration with research efforts all over the world."

Today more people are surviving breast cancer than ever before. Villard says that all money raised from

the run, helps in finding a cure.

"Money raised goes to research, bursaries, the purchase of equipment etc. The Atlantic Chapter is contributing \$100,000 to Prince County Hospital and \$200,000 to the QEH to assist with the purchase of digital mammography for these two hospitals. We have provided and large number of grants over the years to various cause related to Breast Cancer on the Island and across the Atlantic provinces and of course the many research projects we are involved in."

Marlene Cairns remembers back to when she too, was a University student. She noted that often it is how you live your younger life, that will determine your future.

"It seems just like yesterday I too was a university student, I am so glad that I never did smoke, that I always exercised and tried to eat (most of the time) healthy food. I don't think I would be here today if I hadn't lived like I did and continue to".

So when your walking around down town, and see businesses front windows all decked out in pink, or you see "think pink week" signs while driving, don't wonder about the run.

Get involved. You could help create a world without breast cancer. Every person involved, and every dollar raised, will help make a difference.

Getting Prepared for the Federal Election

What can students not from P.E.I. do in order to get their vote in?

Voting in the Federal Election - Where and how

Election day, Oct. 14, is fast approaching.

If you are a student living away from home and are eligible to vote, you are going to have to consider two basic questions: who to vote for and where to vote.

If you are studying away from home you must determine your "place of ordinary residence."

You must vote at the polling place designated for your ordinary residence - whether you determine that to be your address while attending school or your address while not attending school.

If you determine your place of ordinary residence to be your address while not attending school - for example, your parents' home - you can vote by special ballot, either by mail or at the local Elections Canada office.

If you choose your place of ordinary residence to be your address while attending school, you can vote at the advance polls or on election day in that polling division. Otherwise, you can vote by special ballot, either by mail or at the local Elections Canada office.

To vote by special ballot, you must register with Elections Canada in Ottawa or at any of the local offices no later than 6p.m. on Oct. 7.

Voting in the Federal Election - ID Required

Remember, new identification rules are now in place for federal elections. These require you to prove your identity and address when you register and vote. If your place of ordinary residence is on campus, you may not have any proof of address. In this case, you can ask the administrator of your student residence to provide you with an "Attestation of Residence." When you go to register or vote at an advance poll or on election day, you will need to

submit the Attestation of Residence along with another piece of identification authorized by the Chief Electoral Officer that shows at least your name.

For the convenience of students living away from home, Elections Canada has worked to place polling stations in or near campus residences. These polling stations are meant to serve only students residing in that particular polling division, not everyone attending that university or college. If you live off campus, you must vote at the polling station for the area you have determined is your place of

ordinary residence, not at a campus polling station.

For more information on voting, go to www.elections.ca or call 1-800-463-6868.

From the home page, click "Young Voters" and look at the "Frequently asked questions for youth and students" section. This includes information on how to get on the voters list, what is acceptable proof of identity and address, the deadline for voting by mail using a special ballot, how to contact your local Elections Canada office and employment opportunities.

Voting in the Federal Election - Are you registered?

Wherever you decide to vote in your home riding or in the riding where you live while attending school, you must be registered on the voters list for the polling divi-

sion for that address.

To check if you are registered or to update your address, contact the returning officer at your local Elections Canada office. Don't worry if you are not yet registered.

There are several ways for you to get on the voters list: You can reg-

ister at your polling station on any advance polling day or even on Oct. 14. You can also register at your local Elections Canada office by 6 p.m. on Oct. 7.

For more information on voting, go to www.elections.ca or call 1-800-463-6868. From the home page, click "Young Voters."