



2013 Canadian Power Wheelchair
Hockey Tournament
London, Ontario - August 2-5



 **smd**
FOUNDATION

**Easter
Seals**
Manitoba

2013 Canadian Power Wheelchair Hockey Championships

Fanshawe, College, London, Ont.

August 2nd – 3rd, 2013

A group of 10 individuals who play on the 'Manitoba Bisons' Power Wheelchair Hockey team (which is a program of SMD), received a great opportunity this year by being able to attend and participate in the 2013 Canadian Power Wheelchair Hockey Championships which was held in London, Ontario from August 2nd to 5th at Fanshawe College.

Kevin Small, a business owner and philanthropist from Beausejour, Manitoba stepped up to the challenge and committed \$10,000.00 in funds needed for this special initiative to transpire. Through a joint effort of corporate sponsorship dollars provided by his company, Agril-Tel Transportation, and through his annual 'Winds of Change Motorcycle Ride' fundraiser, Kevin Small and his group of special fundraisers gave these 10 individuals and their families a very unique experience in being able to participate and attend this year's tournament which covered all their costs which included; (tournament fees, transportation, accommodations and meals). And in some cases, gave some of these individuals their very first experience to travel on a plane or bus, and compete against other players from across Canada. This absolutely fantastic experience also provided the players with a number of other very important benefits:

- Ability to compete at a much higher level;
- Learn new skills from other players across Canada;
- Build confidence in their own abilities;
- Provide them with a new sense of accomplishment; and,
- Meet new people and develop new friendships.

Since inception of 2008, the 'Winds of Change Motorcycle Ride' fundraiser, and corporate monetary commitments from Agril-Tel Transportation, has designated over \$25,000.00 towards the SMD Power Wheelchair Hockey Program to assist in achieving its goals and objectives, as well creating sustainability for the future.

To date, over \$69,821.00 has been raised by Kevin Small and his group of fundraising heroes which is an absolutely outstanding amount!

SMD Foundation/Easter Seals™ Manitoba applauds and gives thanks for the partnership, support and exceptional efforts that have been given towards our organization which allows us to work towards our mandate in building a community that supports independence, participation and empowerment, and to break down barriers and create equal opportunities for children, youth and adults with disabilities in Manitoba.

Testimonial from Mitchell Potter

"The tournament allowed me to meet new people and gain a completely new experience. I love playing hockey and going to this tournament. It makes me feel proud to represent Manitoba and achieving this accomplishment."



Testimonial from Emmett Fuerst

"What did going to Nationals mean to me? Being picked to represent Manitoba at Nationals, this year, was huge for me. I love playing hockey during our regular season, but there's something special about getting to travel to a tournament. The atmosphere is amazing. You get to meet players from all over Canada and it was awesome getting to reconnect with people from previous tournaments and get to know them better. I'm in regular contact with about six of them and play video games on line with a couple more. Being away from home also makes the team closer because we spend so much time together. Getting to play in the All-Star game was an amazing experience that I'll never forget. Playing on a team with people that are more skilled than you forces you to raise your level of play and makes you better overall. I scored the winning goal in overtime of the deciding game! That and winning the 'Best Stick Attached Player Award' for the tournament made my year! If Kevin hadn't given us funding, we wouldn't have been able to go and I wouldn't have the fond memories that I do now. So I just wanted to say thank you. I'd love to be able to go back next time."

THANK YOU FOR YOUR AMAZING SUPPORT!



Winds of Change

1000 KM Charity Motorcycle Ride
www.windsofchangecharityride.com

**GOLD TOURNAMENT SPONSOR
& WOC RIDE FOUNDER**

AgriTel
TRANSPORTATION



THE PROCEEDS FROM THIS YEAR'S WINDS OF CHANGE MOTORCYCLE RIDE SUPPORT'S SMD'S PROVINCIAL TEAM "MANITOBA POWER BISONS" AT THE 2013 CANADIAN POWER WHEELCHAIR HOCKEY CHAMPIONSHIPS IN LONDON ONT. FROM AUGUST 2-5.

smd
FOUNDATION

Easter
Seals