

Victoria Hospice to Welcome Cyclist after his Cross-Canada Tour

Kane Mercer cycled across Canada to raise awareness for palliative care and honour his dad

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – VICTORIA, August 29, 2017 – On Wednesday, August 30th at 10 am, volunteers and staff will gather in front of Victoria Hospice to cheer Kane Mercer’s return. Kane will arrive at Hospice by bike, the same one that took him across Canada in memory of his father, Randy, who died on the Hospice Unit five years ago.

Kane launched his epic journey from Gonzales Beach in Victoria in May and reached his destination – New Glasgow, Nova Scotia – earlier this month.

“I decided to make this ride in support of Victoria Hospice in acknowledgement of the support they gave my father and my family,” says Kane.

Randy was diagnosed with terminal cancer in December 2011. Kane had just moved to Japan and his father insisted that quitting his new job and moving home was out of the question. Randy wanted Kane to follow his dream of living, working and cycling across parts of Japan and Korea.

In honour of the fifth year since Randy’s passing, Kane decided to launch *Ride for Rand*. Before he set out, Kane said: *“Like life, long journeys can be challenging and full of unexpected difficulties. But through a positive attitude, support from friendly people, and a consistent effort, these hurdles can be overcome.”*

While his journey was a deeply personal one, Kane has drawn attention to the critical need for support of hospice palliative care across Canada. *“Hospice is a chronically underfunded and neglected area which I feel deserves attention,”* says Kane. Donations fund almost half of Victoria Hospice’s annual operating costs. Critical funds enable us to provide the best possible end-of-life care. Please visit www.victoriahospice.org for more information.

Event: *Welcome Back and Thank You, Kane Mercer*

Date: Wednesday, August 30, 2017

Time: 10 am sharp in front of Victoria Hospice, then lemonade on the 4th floor Rooftop Garden from 10:15 – 11 am.

Location: Richmond Pavilion at the Royal Jubilee Hospital, 1952 Bay Street, Victoria



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