

Bradford included in Rick Hansen Relay

A quarter century after his Man In Motion World Tour and in preparation for his 25th Anniversary Rick Hansen Relay, which will re-create the Canadian-portion of his original Tour, Rick Hansen is looking for residents of Bradford West Gwillimbury to help cover the 12,000-kilometre trek across Canada.

One man in motion will be represented and celebrated by many in motion, as 7,000

participants from across Canada who have made their own difference in the-lives of others will walk, wheel or run in the Rick Hansen Relay, which begins Aug. 24 in Cape Spear, Nfld. and concludes May 22, 2012 in Vancouver.

The 25th anniversary relay is planned to pass through Bradford West Gwillimbury in December 2011.

To find and recognize relay participants, the Rick Hansen Foundation launched an online public contest that opened Tuesday at rickhansenrelay.com, allowing Canadians 13 and older to enter to win a spot for themselves or nominate a worthy individual to participate in the relay as a medal-bearer.

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Relay organizers seek medal-bearers

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"Today is an exciting day in our 25th anniversary celebration and for Canadians across the country, as we connect the nation and provide the opportunity for people who are making a difference in the lives of others to be recognized for their accomplishments and to share their stories," said Mr. Hansen, president and CEO of the Rick Hansen Foundation. "This is the start of a movement for 7,000 Canadians to help inspire the nation and live by the credo that anything is possible."

To tell the story of Cana-

To tell the story of Canada's difference makers, the online contest is open to individuals who are creating a more accessible and inclusive world, youth leaders who are encouraging their generation to embrace positive change, people who are protecting the environment or any Canadian who is seeking ways to improve

the lives of others.

While Mr. Hansen will not be wheeling across the entire country as he did 25 years ago, he will be present at a number of stops throughout the country during the nine-

month 25th anniversary relay.

As the relay will connect the country from coast to coast, the symbol that links each participant to the next will be the Rick Hansen

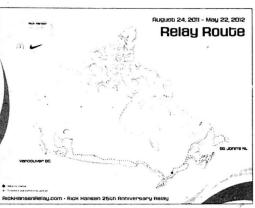


IMAGE COURTESY OF RICK HANSEN FOUNDATION

The Rick Hansen 25th Anniversary Relay begins Aug. 24 in Cape Spear, Nfld., passes through Bradford sometime in December, and ends May 22, 2012 in Vancouver.

Medal, designed and produced by the Royal Canadian Mint.

The same Ottawa facility responsible for the medals of the Canadian Forces, RCMP and Vancouver 2010 Winter Games will produce the sterling silver medals.

Every medal-bearer will receive their own medal to permanently remember the way they personally added to the momentum of the 25th anniversary of the Man in Motion World Tour.

The anniversary relay fully recreates the original Man In Motion cross-Canada tour, spanning 12,000 kilometres from coast-to-coast.

It will travel through more than 600 communities, visit every provincial and territorial capital and reach more than 70 per cent of the Canadian population.

The relay will cover an average of 40 to 80 kilometres a day.

The original Man in Motion World Tour inspired many people around the world as Rick Hansen completed his quest to draw attention to spinal cord injuries and research.

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Microfilm Reel # 1006