

Luminary ceremony planned for Lanark Lodge

Lanark Lodge, in collaboration with the Canadian Cancer Society, will be hosting a luminary ceremony behind the facility on June 15 at 9 p.m. as a tribute to those fighting cancer and to honour those who have been lost.

The ceremony will include stories shared by those affected by cancer, followed by the lighting of the luminaries.

“If you have never been to a luminary ceremony, I can only say it is incredibly powerful,” said Deborah Pidgeon, Lanark Lodge director. “A luminary is more than a candle, it is the symbol of a life and a tribute to a loved one affected by cancer. We encourage people to attend and bring family and friends to the event, which is expected to last less than one hour. We hope to line the road behind the Lodge with people in support.”

The event is part of the Lodge’s ongoing efforts to raise funds in support the research and assistance work of the Canadian Cancer Society. Lanark Lodge staff have participated in the Relay for Life in the past and, for the last four years, hosted a “Walk the Block” event that raised more than \$10,000 each year, including \$15,000 last year.

“Cancer has impacted a number of our staff members and has touched everyone,” Ms. Pidgeon said. “We want to do our part to help as we understand firsthand the devastation this disease causes for families and extended support systems. We each have an ‘I’ story as to why we get involved.”

Ms. Pidgeon said the ceremony generates positive energy and support for the Canadian Cancer Society. “It is incredibly poignant for people – magical, really – to take time to reflect on people battling this disease and to remember those we have lost. Last year when we released balloons as part of the ceremony, a young boy shared with his dad: ‘Daddy, my balloon is going to fight cancer!’ These are the simple moments that show how each of us working together can make a difference.”

Luminaries are a minimum of \$5 each and can be purchased at Lanark County reception locations (main administration building or public works building at 99 Christie Lake Road, or at the Lodge at 115 Christie Lake Road). They can also be purchased online at <http://relayforlife.ca/luminary> (select Perth and Lanark Lodge Event from the drop-down menu). They will also be available starting at 8:45 p.m. at the event. All proceeds will be donated to the cancer society.

Information about other community events and other education materials can be found at <http://www.cancer.ca/en/?region=on>.

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For more information, contact:
Deborah Pidgeon,
Director
Lanark County
1-888-9-LANARK, ext. 7101