

Giving Lives Back



SPRING / SUMMER 2018 REPORT TO DONORS

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Sun Life team captain Neil Blue presents jersey to draft pick Jerome Williams at Celebrity Draft Party

West Park shoots for the stars

The 2nd annual West Park Tournament of Stars presented by Sun Life Financial on March 23–24 was a huge success, raising \$600,000 to support the critical mission of West Park Healthcare Centre.

The amount raised represents an increase of more than 100 per cent in revenue over the first year – surpassing this year's goal by 50 per cent – due to an increase in teams from 12 to 18 and the generosity of the tournament's sponsors.

Chief among them was our new presenting sponsor, Sun Life Financial, whose philanthropic focus on diabetes fits well with the care that West Park provides to people recovering from complications due to diabetes.

"West Park does amazing work every day helping people with serious injuries and illnesses get back to their normal lives. One of those illnesses is diabetes, a cause Sun Life is extremely passionate about," said Maryn McGill, Manager, Philanthropy and Sponsorships, Sun Life Financial. "At Sun Life, we know that by focusing on diabetes awareness, prevention, care and research, we can make a difference in the communities where we live and work."

More than 50 per cent of West Park's amputee patients have lost a limb due to diabetes, a number that is expected to rise as the population ages. West Park's renowned amputee rehabilitation program gets patients out of their wheelchairs and active again with the help of a prosthetic limb.

"We know the importance of encouraging a healthy, active lifestyle among our patients, helping those with diabetes and other chronic conditions to better manage their health and live life to the fullest," said Joanne Cole, CEO of West Park Foundation. "We are delighted that Sun Life Financial teamed up with us to present Tournament of Stars."

Participants in the celebrity basketball event were joined by NBA alumni and other hoop-loving celebrities including Jerome 'Junk Yard Dog' Williams, Charles Oakley, Tracy Murray, Morris Peterson and more.

Junk Yard Dog was the top draft pick, chosen by team Sun Life at the Friday night Celebrity Draft Party at Maison Mercer nightclub. The highest individual fundraiser was former West Park amputee patient and Team Bounce Back member, Sam Paulos, who raised an incredible \$10,623.

(continued on page 3)

MESSAGE FROM THE CEO



Joanne Cole
Chief Executive Officer
West Park Foundation

Spring is a time of new life and new beginnings. This is true more so than ever at West Park, as the new season brings with it a period of renewal and rapid change for our campus.

In June we will have a “preferred proponent” – a chosen consortium to design, build, finance and maintain our new hospital, and then just a few months later we will all be able to celebrate the start of construction.

The excitement is building and we invite you to be a part of it. Watch for news and updates as our new hospital takes shape, and for invitations to join us at important milestones.

The Foundation is growing and changing as well, as we prepare for the largest fundraising challenge in our history. We will continue to count on your support to reach our goal, and help transform West Park into a world-class centre of rehabilitative care for our patients.

In this issue we celebrate another successful year, and the outstanding success of our 2nd annual Tournament of Stars event. We also celebrate you, our generous donors. Without you, we wouldn't be where we are today!

HOW I'M MAKING A DIFFERENCE AT WEST PARK

Daniel Simunac, Board member for West Park Healthcare Centre and Organizing Chair of Tournament of Stars presented by Sun Life Financial

I was the youngest person ever to complete the Institute of Corporate Directors course. I wanted to get that structured foundation first before I went into any board work. Joining the West Park Board was a way to put my new knowledge to work. The way I see it, my day job pays the bills; volunteering at West Park gets my creative juices going in a completely different environment. And West Park is right in my neighbourhood.

I'm a basketball fan, so last year my office organized a team in the Tournament of Stars. We had a great experience. The folks at the Foundation saw that I had fun with it and asked me to chair it this year.

It was a pretty big undertaking. I started last June and was involved in many aspects, from strategy and fundraising to helping create the website. I wanted to do well by the hospital.

The Friday night event was such a good party and there was a real buzz on Saturday. Everyone was having fun getting up close and personal with the celebrities and taking lots of photos.

I was happy that the way I pitched the experience last fall is exactly how it turned out. Everyone walked away from the weekend feeling super satisfied. And we raised \$600,000, beating our target by 50 per cent. I was proud that the folks at Raymond James, where I work as Managing Director and Principal Officer, contributed more than \$100,000 in total.

