



helping children smile

Smile of the Day

THE NEWSLETTER OF OPERATION SMILE BECAUSE WE CARE FOUNDATION

President's Message



We now approach our second full year of operations and I must say that we collectively have taken successful strides towards achieving our mandate. Our mandate is to provide medical services, equipment and treatment for children with facial deformities where medical funding may be limited or unavailable. In the last few months, the Foundation has made a firm commitment to British Columbia Children's Hospital to provide them with a speech diagnostic equipment called a "Nasometer" valued at approximately \$6,000. This equipment will provide bio-feedback information for a child during speech therapy.

The Foundation is also looking closely at a family from Okanagan who may need financial support for their two children suffering from ectodermal dysplasia, a hereditary disease that leaves small, pointy teeth. We are in a position to provide this funding only through the generous help that the Foundation has received and continues to receive from families, friends, business associates, corporations and other organizations.

OSBWCF has planned several fund raising events for 2003 and we look forward to your continued support in these events. Together, we can achieve our goal "... helping children smile ... one smile at a time."

Let me take this opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous 2003.



Lorine Scott

Thank-You, Operation Smile Because We Care Foundation

From the Cleft Palate/Craniofacial Program at
BC's Children's Hospital

Prepared by Lorine Scott RN BScN



Imagine your feelings as a parent if your 6 year-old cried every morning because she didn't want to go to school. Imagine your feelings as a parent if your 8 year-old came home from school crying because the other children teased him and excluded him from their games because he had an obvious facial difference. Imagine your frustration as a parent if you watched your child become painfully shy, isolated, quiet and non-verbal because her speech was so difficult to understand that no-one could. Imagine how helpless you would feel if this was your child.

For children who are born 'looking or speaking different' or for those children who have acquired a facial difference or difficulties with their speech as a result of an accident or disease, these situations can become a family's reality. Looking different or having a speech difficulty in our society can have a significant impact on a child's life. Common social situations like the start of school, acting in a play, making friends, going to a high school dance, or playing on a sports team can become huge hurdles for many children and their families.

The goals of treatment are complex and focus on the child's appearance, communication skills (speaking and hearing), physical health, learning needs and self-esteem. All equally important to the children as they make their way along the path of their life. Surgery, hospital visits, orthodontic visits and therapy becomes a 'way of life' for the child and family until adulthood. The 'team care' approach helps families adjust and adapt to the journey.

The whole team wishes to thank the Operation Smile Because We Care Foundation for their very generous support of these children. The funds allocated to our program are being used to purchase a specialized piece of speech bio-feedback testing equipment called a Nasometer. This equipment will be used to assist children during speech therapy sessions, by making it possible for the child to watch a computer screen that shows them how well they are improving as they practice the speech sounds that are being worked on during the session. This bio-feedback is a huge motivator for children and their families and gives excellent, measurable feedback and information to the speech therapist at the time of the therapy.



Vanisha Dayal



Vanisha Dayal after facial surgery performed in July, 2002 by Doctor Posnick in Washington, D.C.

Annual Charity Golf

Swan-E-Set Bay Resort & Country Club

Operation Smile Because We Care Foundation Second Annual Charity Golf was held on Saturday, August 10th, 2002 at the Swan-E-Set Bay Resort & Country Club in Pitt Meadows.

Super prizes, excellent weather conditions and of course, the tremendous support from the business community by way of hole sponsors, merchandise donors as well as silver and gold sponsors made the Golf Tournament a success.

The following were the winners:

Low Gross (76)	-	Arnold Toews
Low Net - 1st Place (72)	-	Feroz Khan
Low Net - 2nd Place	-	Bob McKeating
Low Net - 3rd Place	-	Brian Dass
Low Net - 4th Place	-	Bill House
Low Net - 5th Place	-	Sarwan Kumar
Longest Drive (Men's)	-	Chris Chan
Longest Drive (Ladies)	-	Betty Inouye
Closest to the Pin (Men's)	-	Marshal Bretriam
Closest to the Pin (Ladies)	-	Krista Pederson
Most Honest Golfer (136)	-	Percy Bacha
Putting Contest Winner	-	Bill Duckenfield

The event raised approximately \$5,000 for OSBWCF. OSBWCF would like to congratulate all the winners, sponsors, merchandise donors, volunteers and the organizing committee for a job well done.

The third annual charity golf will be held on August 9th, 2003 at Swan-E-Set. Hope to see you all there.

Mahend Mistry & Brian Dass
Co-Chairpersons



Calendar of Events

June, 2003	Pub Night
August 9, 2003	3 rd Annual Golf Tournament
Fall, 2003	Pub Night
Oct, 2003	Annual Banquet
Nov, 2003	Auction/Fashion Show

How to contact us:

➤ **Operation Smile Because We Care Foundation**
P.O. Box 60001
6417 Fraser Street
Vancouver, B.C.
V5W 4B5

✉ **Website: www.operationsmile.net**

☎ Michael Kumar, President	(604) 220-8338
☎ Patrick Maharaj, VP, Membership	(604) 525-3953
☎ Joseph Leong, VP, Special Events	(604) 431-2936
☎ Udit Narayan, VP, Fundraising	(604) 325-4591
☎ Dilip Patel, Secretary	(604) 209-6505

Charitable Registration #: 86370 6727 RR0001

Membership Application

Name _____
Surname First

Address _____
Street City

Province Postal Code

Phone _____ Fax _____

Email _____

Spouse _____
Surname First

Signature _____

Date _____

Annual Membership

- Single \$20 Family \$30
 Senior (65+) \$10

Donation Pledge

- \$10 \$20 \$30 \$40 \$50
 \$100 Other

