

# The Banting Legacy

HOLIDAY Issue #2: December 2010

Celebrating the Discovery of Insulin by a Great Canadian

## Sir Fred Honoured

### **Breakthrough Banting Fellowships!!**

Sir Fred continues to inspire. Prime Minister Stephen Harper and renown physicist, Stephen Hawking announced the awards in July.

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At The Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics in Waterloo, Ontario, Sir Frederick Banting Legacy Foundation Board Director Dr. Peter Banting (left), Prime Minister Stephen Harper and fellow Board Director, Bob Banting celebrating the Prime Minister's announcement of 70 new Banting Fellowships inspired by Sir Fred.

## Sir Fred's Birthday

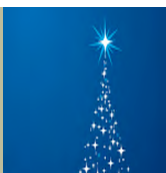


November 14<sup>th</sup> is the official day the world celebrates Sir Fred's birthday as millions unite to celebrate life and health made possible by his breakthrough. World Diabetes Day at the Homestead.

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## A Blue Christmas!



Blue is the official colour for diabetes and health and the celebration of life. It is the perfect symbol for your holiday giving this year.

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**Did you know? Sir Fred originally enrolled at U of T to enter Theology?**

## New Banting Fellowships

Sir Fred inspires Federal Government to create 70 new post-doctoral scholarships valued at \$45 million over five years

A large bloc of the local Banting clan, led by Bob Banting, Doug Curwood, and Peter Banting, accepted a personal invitation from the PM's office to attend the launch of the new international "Banting Fellowships" at the Perimeter Institute in Waterloo, Ontario.

"These are breakthrough fellowships," commented Bob Banting, Vice Chair of the Sir Frederick Banting Legacy Foundation. "Their purpose is to support our finest scientific minds. If you

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The Banting Family with Prime Minister Stephen Harper at the Perimeter Institute in Waterloo after the announcement of the Banting Fellowships.

## World Diabetes Day The Meaning of the Logo

(From the World Diabetes Day Organization.)

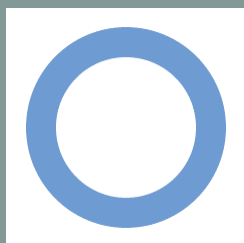
The logo was adopted in 2007 to mark the passage of the UN's World Diabetes Day Resolution.

Across cultures, the circle symbolizes life and health. The colour blue represents the sky that unites all nations, and is the colour of the UN flag.

The blue circle itself signifies the unity of the global diabetes community in response to the diabetes pandemic that now grips the world.

Proudly, the blue has become the universal symbol for diabetes. As a symbol and celebration of life itself, the logo supports efforts by people and organizations around the world to raise awareness about diabetes, as well as to show support and unity in combating the disease.

To learn more, visit: [www.diabetesbluecircle.org](http://www.diabetesbluecircle.org)



## Banting Fellowships Continued ...

Sir Fred's great struggle to secure research funding, you come to understand how alone and isolated researchers can feel. Imagine knowing that you're on the cusp of something that could change humanity for the better, and no one is backing you!"

Doug Curwood adds, "That is precisely what Sir Fred faced, but he persevered against all odds and even criticism, and the rest is history. It is not just his discovery of insulin that has inspired the new Banting Fellowships; it is his determination, commitment, and passion."

The Banting Fellowships are each worth \$70,000 for two years, which is a significant investment in individual researchers.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper delivered the exciting news at a special event held at the Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics in Waterloo, a place of scientific breakthroughs in Canada and the world. Harper said, "We must invest in the people and ideas that will produce tomorrow's breakthroughs."

On hand was renown physicist and cosmologist, Stephen Hawking, who for 30 years until 2009 was the Lucasian Professor of Mathematics at Cambridge University. He is now a Distinguished Research Chair at the Perimeter Institute.

Hawking said, "By investing in young scientists, it is setting an example which other countries would do well to follow."

Following the announcement, the Banting family shared a private moment with Prime Minister Harper for a "family" photo. "We were absolutely thrilled to meet him," said Peter Banting. "Bob and I had a few words with him about our new Legacy Foundation, and he applauded the efforts of all who had worked so hard to save the Banting Homestead."

"It was good to learn that the Legacy Foundation is recognized at the highest levels of leadership in Canada. I'm so inspired to know just how much Sir Fred influenced – and continues to influence – health and science in this country and abroad!"

