



December 2013

# The Banting Legacy

Issue #4

FIGHTING DIABETES and PRESERVING A LEGACY



## 2013 in Review

### New Exhibits

There are now over 100 items on display in the Diabetes Management and Education Centre (DMEC) complex. Items are selected from the Banting Legacy Collection and augmented by items from the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library at the University of Toronto, the International Diabetes Federation and members of the community. These paintings, prints, manuscripts and artifacts have been organized in 'story lines' to create an informative experience for all visitors and, in particular, to complement curriculum requirements for our School Tours program. We will add to the collection and will rotate exhibits to ensure continuing interest.



"Four Medical Heroes"

## Message from the President

Our Mission is two-fold: Fight Diabetes and Preserve a Legacy. 2013 was a milestone year for us on both fronts thanks to the help of generous donors, dedicated partners, committed volunteers and skilled trades folk. We are grateful to all.



Historic Banting Farmhouse (2012)



New Heritage Exhibit building connected to the Farmhouse (2013)

In this issue, we summarize our progress, highlight some key initiatives and outline our plans for the coming year. We hope you like our new Newsletter design developed by Susanne Ritchie, a volunteer supporter from Leduc, Alberta and the winner of our logo design contest in 2010.

Our Diabetes Management and Education Centre complex continues to evolve. Following the completion of the historic Farmhouse restoration/adaptation in November 2012, we began construction of the first phase of our Heritage Exhibit building and completed that in May 2013. The official opening was held at our annual Banting Day/World Diabetes Day event in November.

We now have an effective and welcoming public venue with barrier-free access, expanded exhibit space, temporary teaching facilities, municipal services and ample parking for visitors. With the preservation aspects of construction behind us, we are able to increase our emphasis on our programs to Fight Diabetes. It is gratifying to have the unique Canadian opportunity to do that from the birthplace of Sir Frederick Banting.

We welcome your comments and suggestions.

David Sadleir, *President*

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### DID YOU KNOW?

Frederick Banting was the first Canadian Nobel Prize winner and remains the youngest recipient of the Nobel Prize in Medicine or Physiology.

The Sir Frederick Banting Legacy Foundation

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## New Programs add to our Reach and Impact

In keeping with the Foundation's emphasis on youth, our first School Tours program was launched on December 10, 2013.

The three hour tour, attended by a Grade 10 Science class from Banting Memorial High School in Alliston, Ontario included a "Lets Talk Science" tutorial on diabetes prevention and the challenges of the discovery and initial mass production of insulin, a team-based scavenger hunt for answers to related questions among the exhibits in the complex and a student feedback session on the value of the experience and how the program could be improved.



Student Scavenger Hunt

The 24 students and their teacher made the 35-minute walk from the school to the site and back to emphasize the importance of exercise as part of reducing the risk of contracting diabetes. A second pilot tour will be held in early 2014 after which the program will be offered on a scheduled basis to all interested school boards.

Jim Oldfield, a writer from the Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto attended the tour and published an article on the event on the Faculty website <http://medicine.utoronto.ca/> (Dec 20/13).



Outreach Instructors  
Pam Barber, Deb Procyk

This launch follows a successful start of the Foundation's Diabetes Classes program at the DMEC on November 27, 2013. The initial class, attended by 24 registered clients emphasized "healthy festive season eating". Classes are conducted by the Foundation's Outreach Team partners from Stevenson Memorial Hospital (Alliston) and Southlake Regional Health Centre (Newmarket) and are currently scheduled through to June 2014.

## Putting a focus on 'Transition'

Our new programs complement the Foundation's existing programs that place a focus on the transition issues faced by youth with diabetes as they move from the pediatric to adult healthcare system. The Banting Legacy Transition programs are a collaborative effort with the

Foundation's clinical innovation partners in the Department of Pediatrics, McMaster University and include an annual Grand Rounds Transition lecture, associated research symposium and the Banting Legacy Transition Award for post-doctoral students. The purpose of these programs is to build capacity in the system and, in collaboration with the Outreach Team partners, to find new models of care to help diabetic youth in transition.

