The Kin-CF Partnership

The friendship between Kinsmen and Kinettes and Canadians with cystic fibrosis (CF) began out of a conversation in 1963 between Dr. Douglas Crozier, the Director of the CF Clinic at The Hospital for Sick Children, and Kinsman Bill Skelly. During a chance meeting at a Toronto pub, Dr. Crozier spoke to Bill about his young CF patients. This conversation left Bill interested in joining the fight against cystic fibrosis, and Dr. Crozier was invited to talk to the North York Kinsmen Club. Almost immediately, the North York Kinsmen enthusiastically backed the CF cause.

By 1964, District 8 had formally adopted Cystic Fibrosis Canada as its District Service Project. District 8’s commitment sparked the interest of other Districts, and, before long, involvement spread Canada-wide, throughout the Kin organization. In 1987, Kin Canada adopted Cystic Fibrosis Canada as its National Service Project.

Kinsmen and Kinettes remain our loyal friends, continually fundraising for Cystic Fibrosis Canada-funded research and care programs and promoting CF awareness. To-date, Kin members have raised over $40 million for Cystic Fibrosis Canada. These funds have helped Canadian researchers make major strides in the fight against cystic fibrosis.

The hard work and support of Kin Canada is deeply appreciated by young Canadians with CF. Since 1964, Kin and our organization have shared in many exciting accomplishments, including the discovery of the gene responsible for CF in 1989. The discovery would not have been possible without the tremendous help of our Kin friends.

When Kinsmen and Kinettes first joined the fight against cystic fibrosis, most children with the disease were not expected to live long enough to attend kindergarten. Today, half of all Canadians with cystic fibrosis are expected to live into their 40s and beyond. For almost every year of Kin support, we have earned an extra year of life for a child with CF. We could never have come so far, so fast, without the continued support of Kin.

Thank you Kinsmen and Kinettes, for everything that you are doing to help find a cure for cystic fibrosis – we look forward to continuing our work together!