

**Cancer** today constitutes a world health problem, affecting all countries regardless of race, culture, level of economic development or political system. Worldwide, 10 million new cancer cases are detected every year.

In Cuba, cancer is the second cause of death for all age groups and the main cause of death before 75 years of age. During 2008, cancer was the first cause of death in 8 out of the 14 provinces in Cuba.

Cuba is amongst the few countries in the world with a Comprehensive Program for Cancer Control, updated in 2008 and presided over by the National Unit for Cancer Control, Institution created within the Ministry of Public Health in 2006.

The National Institute of Oncology and Radiobiology (INOR) has implemented important research on cancer. Two important projects funded with money raised by the Terry Fox Run were finished recently.

1) The cyto-histological characterization of the ior-HPV1 monoclonal antibody and its role in the diagnosis of the human papilloma virus of the cervix.

The most practical implementation of this research is the fast and correct diagnosis of infections that may cause cervical cancer.

2) A study of families suffering from breast cancer.

In this study a representative group of families with breast cancer incidence was assessed. This study paved the way for the creation of a Registry of Families affected by breast cancer in Cuba.

Genetic mutations causing this hereditary cancer were characterized and a Consultancy Service was created on Genetics of Breast Cancer at the National Institute of Oncology and Radiobiology.

Other research programs have already been undertaken thanks the funds raised in 2009, and those we will be able to raise during the 12<sup>th</sup>. Edition of the 2010 Terry Fox Run.

**If you wish to make a donation, you can write or contact:**

Name of the Account: Terry Fox  
Number of the Account: 03 000 000 03776626  
Cod. BFI: 106  
Branch: Habana Libre  
Cod. NAE: 21

**If you wish to make a donation, you can write or contact:**

CUC: Payables to the Embassy of Canada  
CAD: Payables to Receiver General for Canada

**And have them delivered according to where you are at:**

Embassy of Canada in Havana  
Calle 30 No. 518, esq. 7ma. Ave., Miramar, C.Habana, Cuba

Embassy of Cuba in Canada  
388 Main St., Ottawa, ON, Canada, K1S 1E

Honorary Consulate of Canada in Varadero  
Mrs. Sylvie Leduc (Consul)  
Calle 13 e/13 y Camino del Mar, Varadero

Honorary Consulate of Canada in Guardalavaca, Holguin  
Complejo Hotelero Bungalow Atlántico  
Piso 1 – Suite 1, Guardalavaca, Holguin

# 12th Anniversary of the Terry Fox Run Fight against Cancer!



**Saturday March 20th, 2010  
At 10 A.M.  
All over Cuba!**

## TERRY FOX

Terry Fox was a young Canadian athlete whose right leg was amputated 6 inches above his knee at the age of 18 due to bone cancer. As he watched the suffering of other cancer patients, he bravely decided to run from the east to the west coast of Canada to raise funds in order to help finance research on this terrible disease.

On April 12, 1980, Terry set out on his Marathon of Hope across Canada, starting from St. John's, Newfoundland, on the east coast of Canada. For 143 days he ran an average of 42 km a day but unfortunately on September 1, near Thunder Bay, Ontario, after running two thirds of the journey he had planned and covering 5 373 km, he had to be hospitalized where it was discovered that cancer had spread to his lungs.

Ten months after, Terry died at the age of 22 but he set out an example for the world which still lives in our memory. Since 1981, thousands of Terry Fox races are held annually in Canada and in many other countries all over the world, the purpose being to raise funds in aid of cancer research in each of those countries where they are carried out. Currently, more than 400 million Canadian dollars have been raised worldwide.

Terry Fox has truly become a hero for all cultures and ages. During the 2004 public poll held in Canada, Terry Fox was voted one of the most outstanding figures of Canadian history.

## LA CARRERA TERRY FOX – LUCHA CONTRA EL CANCER EN TODA CUBA

Since 1998, the Terry Fox Run – Cuba against cancer, is held annually in Cuba, which is characterized by human solidarity, with the participation of all people interested in joining the race. This race also forms part of the official schedule of INDER's MaraCuba circuit.

This year we will be celebrating the 12<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Terry Fox Run in Cuba. In 2009, 1 965 790 people participated in more than 5 107 runs throughout Cuba. The starting call is simultaneously made at 10.0 AM all over the country based on **Radio Reloj, Cuban National Radio Station.**

This event has a participatory nature, therefore there are no winners or awards and everybody who is interested in joining the race may do so, regardless of age or sex. The journey can be covered by walking, running, or using roller skates, bicycles or wheelchairs for those who need them.

It was precisely this race, the means that Terry Fox used to disseminate for 143 days, the need to draw together efforts to fight cancer and also to bring together the most amount of people as well as public and private institutions in this great endeavor.

Every year, a great number of organizations, companies and people in general contribute to this fair cause by making voluntary donations in cash.

Likewise, the Canadian Embassy organizes every year a Charity Evening with the purpose of raising funds to be given to the National Institute of Oncology and Radiobiology in Havana for its research programs on breast and cervical cancer.

The Ministry of Culture also supports the race by coordinating donations of art works which are auctioned during the Charity Evening. Also with the support of the Ministry of Tourism, we expect to promote a greater participation of Canadian tourists in the race.

The organization of the Terry Fox Run is led by INDER, the National Institution for Sports and Recreation, sponsored by the Ministry of Public Health, the Canadian Embassy in Cuba and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, a collaboration which is only an example of the friendly links between both countries, which celebrate their 65 years of uninterrupted diplomatic relations.