The 2nd Annual Banting Legacy lecture and research symposium held in October were great successes with 92 graduate students and a wide spectrum of healthcare experts attending the early morning Grand Rounds lecture and 50 experts attending the 'invitation only' symposium to hear and discuss papers from 6 principal researchers. Keynote lecturer for the Grand Rounds hour was Dr. Carl Cooley, Chief Medical Officer of the Crotched Mountain Foundation in New Hampshire, adjunct Prof at Dartmouth Medical School and former co-director of the Got Transition? Centre of the National Institute of Health in the US.

We also used that event to present a certificate to Dr. Andrea Mucci, the inaugural winner of our Banting Legacy Transition Post-Doctoral Award. Dr. Mucci has completed her work and will be reporting results in May 2014 at a Grand Rounds session in the Department of Pediatrics, McMaster University.

## DID YOU KNOW?

Without the discovery of insulin in 1921, George Minot, American physician, a diabetic and winner of the 1934 Nobel Prize for development of the first effective treatment for pernicious anemia likely would not have lived to make his discovery.

## Special help from all levels of government

2013 marks receipt of support from all levels of government. The Town of New Tecumseth (our site partner), the Township of Essa, the County of Simcoe, and the Government of Canada, through the Canada Cultural Spaces Fund, have all provided substantial support for our construction projects and programs and the Province of Ontario, through the Ontario Trillium Foundation, has recently provided support for operating costs and some program costs. These investments coupled with significant support from the Honda Canada Foundation, Honda of Canada Mfg, Novo Nordisk Canada, the Biffis family, The Nottawasaga Foundation, TD Canada Trust, Enbridge and hundreds of gifts from individuals, families, businesses and not-for-profit organizations over the years have allowed us to achieve the results to date. We are extremely grateful for all this help.

## Banting Day 2013

November 10 saw another very successful Banting Day/World Diabetes Day event at the site with over 250 attending to view the official ribbon-cutting ceremony for our latest building, explore the Legacy exhibits, enjoy the Sugartones choir, guest piper, Rory MacKinnon, learn from the information exhibits provided by our 6 guest presenters, JDRF, CDA, Abbott, Lifescan, Medtronic, Roche and take the 'Big Blue' test for diabetes. The International Diabetes Federation (Brussels) advised us we have been granted continuing status as World Diabetes Day Champions for our achievements to date.

## Looking Ahead – with the help of our donors, partners, volunteers and friends

All of our programs launched to date will continue. We will be working with school boards to significantly expand the participation in our School Tours program. Our medium-term target is to reach 700 students/year.

Senior administrative staff at the Simcoe County District School Board and teacher representatives from Banting Memorial High School in Alliston are continuing to help us ensure our School Tours program content makes effective 'Curriculum Connections' across a wide spectrum of topics including heritage, history, science, health, nutrition and art appreciation. We are developing tours that support both academic and general streams as well as opportunities for on site sketching. In good weather, our School Tours 'scavenger hunt' among the exhibits will include a search for the geocache located on the property.

We hope to be able to expand our teaching capacity, delivery capability and our geographic reach through use of telemedicine and enhanced audio-visual facilities.

We will be striving to raise the funds required to construct a multi-purpose classroom, additional exhibit space, teaching kitchen and add an interactive, multi-media Learning Wall.



Temporary Classroom

We are seeking partners to help us implement our "Stay Connected" program to encourage diabetic youth to keep in touch with their caregivers and essential healthcare protocols and we hope to find the funds to launch our first field trial in search of new models of care for diabetic youth in transition.

The Town of New Tecumseth will be adding an Exercise Trail to the site; a welcome public space that will enhance both our Diabetes Classes and School Tours programs. We will be adding part-time staff support to assist with site operations, help us coordinate volunteers and facilitate opening the site to the general public.



Banting's Spectacles





## In Memoriam Power

In Memoriam giving celebrates the life of someone who made a special contribution to your life. We join our donors in celebrating the memory of:

- |                        |                        |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| * Roland W. Abbott     | * Thomas A. Graham     |
| * Howard Banting       | * Robert W. Hipwell    |
| * Dr. Ron Banting      | * Janet McCague        |
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We invite you to help us continue and expand our work to Fight Diabetes. Please visit our website at [www.bantinglegacy.ca](http://www.bantinglegacy.ca) and use our 'Donate Now' link to send an online gift. Cheques payable to the Banting Legacy Foundation can be sent to SFBLF at PO Box 137, Alliston, ON, Canada, L9R 1T9  
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