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### **Terry Fox is the First Recipient of the Order of the Oak**

Terry Fox is the first person to be honoured with the Ac2orn Order of the Oak award recognizing excellence in childhood, adolescent and young adult cancer research and advocacy in Canada.

#### **Vancouver, British Columbia -**

Advocacy for Canadian Childhood Oncology Research Network, Ac2orn, announced today that Terry Fox will receive the first Order of the Oak award recognizing excellence in childhood, adolescent and young adult cancer research and advocacy in Canada. The Order of the Oak is an award that will be given out yearly during the month of September in recognition of childhood cancer awareness month.

In 1980, Terry Fox began his Marathon of Hope with the ambitious goal of running across Canada to raise money for cancer research. Terry ran an average of a marathon every day for 143 days – an incredible achievement for a man who was diagnosed with cancer only three years earlier and who was running with one prosthetic leg. In September 1980, Terry Fox had to stop his Marathon of Hope when cancer was found in his lungs; however, this did not end his dream. In February 1981 Terry Fox realized his goal of raising \$1 for each Canadian – over \$24 million dollars to fund cancer research.

Every year, communities across Canada come together in the month of September to continue Terry Fox's legacy and run in his honour. The Terry Fox Foundation works to realize Terry's dream to find a cure for cancer. To date, the Terry Fox Foundation has raised almost \$700 million worldwide to fund and support cancer research in Canada. The Terry Fox Foundation funds a significant amount of pediatric oncology research across the country.

"It took cancer to realize that being self-centered is not the way to live. The answer is to try and help others."  
Terry Fox.

"At Ac2orn, we believe that childhood cancer can lead to better treatment for all Canadians," said Patrick Sullivan, a co-founder of Ac2orn. "We wanted the award to recognize someone who through advocacy or research exemplifies leadership and has made a significant contribution to advancing Canadian cancer research. When it comes to leadership and contribution we could think of no one more deserving of the inaugural Order of the Oak than Terry Fox."

Ac2orn is beyond pleased to present Terry Fox with the 2015 Order of the Oak award. The Order of the Oak will be presented to Terry Fox's family in the month of October.

**About Ac2orn:**

Advocacy for Canadian Childhood Research Network, Ac2orn, is committed to advocating for translational research and effective treatments to realize the goal of curing pediatric cancer. Ac2orn is a national organization made up of childhood cancer families and survivors of pediatric cancer who are dedicated to breaking down barriers and building bridges in the world of childhood cancer research. Ac2orn was formed in 2014. <http://www.cureseforourkids.com>

**About the Terry Fox Foundation:**

The Terry Fox Foundation is an international organization whose mission is to maintain the vision and principles of Terry Fox while raising money for cancer research through the annual Terry Fox Run, Terry's CAUSE on Campus, School Run Day and other fundraising initiatives. To date, almost \$700 million has been raised worldwide in Terry Fox's name to fund the most promising and innovative research in Canada. The Foundation's national headquarters are located in Burnaby, BC and it has offices in 9 provinces. For more information visit <http://www.terryfox.org>.

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