

# Riding towards a cure for brain cancer

Jul 30, 2005

By Derek Giberson

OSHAWA -- It was a quick visit -- but on the day they arrived in Durham, they reached a milestone in their journey to battle brain tumours.

"We hit the \$100,000 mark today," said Krista Goddard on Saturday, as the cross-Canada Ride for Lily took a pit stop in Oshawa at Mackie Harley Davidson.

The ride, which kicked off earlier that day in Hamilton, will travel out to Vancouver and then all the way back to Montreal as part of a campaign to raise awareness of brain tumours and brain cancer, and funds for treatment research.

Lily, the namesake and inspiration of the campaign and daughter of Ms. Goddard and Laurence Goddard of Waterloo, died of brain cancer last Nov. 1. She was just two-and-a-half years old.

At the time, family and friends were planning the Goals for Lily hockey tournament, when her condition began to rapidly deteriorate and she passed away before the event.

Since that event, the Ride for Lily was born. The ride will be dropping off 125 handmade, sponsored quilts at pediatric wards in hospitals across the country, something that Lily was given when she was receiving treatment in Hamilton.

The funds raised by the ride, as well as by the Goals for Lily tournament and Goals for Lily wristbands, will go to the Brain Tumour Research Centre at McGill University in Montreal.

"The money goes through the front door, through the offices, directly to the labs," explained Jim Davidson of Whitby, Lily's grandfather and one of the organizers of the campaign.

Creating awareness is a major motivation of the ride. According to the National Cancer Institute of Canada, it is estimated about 2,500 Canadians will be diagnosed with brain cancer this year. In Canada, brain tumours are the second leading cause of cancer deaths for children and adults under 35.

"(Brain cancer) affects so many people," said James Scott, a friend of the Goddard family who was heading up the ride. "I knew Lily since she was born. I took my kids over to play with her."

Anyone interested in helping the Ride for Lily, sponsoring quilts for \$100 or looking for Goals for Lily wristbands can visit [www.goalsforlily.com](http://www.goalsforlily.com) or contact the Davidsons at 905-668-7815. Donations can be made directly to TD Canada Trust bank account #0163 5207231.