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WORD ON WAMS / WAMS YP

5th Annual WAMS Gala Luncheon was an Incredible Success!

Thank you to all who attended the WAMS Gala Luncheon on Friday May 7th at the Fairmont Royal York Hotel in Toronto. We are very pleased to announce that over \$285,000 was raised for multiple sclerosis research!

There is an urgent need to enhance and accelerate MS research in Canada and to ensure that more trainees and researchers choose to study multiple sclerosis. To reiterate the words of Dr. Cornelia Laule, inaugural recipient of the WAMS Transitional Career Development Award, "*Thanks to the endMS initiative, I am able to continue my career as an MS researcher in Canada.*"

Congratulations to the 2010 WAMS Honouree, Phyllis Yaffe, former CEO of Alliance Atlantis. Phyllis has been the chair of WAMS since its inception and a champion of the MS cause for many years. Phyllis continues to support WAMS and the MS Society in a variety of different ways.

A special thank you to guest speaker President Mary Robinson –first female President of Ireland and former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights. President Robinson's speech was insightful and inspirational and one of the highlights of the afternoon.

Thanks to the WAMS Gala Luncheon sales cabinet - Frances Carmichael, Tonie Chaltas, Sylvia Chrominska, Colleen Coman, Nella Contardi, Kiki Delaney, Dona Eull-Schultz, Susanne Gage, Lindsay Dale Harris, Valerie Hussey, Beverley Macadam, Linda Mantia, Linda Molyneux, Sharon Rudy, Ina Sungaila, and Phyllis Yaffe – for their achievement in selling out the luncheon in record time!

A special thank you to Helen Kearns, honorary chair of the WAMS Gala Luncheon sales cabinet, for her incredible leadership. Helen was the 2009 WAMS honoree.

Team WAMS Walks to help end MS

Thanks to all Team WAMS members who showed that "every step matters" in the fight to end MS, raising more than \$6,800 at the MS Walks in Toronto and Mississauga! Thank you to WAMS sponsor EMD Serono for recruiting employees to the team in Mississauga.

The MS Society would like to extend a special thank you to WAMS member Nella Contardi of Pizzaville. In addition to supporting WAMS, Pizzaville is a regional sponsor of the MS Walk program. Supporting 24 Walk sites across the province, Pizzaville provides pizza and bottled water to thousands of participants.

Dr. Cornelia Laule, recipient of the \$500,000 Women Against MS (WAMS) endMS Research and Training Network Transitional Career Development Award, focuses her research at the University of British Columbia on developing magnetic resonance (MR) techniques to study the pathology of multiple sclerosis.

On August 26, 700 A&W stores from coast-to-coast will donate \$1 from the sale of every Teen Burger to the MS Society of Canada



WAMS Launch in BC a Success!



The MS Society held an exclusive evening launch of WAMS in BC on April 15, 2010 at The Bay in downtown Vancouver. Over 100 women attended the event where they were treated to a fashion show of the Anne Klein Spring line, wine, hors d'oeuvres and an exclusive sale. In attendance was special guest Dr. Cornelia Laule, recipient of the endMS Research and Training Network Transitional Career Development Award. Another WAMS networking event is planned for fall 2010 in Vancouver. Please forward this newsletter to colleagues and friends in Vancouver that may wish to attend future WAMS events.

For more information about WAMS in other provinces, please visit: WAMS in Quebec or WAMS in B.C.

A&W Cruisin' for a Cause Day



On August 26, 700 A&W stores from coast-to-coast will donate \$1 from the sale of every Teen Burger to the MS Society of Canada. In addition to the Teen Burger sales, A&W will collect coin box donations at stores across the country throughout the summer and paper car cutouts will be sold for \$1 during the month of August.

Introduced nationally in 2009, Cruisin' for a Cause is A&W's first large partnership with a non-profit since its inception in 1956. Last year the campaign raised over \$400,000 and is expected to raise in excess of \$500,000 this year.

Join Team WAMS at the Toronto RONA MS Bike Tour!

Join Team WAMS and WAMS YP as we cycle to end MS at the RONA MS Bike Tour, taking place in Toronto on Sunday, September 12th. Beginning and finishing at Centennial Park in Etobicoke, the Toronto RONA MS Bike Tour is perfect for the whole family. Cycle along scenic bike trails and city streets before returning to the park for a barbecue lunch – a great way to end the summer!

More information about the Toronto RONA MS Bike Tour is available at www.ms biketours.ca. To join Team WAMS, please contact Kyla Brierley at (416) 922-6600 ext.3109 or kyla.brierley@mssociety.ca.



ANNE KLEIN
NEW YORK

the  Bay

All research applications underwent a rigorous review by an international review panel that included experts from various disciplines including interventional radiology, vascular surgery and neurology.

Canada has one of the highest rates of MS in the world, with three more Canadians diagnosed each day. Canada is a leader in multiple sclerosis research and researchers are developing new treatments for MS while moving closer to finding a cure for this unpredictable, often disabling disease.

Over \$2.4 Million Committed to Support Seven Operating Grants to Explore the Relationship of CCSVI to Multiple Sclerosis

Toronto, Ontario - June 11, 2010- Over \$2.4 million has been committed by the Multiple Sclerosis Society of Canada and the National MS Society (USA) to support seven new research projects focusing on chronic cerebrospinal venous insufficiency (CCSVI) and its relationship to MS.

All research applications underwent a rigorous review by an international review panel that included experts from various disciplines including interventional radiology, vascular surgery and neurology. The MS Society of Canada and the U.S. National MS Society worked collaboratively to assemble the reviewers who considered scientific merit, feasibility of proposed research and the experience of the applicant teams.

About Multiple Sclerosis

Multiple sclerosis is the most common disease of the central nervous system (the brain and spinal cord) among young adults in Canada, affecting an estimated 55,000 to 75,000 Canadians. MS is diagnosed in women three times as often as in men.

While it is most commonly diagnosed between the ages of 15 and 40, MS can occur at any age and has been diagnosed in children as young as three. Symptoms include vision and speech problems, extreme fatigue, lack of balance and coordination, and even paralysis.

Canada has one of the highest rates of MS in the world, with three more Canadians diagnosed each day. Canada is a leader in multiple sclerosis research, and researchers are developing new treatments for MS while moving closer to finding a cure for this unpredictable, often disabling disease.

More information is available at www.mssociety.ca

Keep in touch

Do you have suggestions for this newsletter? Would you like to write an article that would be of interest to our members? Would you like to submit a business ad for an upcoming edition?

Please submit any WAMS-related questions, comments, or suggestions to wamsinfo@mssociety.ca