



MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release: 10th February 2003

Who: International Confederation of Childhood Cancer Parent Organisations and the Kids Cancer Care Foundation of Alberta

What: International Childhood Cancer Day

Where: 38 countries worldwide
Locally, Easter Seals Camp Horizon

When: 15th February 2003

Why: To raise awareness of children with cancer in the world

International Childhood Cancer Day - 15th February 2003

The second International Childhood Cancer Day takes place on 15th February.

The event is being celebrated in 38 countries around the world to raise awareness of 250,000 children who get cancer in the world each year. Geoff Thaxter, ICCCPPO organizer of the day said *"Thanks to the efforts of our members around the world, this second event will be even bigger and better than 2002. Over 100,000 die needlessly from childhood cancer each year and this event is raising awareness and funds to help improve the situation in participating countries"*

Kids Cancer Care Foundation of Alberta launches new program and announces research grant recipients.

Locally, the Kids Cancer Care Foundation of Alberta will be celebrating International Childhood Cancer Day by launching a new program designed for young adults who have been touched by childhood cancer. The Young Adult Conference has been developed to offer unique educational and motivational opportunities to these kids, whose lives have been complicated by their illness. The weekend conference will take place at Easter Seals Camp Horizon and will include workshops on a variety of topics, from health and fitness, music and the healing arts, creative arts & crafts and first aid training.

Media is invited to attend the official launch of the Young Adult Conference on **Saturday, February 15, 2003 at 11:00 a.m.** at Easter Seals Camp Horizon, located in Kananaskis Country, approximately 30 minutes from Calgary. Christine Wandzura, KCCFA CEO and several youths from the conference will be available to speak to media. Photo opportunities will be available at the climbing wall located at the camp. Coffee and snacks will be provided.

In honour of International Childhood Day, KCCFA will also be announcing research grant recipients for 2003. Five research grants have recently been issued to local researchers with a total value of \$318,222.

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For more information:

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Note to editors:

The Kids Cancer Care Foundation of Alberta (KCCFA) will host a local event at Easter Seals Camp Horizon on February 15, 2003. More information on KCCFA is available at www.kidscancercare.ab.ca.

The International Confederation of Childhood Cancer Parent Organisations (ICCCPO) was founded in Spain in 1994. It has 54 member organisations in 46 countries. More information is available at www.icccpo.org

The International Childhood Cancer Day was declared in Luxemburg in September 2001 and events ran throughout January 2002 in 30 countries. Details of the events and countries are available from info@lisathaxter.org

ICCCPO works closely with the International Society of Paediatric Oncology (SIOP). More information is available at www.siop.org

The ICCD is sponsored by Cancer Research UK. For more information contact Lucy Machin at lucy.machin@cancer.org.uk or visit www.cancerresearchuk.org/childcancerday

The 2002 International Day was supported in 30 countries and raised over \$100,000 to help support organisations in those countries.

The international launch of the event will take place in London on 14th February.

Countries taking part in 2003:

Argentina	India	Portugal
Australia	Indonesia	Romania
Austria	Iran	Russia
Bangladesh	Ireland	South Africa
Canada	Israel	Spain
Colombia	Italy	Sweden
Croatia	Luxemburg	Switzerland
Denmark	Malawi	Ukraine
Egypt	Mexico	United Kingdom
Finland	Morocco	USA
Germany	Netherlands	Venezuela
Greece	New Zealand	Yugoslavia
Iceland	Norway	