



Cavalcade for Diabetes 2020

In 2019 we aligned the Lion's Cavalcade with the Provincial Convention and added a Walk for Diabetes as part of the event. We were very pleased with the support and participations from clubs throughout Saskatchewan. At that event, we were pleased to present Diabetes Canada with the keys to a 2020 Hyundai Santa Fe to use in their work in Northern Saskatchewan.

In the past 6 months, Covid-19 has suspended life as we knew it. We are now challenged with an unprecedented practice called social distancing while still needing to engage in meaningful opportunities that allow us to fulfill our mission. Diabetes Canada, like many other organizations continues to work diligently through this pandemic, to provide quality programs and services for people living with diabetes. During this time of social distancing, now more than ever, Diabetes Canada is committed to providing innovative and creative ways to meet the needs of individuals living with diabetes and prediabetes.

The Lions Clubs of Saskatchewan are long-term partners in diabetes programming in Saskatchewan. As highly valued supporters of the TDRP program and the D-Camps program, SK Lions have been an integral part of supporting vulnerable residents of SK. At this challenging time, our commitment and support are even more critical in the fight against diabetes. We recognize the importance of programs and education for people at risk of diabetes and diabetes complication and also understand that children living with type 1 diabetes and their families rely on D-Camps program to create a sense of community and inclusion while providing a safe and fun experience for children with type 1 diabetes.

As a result of the significant medical risks for people with diabetes, the traditional diabetes programming must go through a complete overhaul until such time as the Covid-19 crisis is resolved. Diabetes Canada has worked tirelessly to create virtual experiences to meet the community's needs through these difficult times.

Programming includes:

- A new diabetes education line to provide immediate diabetes education and support by dietitians, social workers, educators and pharmacists
- Multi-lingual webinars
- Virtual diabetes education webinars
- Ask the Expert sessions
- Specific Diabetes and Covid-19 web pages
- Virtual D-Camp - interactive, engaging and educational camp experience that maintains the safety and wellbeing of our highly vulnerable children
- Virtual Type 1 diabetes conference – providing all the education, support and innovative ideas enjoyed in traditional conferences
- Virtual Diabetes Lace –up event that will encourage physical activity and fundraising to support the diabetes cause

Diabetes Canada needs your support more than ever. The number of people with diabetes in Saskatchewan continues to increase at an alarming rate. Despite the challenges of Covid-19 and the impact this has had on Lions Club's revenue generation, we ask that your club will consider making your usual generous donations in support of Lions Cavalcade for Diabetes. We will acknowledge clubs at the Provincial Convention in and upcoming Edition of Lions Pride. This year, in light of the Covid-19 crisis, revenue we collect from Cavalcade will go to providing funds for Diabetes Programming, including D-Camps in Saskatchewan. This programming helps prevent diabetes and helps individuals to better manage their disease and live well with diabetes.

We are of course disappointed that we can't maintain the tradition of hosting Cavalcade, or recognizing Cavalcade contributions at the annual fall conference but we realize Covid-19 has changed the way we do business this year. We look forward to time together next year! Please continue to support these worth well causes.

Respectfully yours,

Lion Calvin Bachmeier

Lions Diabetes Representative 5SKN