



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE JUNE 15, 2008

\$160 THOUSAND AND MORE COMING FOR BREAST CANCER

Attention news desk:

PETERBOROUGH—More pledges will be coming in over the coming days, but as of mid-afternoon Saturday, organizers could announce that the 2008 Peterborough Dragon Boat Festival, so far, had raised more than \$160,000.

The final tally—which will include revenue from the festival—will be announced in August.

For their generosity, organizers thanked the 104 dragon boat teams, festival sponsors, enthusiastic fundraisers and generous donors and pledge-makers.

The money raised during the festival this year will once again go toward purchasing early diagnostic equipment for the breast assessment centre at the new Peterborough Regional Health Centre.

The \$160,000 included pledges gathered in by individual pledge winners this year. Linda Martinell raised the most, \$15,360.78, Matt Drysdale came second with \$4,631.31, and Elaine Ford was third with \$2,060.00.

Teams raising the most pledges this year were Scotia Rowers 4U with an amazing \$17,320.21. Next came the LCBO Flaming Spirits with \$7,284.65, GE Hitachi Power Dragons with \$6,654.55, Blazing Paddles (City of Peterborough) \$6,036.40, GE Motor Maniacs with \$5,429.02 and Survivors Abreast with \$4,894.00.

Festival organizers send their congratulations to all the winning teams. The grand championship for the mixed teams goes to winner the Dragon Flyers with a time of 1:39:98. Close behind for second place was Team Synergy at 1:40:71. Third place went to the Paddle Pumpers at 1:41:91. Fourth, fifth and sixth places went to Motley Crew (1:43:64), Gold's Gym (1:49:04) and the Skinny Dippers (1:51:41).

Paddling Pistillites Part 2 won the ladies division championship with a time of 1:52:58, followed by the second place Paddling Pistillites Part 1 with 1:55:36, Draggin 'R Butts with 1:57:22 and fourth-place Annie's Oars with 2:04:29.

Results of the breast cancer survivor races: Pink Sensations from Pickering won the McKenzie cup with a time of 1:54:14; Busting Out from Ottawa placed second at 2:00:02, Canadians Abreast (national) third at 2:00:42, Survivors Abreast Team 2, 2:01:26 and Survivors Abreast Team 1 with 2:05:16.

In mid-afternoon, the East Peterborough Lions Club presented a cheque of \$5,000 to the festival for the purchase of a safety boat, as well as a \$500 donation to the new Breast Assessment Centre.

During the traditional flower ceremony the Peterborough Singers Pop Ensemble sang "You Raise Me Up." Paul Laing, festival announcer, read the names of former survivor team members who lost their battle against breast cancer and after a solemn moment of silence the teams tossed carnations onto the water.

Adding to the ceremony, Team Synergy led by captain Heather Angione, and the Medical Centre Rockin' Docs 'N Crew led by captain Donna McGilvray, formed a pink ribbon in front of the bleachers near the Peterborough Art Centre.

Festival organizers and host team, Survivors Abreast, wish to thank the 2008 festival sponsors for making it all possible: Kawartha Credit Union is the Platinum sponsor for the seventh consecutive year.

Gold 2008 sponsors include CHEX TV/Wolf/Kruz, Minute Maid/Coca Cola Ltd., and Country 105/91.9 BOB FM/Energy 99.7. The Silver sponsors are Scotiabank Group, Tim Hortons, The Peterborough Examiner and AON. Bronze sponsors are Studio N, Peterborough This Week, Coach Canada and Mark's Work Warehouse.

The Teak sponsors are McLeod's Eco Water, Robert Lightbody, Saturn of Peterborough, Purolator, Price Chopper, Saville Publishing, Russelle Toyota, Sysco Food Services, Global TeleSales, Commercial Press and Design, Shirley McDowell/ReMax, and Odim Spectrum.

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