

City of London,

Our MISSION: **Cure Leukemia, Lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease and Myeloma, and Improve the quality of life for patients and their families.**

- **Every 23** minutes a Canadian is diagnosed with a blood cancer. And while survival rates have improved significantly over the past two decades, leukemia and lymphoma continue to be the most commonly diagnosed blood cancers in children and adults.
- The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society of Canada is **the only organization in Canada** that raises funds to support blood cancer patients & fund specific research into curing blood cancers in Canada. Our London Light the Night event is our annual fundraiser bringing together our community to support families and is typically held in Victoria park. 2021 celebrates 10 years!
- Some of the accomplishments Leukemia & Lymphoma Society of Canada has made are truly incredible – and most people don't know about the life-saving discoveries by our researchers like **chemotherapy, stem cell therapy & a recent immunotherapy Car-T cell therapy**. These have benefitted the entire cancer community! London has a funded researcher as well!
- Survival rates have more than quadrupled thanks to LLSC research since 1960 – but there is still work to be done!

We have a huge library of webcasts, educational supports – everything from mental health to direct patient help. I did want to share a couple links with you that highlight the amazing work our organization does and some photos of our magical event ***Light the Night***.

You can view some photos from last year's event in London:

<https://myalbum.com/album/HDTAiqHWVgZ3?fbclid=IwAR0WaHkLdV-FMHA3GT0IV-hK72s8ZVvTbFWeSW>

And a 3 minute video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C6--6VMk7I4>

Each year we have an honoured remembered hero & a honoured survivor who speak at our Light the Night event; 2021 hero's stories can be read here: . Andi lost her battle in 2020 age 41, leaving behind her young son Henry and husband Paul

<https://www.lightthenight.ca/stories/andrea-andie-lehnen> and 4 year of Quinn who is doing well now, 7 months post treatment – this summer held her "I kicked cancer's butt" party!

<https://www.lightthenight.ca/stories/quinn-taylor-curtis>

September is Blood Cancer Awareness month, and yes it's uncertain times for sure, and our cancer community needs us more than ever. Our researchers are also living in a new world, with more than 600 research trials were on pause and only 25% of the cancer labs coming back to work. We fund a local researcher at Western, Dr. Rodney DeKoter whose focus is on B cell Leukemia. Leukemia is the MOST diagnosed cancer in children.

This year, Light the Night will be a virtual gathering across Canada on one night – October 23rd! Even though we'll be in a virtual setting, we'll still see key elements that have always made Light the Night special. It's our 10th anniversary and we've raised over \$2 million dollars locally. We also host a virtual remembrance ceremony to honour those loved ones lost to blood cancer.

This year the LLSC has a strong program that gives us the best of both worlds. One nation celebrating together in the broadcast. Light the Night is how we generate the lion's share of funding for our research and community programs serving patients in treatment, and those who are post treatment. It may surprise you to know just how critical LTN is to our community from a financial perspective. Almost 60% of our revenue comes between September and November.

Quinn – age 4, Leukemia survivor & 2021 London Honoured Hero



We would be so grateful for the city to proclaim September Blood cancer awareness month & October 23rd Light the Night day!

:: Elinor Schwob | Area Manager, Southwestern Ontario

:: The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society of Canada

:: **Mobile** 519-777-3670

:: **Patient Services** 833-222-4884 | **Information Resource Centre** 800-955-4572

:: www.llscanada.org | elinor.schwob@lls.org