Commenting on the good news, David Sadleir, Chair of the Foundation, said, "Not only do these Fellowships honour the legacy of Sir Fred, but they reflect and amplify a fundamental emphasis of the Foundation on education."



Miles Brunke from Windsor at the Banting Birthday celebrations at the Banting Homestead in Alliston.

## November 14<sup>th</sup>: *The Deeper Meaning*

### Reaching Out for Diabetics

The event was organized by SFBLF board director, Maureen Biegel. "There was terrific outreach into and from the community," Biegel reported. Stevenson Memorial Hospital was on hand with their Diabetic Clinic so that people could take the "Big Blue Test" for diabetes.

Period medical instruments, the type Sir Fred used in his research, including a microscope, were on hand, courtesy of the Museum on the Boyne.

The event concluded with lighting the Homestead in a flood of blue lights, which will continue to illuminate the property.

### A Pilgrimage Site

"We were really pleased with the event because it meant so much to people living with diabetes. The Banting Homestead is a pilgrimage site; a place of hope."

### One Man's Journey

Miles Brunke drove four-and-a-half hours from Windsor for the celebration. For Brunke, the site is a pilgrimage.

"It was interesting to see the Homestead where Dr. Banting grew up, including the newly renovated octagonal drive shed. I encourage others to visit. It gives you a new appreciation of the man who made it possible for diabetics to live a normal life.

Brunke continues, "It was quite an amazing afternoon at the Banting Farm in Alliston. To see so many people with a true passion to carry on Banting's legacy was refreshing to witness!"

## Sir Fred's Birthday November 14<sup>th</sup>: A Party Around the World!

For the first time, Sir Fred's birthday and World Diabetes Day were celebrated on the same day on the site – November 14<sup>th</sup>. From 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. the Sir Frederick Banting Legacy Foundation hosted a free outdoor party on the Homestead property.

World Diabetes Day was introduced in 1991 by the International Diabetes Federation (IDF) and the World Health Organization (WHO) to raise awareness about diabetes. With blue as the official logo colour for World Diabetes Day, events typically include blue light ceremonies. Last year, 1,036 monuments and buildings in more than 160 countries were lit up with blue lights.

To advance the tradition of blue lights, the Homestead has been illuminated in blue for the last two years.

MP Helena Guergis and MPP Jim Wilson delivered powerful speeches about their commitment to the Homestead. Wilson shared the inspirational story of his own battle with diabetes, and what Sir Fred means to him.

### *Miles Brunke*

*"The name Sir Frederick Banting holds significant meaning to me, because I am a Type 1 diabetic. I would not be here today without his achievements. Sir Fred was truly a selfless global hero in every regard."*





## *The Time for Giving* **A Blue Christmas!**

While a white Christmas and holiday season is always beautiful, the Frederick Banting Legacy Foundation is hoping for a Blue one!

We ask you to make it a Blue Christmas.

Please consider a very special holiday gift to help support our quest to restore the Homestead. In a very real way, you could help to make Banting's home the home for every person in the world who has diabetes.

A Blue Christmas means there is a place to call home.

A Blue Christmas means that people with diabetes from around the world feel the Homestead in Alliston is the centre of their extended family.

A Blue Christmas now means new hope.

The gift of insulin inspires us to realize how much we can help if we give our best. Sir Fred teaches us this every day. Make your holiday gift count!

Happy Holiday! May you enjoy a very Blue Christmas!

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### HAPPY HOLIDAY!

On behalf of the Board of Directors and all of those who we strive to support, please accept our sincere wishes for a happy and healthy holiday in the company of good friends and family. May 2011 allow all of us to share in the continued advances in diabetes care and in advancing our mission to restore the Banting Homestead to its original glory, and contribute to the fight against diabetes. *David Sadleir, Chair*

The Sir Frederick Banting  
Legacy Foundation  
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### Make Your Holiday Gift Today!

Our Charitable Registration #: **80740 6145 RR0001**

All gifts above \$10 dollars will be receipted for tax purposes.

All gifts are honoured and gratefully accepted, including one-time, pledges, in-memoriams, tributes, and planned gifts.

For more information, contact:

*David Sadleir at 705-434-3283.*