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### **Relay For Life in Vaudreuil-Soulanges: proof that we are bigger than cancer**

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**Pincourt, February 18, 2019** - The Canadian Cancer Society (CCS) invites you to participate in the 16th edition of the Relay For Life in Vaudreuil-Soulanges which will take place for the second year at the Pincourt Olympic Park on Friday, May 24, 2019. 7 pm at dawn the next morning.

#### **A unique event to celebrate life!**

The concept of Relay For Life for the benefit of the Canadian Cancer Society is simple: teams or individuals who have raised funds to walk and take turns day and night around a marked path of lights in honor of or in memory of people affected by the disease. Cancer never sleeps, so participants walk in solidarity and support to celebrate life.

"The Canadian Cancer Society Relay For Life is not about cancer, it's about people. People who walk, who celebrate life and who love despite cancer. Those who live or have lived with cancer. Life should not stop when you are diagnosed with cancer. Because life is bigger than cancer. That's what this evening is about and why it's a must year after year. "Said Claude Giguère, coordinator of the 16th edition of the Relay.

Relay For Life is so much more than fundraising. It's an opportunity for everyone to fund innovative research and support services to improve the lives of those affected by cancer.

#### **An animation tinged with stars**

Led by Dominic Larivée, the Relay prepared by more than 20 extraordinary volunteers will ensure an unforgettable experience for participants and visitors. Once again, the music will be on the "Pierre Roy and Associates Stage" for a large part of the Relay. Thanks to the participation of Étienne Drapeau, a talented singer-songwriter, as well as the vocal ensemble Les Enchanteurs, which will offer unique and sensational performances to participants In addition to our celebrations such as the Survivors' Tour, the lighting ceremony and the team parade: many activities such as yoga workshops, Zumba, massage sessions, a photo booth to immortalize our teams, a festive karaoke, and many more surprises will be offered throughout the evening until sunrise. Inspiring spokespersons

For this 16th edition, Ms. Karina and Mélanie Trahan, child care educators, residents of Vaudreuil-Soulanges, twin sisters and cancer survivors, have



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agreed to act as honorary survivors to carry the flagship message of the Relay for Life. a life which is that despite the difficulties of the disease, hope remains. Life is bigger than cancer. Strong of this test, they will make radiate the hope in the 4 corners of Vaudreuil-Soulanges by sharing their courage and by speaking about the importance of taking part in this magic night which symbolizes the life.

#### **Let's get to know their stories!**

Now 44 years old, Karina Trahan was diagnosed on September 29, 2011, with a uterine carcinosarcoma. Quickly, she was taken in charge by the dedicated medical staff of Hôpital Notre-Dame (CHUM) in order to stop this evil, which was then at a critical stage. After having undergone surgery, several chemotherapies, radiotherapy, and brachytherapy treatments, she is now in remission. Despite the illness, she participated in the Relay and continues to do so now, 7 years later. First as part of a team and then as a participant in the Survivors' Tour. For her, the Relais symbolizes the strength and courage of the people affected and pays them a fine tribute. She, who received help from the CCS when she needed it, wants to give back and help those affected by cancer.

Mrs. Mélanie Trahan was also shaken when she also learned that the disease would be part of her life, and this, 6 weeks after the diagnosis of her twin sister. She also has cancer of the uterus and ovaries, she was followed by the same doctor and the same team as her sister. After having undergone multiple treatments and benefited from the help and support of her family and the CCS, she learned in 2015 that recidivism was present. Redoubling her courage and determination, she had to live with serenity the appropriate treatments to stop cancer. She was captain of a team named Carpe Diem for several years and participated for 7 years as a survivor at the Relay. For her, the Relais embodies the best of treatments because it includes loving, optimistic and determined people who give the taste to continue to bite in life. The disease strikes, regardless of age, and transforms those who meet it but does not change the essence of who we really are.

Together, they salute the last moment and are most grateful to live for each new year, to breathe new candles on their cake and to welcome the virtues transported by the wisdom of the time.

