



helping children smile

Smile of the Day

THE NEWSLETTER OF OPERATION SMILE BECAUSE WE CARE FOUNDATION



Lorine Scott RN BScN
From the Cleft Palate Craniofacial Program at BC Children's Hospital

Our daily lives are filled with language and concepts using the word face. My favorite, "don't take things at **face value**" reminds us to look behind the outside or the appearance of a thing or situation to fully understand the meaning. Yet, in our world today, many people with facial difference are judged solely on their facial appearance and this leads to feelings of de-valuing, social isolation and loneliness.

The BC Children's Hospital's (BCCH) Cleft Palate/Craniofacial Program staff and the Operation Smile Because We Care Foundation (OSBWCF) members and friends have joined together to make positive changes in the well being of children born with a facial difference. As this year (2006) enters its final quarter we should be proud of the activities that have been made possible by the two of us. Each fall, our team meets to agree on how to allocate funding in an effort to fill gaps in the care we provide. Together with OSBWCF, I believe that in 2006, we have been able to impact the emotional and psychosocial health of the children enrolled in the BCCH Cleft Palate/Craniofacial program.

As the host city for the 2006 American Cleft Palate/Craniofacial Association (ACPA) Annual Meeting that took place in April, we welcomed professionals from all over the world to share ideas, research and knowledge in the field of craniofacial health. In addition, families with cleft or craniofacial affected children gathered at the "Parent Connections Conference". This family meeting is always a fabulous opportunity to network, share experiences, feel less lonely and to attend educational sessions with world-class speakers, including one of our own surgeons, Dr. Verchere. This parent meeting is often unreachable for our families as it is held all over the United States. The OSBWC foundation donation provided financial assistance for 5 families, who needed help to attend this conference. The parent feedback was great. It stressed the importance of this type of gathering and suggested that this kind of opportunity be organized each year in BC. This is now our work for 2007!

Once again, because of the generosity of OSBWCF, we were able to host our weeklong camp for children at the beautiful Zajac Ranch, just east of Mission. All nine families who requested funding for their children received support. The value and contribution of this camp experience was clear on the children's faces.

OSBWCF funding has also supported treatment for several children this past year. Three children were able to access necessary dental care, that allowed the orthodontic treatment plan to proceed. Two school-age children received 3 months of intensive speech therapy following their speech surgery. This therapy improved not only their speech, but also their school performance.

The Cleft Palate/Craniofacial Program at BC Children's Hospital and their families extend our heartfelt thanks to all of you who make the OSBWCF such a huge success. Your efforts are critical to the overall health of our children and clearly demonstrate your willingness to value every face you see!

President's Message



In these last six years we have not deterred from what we set out to do and stay focused on our mission – "to support the provision of medical services, equipment and treatment for children with facial difference where medical funding may be limited or unavailable."

To that end, while the Foundation did not directly take under its wing another child with facial difference, we did make strides and joined forces with B.C. Children's Hospital's Cleft Palate/Craniofacial Division and provided them with some much needed equipment.

We are happy to share with our readers some of the accomplishments Operation Smile Because We Care Foundation has achieved in these last six years. This will also provide you with a bird's eye view of where some of the dollars have been spent.

In 2003, the Foundation purchased and donated a speech therapy equipment – the "Nasometer." This is a piece of specialized speech diagnostic equipment designed to provide the child with facial difference and the speech therapist important bio-feedback during speech therapy sessions. The value of this equipment, \$6,000.

In 2004, BCCH put a 3D Digital Camera and Software on their wish list. The Digital Camera takes 3D images of a child's facial and with the aid of the accompanying software makes accurate measurements of the planes of the face and reconstructs the face on the computer screen. This technology is used for surgical and orthodontic planning prior to the child having surgery. OSBWCF donated \$10,000 towards the purchase of this equipment.

In 2005, we were in a position to give a cash donation of another \$10,000 to BCCH's Cleft Palate Craniofacial Division for use in various programs dealing with children with facial difference.