Our success this year put the event on a firm footing. The Tournament of Stars event is definitely scalable – basketball is the fastest-growing spectator sport in the city.

West Park is a great hospital that does a lot of good in our community. But it's not on University Avenue and doesn't have the same volume of patients as those hospitals. The Tournament of Stars helps provide a cool factor – people are attracted to the basketball, and then become aware of the cause. It's a way to take West Park downtown, and to connect our cause to companies and people who can help.



Dan Simunac
with his wife,
Nicole Simunac

Year in Review:

Campaign ramps up with success of special events, growth of donor base

The rapid growth of two new signature events has fueled yet another successful year for West Park Foundation.

Both Tournament of Stars (see cover story) and Uncork Untap Unwind, held November 9 at the popular Drake Hotel, realized a sharp increase in participation, sponsorship and revenue in just their second year.

The continued growth of these two events, along with the success of the annual Chairs' Invitational Golf Tournament, will be a key contributor to the Foundation meeting its goals as, in addition to raising funds, they also raise awareness of West Park among key audiences. Tournament of Stars, in particular, reaches new audiences through team recruitment, social media reach and extensive TV coverage.

In October, the Foundation received accreditation under Imagine Canada's national Standards Program. Only 231 nonprofit organizations in the country have been accredited under the program, which sets standards in five fundamental areas: board governance; financial accountability and transparency; fundraising; staff management; and volunteer involvement.

"Meeting the requirements of the Imagine Canada program is an important milestone for the Foundation as we embark on our ambitious \$80 million *Get Your Life Back Campaign* to support the capital costs of the new hospital," says Joanne Cole, CEO of the Foundation. "As we ask our supporters to invest in the future of West Park, we have made our own investment to meet the high standards expected of us."

Over the past year, the Foundation continued to grow the Campaign – increasing the number of donors and gifts year over year – as we ramp up in advance of the Centre breaking ground on the new hospital this fall.

The next few months will bring a number of significant milestones in the campus development project. In June, the Centre and Infrastructure Ontario will announce the preferred consortium that will design, build, finance and maintain the new hospital, and in August – upon financial close of the agreement with the consortium – the concept design of West Park's beautiful new facility will be released. Construction preparations will begin shortly afterwards.

"By building a strong donor base, and with the assurance we can provide to potential donors with the Imagine Canada designation, the Foundation is well prepared to meet the challenges of the largest fundraising endeavor in our history," says Cole.



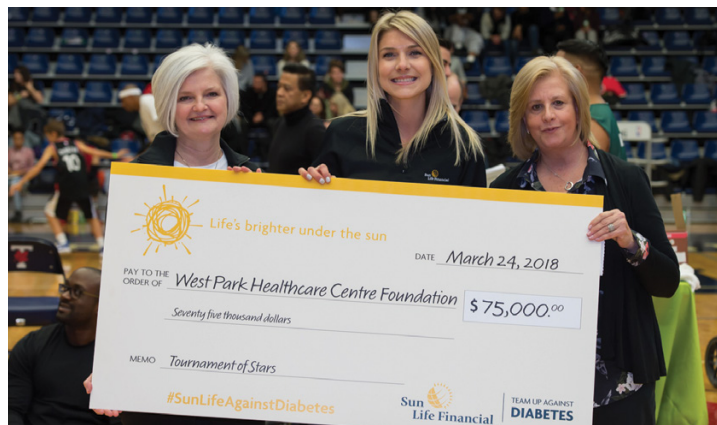
Congratulations to Bob Gazey of Scarborough (centre), winner of the West Park Lottery's Grand Prize – a Jeep Patriot. Bob was presented with the keys to the Jeep by Danny Diamantakos of Peel Chrysler and Jacqueline Cooper, VP Development, West Park Foundation. The winning ticket in the 4th annual lottery was drawn by Mayor John Tory on March 24 during the Tournament of Stars presented by Sun Life Financial. Bob said he was shocked when he received the call, saying he and his wife had just been discussing the need for a new car!

West Park shoots for the stars

(continued from page 1)

The competition was fierce but friendly at the Saturday tournament, held at the University of Toronto's Goldring Centre for High Performance Sport. The day also included a Dunk for Diabetes demonstration by Justin 'Jus Fly' Darlington and a Youth Skills Clinic run by Williams, former professional basketball player Hailey Milligan-Jones and WNBA player Kayla Alexander. At the clinic, Sun Life hosted 20 children from a local Boys and Girls Club that participate in the Sun Life Dunk for Diabetes program, which uses basketball to promote healthy, active living among young people.