#### **The CCS, the voice of women and men who are committed to fighting all cancers.**

The CCS is committed to improving the cancer experience by helping people to fully enjoy life. The funds raised through Relay For Life make a difference. Thanks to the generosity of the people of Vaudreuil-Soulanges, the CCS:

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Fund leading research on more than 100 types of cancer, giving us an overall perspective on the fight against cancer and allowing us to transfer knowledge from one area to another.

- The amounts pledged to Quebec researchers by the CCS for the years 2017-2019 (ie over 3 years) total \$ 15 million.
- Offers programs and services to prevent cancer.
  - With the Trottibus (Walking Bus), Active Foot Challenge, CCS allows students across the province to walk to school, get moving and experience active transportation. Both projects encourage communities to move and improve child health positively and sustainably.
- Helps people with cancer and their families when they are having difficult times.
  - Thanks to a loan of hair prosthesis offered at our service center in Vaudreuil-Dorion, a woman regains her dignity and leaves the premises of the SCC with her head held high.
  - By calling the CCS Cancer Information Service, a man in distress will find the listening he needs after hearing the words "You have cancer. Once informed, he sees his anxiety drop and can better consider the following things despite what he has just learned.
- Urges governments to make important social changes and fund various cancer-related activities.

Thanks to the public interest advocacy work of the CCS, which has contributed to the adoption of a new federal benefit for caregivers, a worker can take time off to be with a family member who needs to be cared for. cancer treatments.

### **Partners that make everything possible!**

It's partly thanks to our partners that everything is made possible. We would like to thank them for their support and trust. Thanks to Pierre Roy & Associates Inc., Autoforce Group, Caisse Desjardins de Vaudreuil-Soulanges, No Limits Marketing, City of Pincourt, Néomedia Vaudreuil-Soulanges, Évoluson, Infografilm, Lagacé Électrique Inc., Marie-Claude Nichols, MP de Vaudreuil, Marilou Buffet, Gendreau Foods, Winpak Heat Seal Packaging Inc., IGA Rick Deziel Family, IGA Extra Viau Family, IGA Don Quichotte Supermarket, SR Electromechanical, Polymos, Acoustic Audio, SDL Animation, 4 Seasons Gardens, Richelieu Club Vaudreuil-Dorion and L'Île-Perrot, Les Cèdres Optimist Club, Première Harvest Bakery, Laniel Hearing Clinic, Les Serres Chlorophylle Inc., Ferme St-Zotique Itée, Cinema 7 Valleyfield, David Marenger, Aqua-Pompe Inc., Propane Charbonneau, André Miron Shelters, Roxboro Excavation Inc., Batteries Expert Île-Perrot, Photography Martin Dionne, Alternative Photography, Specialty Grocery Store: Under the Orchards, Forge D'Or, Leco , Uniprix P. Dvorak and M. Leroux, Classique Auto spa, Émondage Gabriel Vaillancourt Inc., Propane



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Léger and Les entreprises Yves Lefebvre inc. for their unwavering support in fighting cancer.

#### **And you, who will you walk for?**

To participate or simply to find out more about this unique event, visit [Relayforlife.ca](http://Relayforlife.ca) or contact the Canadian Cancer Society's office at 1-888-296-8570.

#### **Useful information:**

- Each participant must pay a \$ 15 registration fee and set a goal of raising \$ 150 to participate. Several tools are available to help our teams collect donations, do not hesitate to contact us to receive them.
- Buy a fixture for \$ 5 at [relayforlife.ca](http://relayforlife.ca) and pay tribute to a loved one, this fixture will shine throughout the night and illuminate the footsteps of walkers.
- Access for survivors is free. Contact us for more details.
- The Relay will take place rain or shine.

#### **About the Canadian Cancer Society and Relay For Life**

Last year, more than 53,000 Quebeckers learned that they had cancer. With the support of 300,000 annual donors and 30,000 volunteers, the CCS is the Quebec cancer organization with the potential to save the most lives. Since its very first edition in Quebec in 2001, Relay For Life has raised nearly \$ 150 million.

These amounts allow:

- To prevent more cancers.
- Support nearly two million people affected by cancer, everywhere in Quebec.
- Fund more research projects than any other organization dedicated to the fight against cancer.

Visit [cancer.ca](http://cancer.ca) or call us at 1 888 939-3333.

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