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# \$17,195.93: Shinerama Donations More Than Doubled From Two Years

Kimberley Johnston  
*A&E Editor*

UPEI's done it again. We've packed another powerful punch in the fight against cystic fibrosis — a disease that attacks the respiratory and digestive systems of children.

Having surpassed last year's Shinerama total of more than \$14,000, UPEI is basking in the afterglow of raising \$17,195. This total does not include the more than \$500 collected from orange Shinerama bracelet sales. One New Student Orientation leader selling bracelets even flagged down Chancellor Bill Andrew before he made a generous contribution of \$310,000 to UPEI's Building a Legacy Campaign.

NSO and Shinerama co-ordinator Ryan McDermott was elated Tuesday night when delivering the news to first-year students and New Student Orientation leaders. The preset goal of \$15,000 had been met and passed. The total was up to \$16,000 ... and counting. The totals from 2003 equaled \$8,000.

"Next year, we're going for \$20,000," he later told his group of NSO leaders.

Wednesday morning, a still-elated McDermott told the Cadre that the donations were counted...but bracelets were still being sold.



MJ Doucette

"Well, our total as of last night was \$17,195.93 — and we ain't done yet!" said McDermott.

The CF fund-raiser began early Tuesday morning with a kick-off rally, where Premier Pat Binns announced September 6 as Shinerama Day. NSOers and their leaders watched a movie about the spirit of Shinerama and a heart-wrenching film about what a difference the donations can make in the life of a child who suffers from cystic fibrosis, which is the most common fatal genetic disease affecting young Canadians. The group also met a local family who lives with the reality of the disease every day, which added to the already heightened emotions.

It was a tense day for the more than 400 people who participated, including first-years, and their NSO

leaders. The question of whether or not the group would reach the goal of \$15,000 weighed heavily on the minds of many.

"I wasn't sure if we were going to make it," said Kate Johnston, a first-year science student. Johnston was part of the orange NSO team, whose totals for the day equaled \$2,800.

Colin MacDonald, one of the team leaders, offered an incentive to motivate his group of 15.

"I told them if we raised \$1,000 or more that I would die my hair orange. We all counted (the money) together to make sure we got that amount. I was shocked...and happy. It was amazing that 15 people could raise \$2,800 in five hours without doing anything illegal."

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