In addition, the popular 3-point competition was back, and there were appearances by Jack Armstrong, Honorary Ambassador of the tournament, and Toronto Mayor John Tory.



Maryn McGill, Manager, Philanthropy and Sponsorships at Sun Life Financial (centre) presents cheque to West Park Healthcare Centre CEO Anne-Marie Malek (left) and Joanne Cole, CEO of West Park Foundation

OUR DONORS

To each of our donors we are incredibly proud to say “THANK YOU” and to recognize your generosity in supporting West Park patients and their families as well as the upcoming transformation of our campus. Your gifts are helping people facing enormous health challenges to get their lives back.

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We are proud to acknowledge our visionary donors who have given \$100,000+ for their lifetime commitment to West Park.

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We are pleased to recognize the National Sanitarium Association, as the founding organization of West Park, for their generous support.

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We are honoured to celebrate the following individuals and organizations that are investing in the future of West Park through the Get Your Life Back Campaign with current gifts and pledges for the redevelopment of West Park.

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We are proud to celebrate our West Park staff, physicians and volunteers who have been recognized by a grateful patient and/or colleague for their special service with a gift through our "West Park Heroes" program between April 1, 2017 and March 31, 2018.

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We are privileged to recognize thoughtful gifts made in honour of someone special or in memory of a loved one between April 1, 2017 and March 31, 2018.

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 George Press
 Wan Mei Pu
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 Kayleigh Shannon
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For Therese Estacion, coaching Team West Park was a recovery milestone



For the coach of Team West Park, participating in the Tournament of Stars was an important milestone in her journey back to normalcy after a devastating illness cost her both legs and some of her fingers.

Therese Estacion fell ill while travelling in B.C., contracting a rare bacterial infection that landed her in a seven-day coma fighting for her life. She survived, but the medication that doctors gave her to save her life caused necrosis in her extremities. Despite hoping that the necrotic tissues would heal with time, it became more and more apparent that amputations were necessary.

Looking for the best care possible, Therese came to West Park in October 2016 to work with the hospital's amputee rehabilitation program. She spent a total of four months at West Park, during which she returned to acute care twice, first to have her legs amputated below the knee and then later to have parts of her hands amputated.

Therese credits West Park with providing her with a complete rehabilitation – body, mind and spirit.

Therese Estacion with Toronto Mayor John Tory at Tournament of Stars

“The camaraderie really kept me going,” says Therese. “I had no confidence. I’m so different now that I didn’t know how people would react to me, but I felt that I was with friends. I felt I could belong.”

Therese says that the spiritual help she received played a huge part in her healing process. “It helped me grieve the things I can’t do again, but it also helped me find my centre and remember who I am.”

She also says that recreation therapy at West Park is “awesome.”

“Pub night, bingo night, coffee night – it’s what happens after most people have gone home. I invited my friends to go to these things with me. I felt I was entertaining, and not just having people visit to talk about my amputations.”

Therese’s love of basketball made her a great choice for coach, and her enthusiasm showed as she spurred on the West Park team of staff, physicians and captain Jamoi Anderson, himself a former amputee patient.

She is planning to resume her teaching career, moving from grade six teacher to guidance counselor, but in the meantime is busy travelling, working on a poetry manuscript and advocating for greater accessibility for people with disabilities.

FOUNDATION EVENTS



Thank you to everyone who participated in the 19th Annual Achilles St. Patrick’s Day 5K Run/Walk on March 18. The event raised \$4,407 for the hospital. West Park sent a team of 30 staff, therapists, patients and supporters to take part in the run/walk, including amputee patient Patrick Doyle who ran on his blade and top fundraiser Brian Ellison who completed the race in a wheelchair. Proceeds from Patrick’s Run will go to support Amputee Rehabilitation Services and to the top priorities for enhanced patient care at West Park.



82 Buttonwood Avenue
Toronto, ON M6M 2J5
tel 416.243.3600
fax 416.243.8947
www.westpark.org/foundation



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UPCOMING EVENTS

Chairs’ Invitational Golf Tournament

Wednesday, August 22, 2018

Glen Abbey Golf Club

To participate or sponsor, please call 416-243-3663

UNCORK UNTAP UNWIND

Thursday, November 8, 2018

Stay tuned to westparkuncork.ca for more details!