



News Release

There is hope in our walk

TORONTO, ON, April 4, 2017 – Canadians from coast to coast to coast are signing up now for Parkinson SuperWalk 2017, the largest national fundraising event for Parkinson’s disease. Individuals and teams raise money in support of innovative research, education, advocacy and support services that are essential in helping their loved ones and all Canadians living with Parkinson’s disease.

Walkers are reaching out to friends and family to share their mission to change lives, together. Blake Bell, voted as the inaugural Parkinson SuperWalk National Hero is returning for this year’s walk. Bell described how his first SuperWalk was an opportunity to engage people in his life more broadly, including friends and family whom he may not see day to day, but remains in touch with through social media. “It’s something that’s very personal, sharing that information,” says Bell.

“It’s hard to explain, I just knew it was time. It felt right,” he says. SuperWalk has become a part of Bell’s healing process since his diagnosis. He cried reading the National Hero nominations submitted in his support. “You don’t realize the impact you can have, just by being yourself.”

Watch Blake Bell’s story [here](#).

Bell says he’d like a cure for Parkinson’s tomorrow. “Not necessarily for me, but for people who are just getting it. It would be wonderful.”

In the meantime, Bell calls on you and everyone for understanding, for those dealing with a chronic disease or disability. “I want people to treat other people, the way I treat them. That’s all I want.”

You can join Blake Bell by becoming an everyday hero, inspiring extraordinary hope for Canadians living with and affected by Parkinson’s disease. Register online today at www.parkinsonsuperwalk.ca or by calling 1-800-565-3000.

More.....

About Parkinson SuperWalk

Parkinson SuperWalk provides the opportunity to raise money and awareness in support of Canadians living with Parkinson's disease. Since 1991, Parkinson SuperWalk has raised more than \$36 million through participants from all walks of life. Proceeds are invested in communities across Canada. These funds fuel essential support services, education for individuals and the health professionals that treat them, advocacy on key issues affecting the Parkinson's community and potentially life changing, innovative research that can improve treatments and lead to breakthroughs in finding a cure.

The national sponsor for Parkinson SuperWalk 2017 is Burnbrae Farms.

About Parkinson Canada

Parkinson Canada is the national voice of Canadians living with Parkinson's disease. From diagnosis to discovery, the organization provides education, advocacy and support services to people living with Parkinson's, caregivers and health care professionals. The Parkinson Canada Research Program funds innovative research to search for better treatments and a cure. Parkinson Canada is an Imagine Canada accredited organization. Visit www.parkinson.ca

Caption: "You don't realize the impact you can have, just by being yourself." Blake Bell, Parkinson SuperWalk, National Hero 2016.

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Additional files for the media are available here: <http://donate.parkinson.ca/SuperwalkMedia>