While OSBWCF will continue to contribute towards these worthy causes, we will also strive to directly getting involved with children having facial difference. Of course, any application received directly by the Foundation must be reviewed by the Foundation's Advisory Committee consisting of Doctors who may in turn wish to speak to the applicant's Family Doctor relating to the applicant. Further information can be obtained from our website – www.operationssmile.net.

All the volunteers who help in various fund raising events do so voluntarily. The Foundation is blessed to have so many volunteers who are eager to help, without them we would not have achieved some of our accomplishments. The Foundation is very thankful to these individuals. The Foundation is continually seeking more volunteers for their fundraising events and so should you wish to be part of our Foundation, please visit our website or speak to one of our Directors.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our many corporate sponsors, business associates, families and friends for their continued support to our many charitable fundraisers.

At this time I would like to wish you and yours a very Merry Christmas and a joyous and safe 2007.

- Michael Kumar



...one smile at a time

Annual Charity Golf

Operation Smile Because We Care Foundation Annual Charity Golf was held on Saturday, August 12th, 2006 at the Swan-E-Set Bay Resort & Country Club in Pitt Meadows.

A record 144 golfers, super prizes, excellent weather conditions and of course, the tremendous support from the business community by way of hole sponsorships, corporate and merchandise donations made the Golf Tournament a success.

The following were winners:

Low Gross (68)	-	Charn Grewall
Low Net - 1 st Place (70)	-	Keith Callander
Low Net - 2 nd Place (71)	-	Sultan Thiara
Low Net - 3 rd Place (71)	-	Kool Dhillon
Low Net - 4 th Place (71)	-	Dan Jefferies
Low Net - 5 th Place (71)	-	K. S. Lit
Longest Drive (Men's)	-	Paul Kular
Longest Drive (Ladies)	-	Anne Marie Meehan
Closest to the Pin (Men's)	-	Shawn McNaughton
Closest to the Pin (Ladies)	-	None
Most Honest Golfer (136)	-	Brenda Cairns

The event raised \$8,600 and OSBWCFC would like to congratulate all the winners and thank all the sponsors, merchandise donors, volunteers and the organizing committee for a job well done.

This year's annual charity golf will be held on August 11th, 2007 at Swan-E-Set. Hope to see you all there.

Mahend Mistry & Dilip Patel
Co-Chairpersons



Calendar of Events for 2006/2007

Jan	13 th , 2007	Annual General Meeting
Mar	10 th , 2007	Pub Night
May	25 th , 2007	Silent Auction
Jul	8 th , 2007	Volunteer Appreciation
Aug	11 th , 2007	Golf Tournament

Please check our website @ www.operationsmile.net for details.

New Directors

Operation Smile would like to welcome two new additions to their Board of Directors. Welcome aboard!



Roberto Cortese

Roberto Cortese is Chief Operating Officer of one of Canada's largest financial institution, Travelers Financial Corporation, which provides Commercial and Automotive financing. The concept that a profitable financial institution can make all kinds of good things happen in our society motivates him to make Travelers even stronger.

Roberto's background is mostly in the commercial business financing with 20-plus years of experience. Just before becoming COO at Travelers in December 2005, Roberto spent four years as Vice President and General Manager of De Lage Landen, a subsidiary of Rabobank based in Toronto, Ontario. Prior to this he has held several senior positions with Citicapital, Newcourt and CIBC Commcorp.



Kary Kainth

Kary Kainth has been an Account Manager with the Coca-Cola Bottling Company for the past ten years. Kary has a business background, one of his previous ventures being the owner of Las Vegas Golf. Kary was raised in New Westminster. He has played field hockey at the national level for many years.

He is married with two wonderful children. Kary has been involved with Operation Smile for the last six years. Kary is well connected in his community and is very passionate about the purpose of Operation Smile – raising funds to make children smile.

Volunteer Appreciation

'Bowling For Smiles, May 19, 2006'

Approximately 30 directors and guests gathered at the Xcalibar in Surrey to show appreciation for our many volunteers whose time and effort has been instrumental in many of our fundraising events. Everyone, young and old had a fun afternoon of bowling and laughter. Our younger volunteers also received tokens of appreciation. Thank you for all you do for Operation Smile.

How to contact us:

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...one smile at a time