



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ONTARIO PARENTS ADVOCATING FOR CHILDREN WITH CANCER  
WELCOMES JAMES THOMSON TO THE ROLE OF RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND  
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COORDINATOR

(Jul 10, 2012 – Barrie, Ontario) Ontario Parents Advocating for Children with Cancer (OPACC) continues to grow, and has hired James Thomson as Community Engagement and Resource Development Coordinator. James began his new role within the organization on Tuesday, July 3, 2012.

James is no stranger to OPACC, having previously served on the Board as Treasurer. In this new role, James will be responsible for developing and implementing community engagement strategies, networks, and providing ongoing support to community partners and key stakeholders. He will play an integral role in seeking out and identifying strategic partnerships and nurturing these partnerships as a key representative of OPACC.

OPACC's primary focus is helping families of children diagnosed with cancer cope on their journey. A childhood cancer diagnosis is quite possibly the most difficult experience a family can face. OPACC understands these journeys first-hand as their Board of Directors have all embarked on a childhood cancer journey themselves. OPACC has placed a Parent Liaison in the busiest paediatric oncology treatment centre in Ontario - the Hospital for Sick Children - and continues to work towards expanding this program to the other treatment centres in Ontario.

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Helping families of children with cancer with the here and now!  
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## Background

### OPACC

Ontario Parents Advocating for Children with Cancer (OPACC) is a provincial charity committed to helping families of children diagnosed with cancer and blood disorders. OPACC's primary focus in helping these families is by establishing Parent Liaison professionals in the paediatric oncology treatment centres in Ontario. These Parent Liaison professionals are parents who have already undertaken a childhood cancer journey and understand the impact a diagnosis has on the entire family.

OPACC's mission is to Educate, Advocate, Support and Enable families of children with cancer. They will offer support that only another parent of a child with cancer can. They will collaborate and share information and experiences with other parents through mentoring and educational activities and they will strengthen existing parent support groups and establish new ones.

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