



## Team captains help create record breaking year

**C**ongratulations to all of our team captains across Alberta who once again helped lead MS Society fundraising events to another record breaking year. The success of these events depends on the hard work and generous support of people like you. The money raised will go a long way in funding research, providing MS services, and improving the lives of those affected by multiple sclerosis.

Over the past event season I have had the privilege of meeting many of you and even enjoying a BBQ and drink at one of your team gatherings and fundraisers. On behalf of the MS Society staff across the province, thanks again for all of your dedication in raising funds to fight this terrible disease.

In this issue of Team Talk, we highlight some of our top fundraising teams from across the province. Also, be sure to check out a story featuring The Jasper Rockhoppers and their team captain, Greg

Van Tighem, who are participating in the RONA MS Mountain Bike Tour, which takes place in Hinton, September 6 & 7.



Have a great summer,  
*Graham Metzger*  
Senior Coordinator, TeamMS,  
Alberta Division

## MS WALK

### A "Nutty" Family Affair

Submitted by Gail Plouffe,  
MS WALK Coordinator, St. Paul  
Written by Graham Metzger

**T**he inaugural St. Paul MS WALK was by all accounts a great success as 268 participants joined together to raise more than \$56,000! This amazing total was led by the WALK team "Nutty's Girlz," who, with 12 members, were the top fundraising St. Paul team with \$7,299.

Like many teams, participating in the MS WALK is a family affair and this is exemplified no better than by the Nutty Girlz. As team captain Christine Foisy explains, her motivation for participating in the WALK is her daughter, Brooke: "2008 is the year for positive changes in my life and with this incentive in my head, I signed up as Team



**Nutty Girlz team captain,  
Christine Foisy.**

Captain of Nutty's Girlz. I chose this team name because it is my daughter Brooke's, nickname: Nutty. I then signed up my mother, my mother-in-law, and sister-in-law. We are all connected to each other through my daughter."

From what started out as just four members banding together for this cause, quickly grew as more aunts, cousins, and relatives as well as a few close friends quickly joined and the team finally swelled to twelve.

"The money our team raised was truly a group effort and I am proud to be the captain of such generous women who took the time to make positive changes for themselves and others."

# Congratulations to our Fundraising Superstars

Because of your dedication and determination in raising funds for MS, 2008 has been another huge record breaking year. Here is how the top teams and captains ranked across the province.

Rank	Name	Team	Event	Amount Raised
1	Daniluck, Julia	Team Julia	MS WALK - Edmonton	40098.67
2	Mullen, John	Heart Brakers	RONA MS Bike Tour - Mountain (Hinton) **	33107.65
3	Kieser, Chris	Team Chris	MS WALK - Edmonton	25220
4	Trigg, Darcy	Team Tireless	RONA MS Bike Tour - Leduc to Camrose	16675
5	Simister, Bryan	TeamBP	RONA MS Bike Tour - Airdrie to Olds	14746.37
6	Taylor, Gail	Nerbas Family	MS WALK - Lloydminster	12614.9
7	Hancock, Jan	Smokin' Embers	RONA MS Bike Tour - Airdrie to Olds	12304
8	Sims, Dan	Invincycles	RONA MS Bike Tour - Red Deer	12150
9	Romanuik, Donna	Munnky Krunchers	MS WALK - Edmonton	11006.27
10	Dyck, Laura-Lee	Apache Recovery Team	RONA MS Bike Tour - Airdrie to Olds	10405
11	Matisz, Annette	The A-Team	MS WALK - Calgary	10000
12	Taylor, Jonathan	Babies Bones and Balls	MS WALK - Lethbridge	8223.14
13	Flanagan Green, Aerin	Ernst & Young Superheroes	MS WALK - Calgary	8198.77
14	Van Tighem, Greg	Jasper Rockhoppers	RONA MS Bike Tour - Mountain (Hinton) **	7230.08
15	Casson, Rick	Casson's Crew	MS WALK - Lethbridge	7225
16	Budden, Derrick	Across Canada Tour	RONA MS Bike Tour - Airdrie to Olds	6827.5
17	Merry-Thomson, Tracy	The Unsolved MSteries Pursuit	MS WALK - Edmonton	6449
18	Van Der Laan, Pam	Landmark Group	MS WALK - Edmonton	6363.75
19	Grenier, Andrew	ENERFLEX for MS	MS WALK - Calgary	6362
20	Schmidt, Ursula	Team Scona	MS WALK - Edmonton	6260

Rank	Team Name	Team Members	Event	Amount raised
1	Smokin' Embers	12	RONA MS Bike Tour - Airdrie to Olds	76605
2	Team Julia	32	MS WALK - Edmonton	67288.63
3	Munnky Krunchers	85	MS WALK - Edmonton	55031.73
4	TeamBP	24	RONA MS Bike Tour - Airdrie to Olds	52231.16
5	Y-Ride	61	RONA MS Bike Tour - Leduc to Camrose	45879
6	Apache Recovery Team	25	RONA MS Bike Tour - Airdrie to Olds	43985
7	Team PRONTO!	31	RONA MS Bike Tour - Leduc to Camrose	41451
8	Team Enbridge	47	RONA MS Bike Tour - Airdrie to Olds	39704.5
9	Shifting Gears	11	RONA MS Bike Tour - Leduc to Camrose	39283.5
10	Heart Brakers	10	RONA MS Bike Tour - Mountain (Hinton) **	38522.64
11	Mike's Wheels of Justice	24	RONA MS Bike Tour - Leduc to Camrose	35183.2
12	The Happy Fillmores	24	RONA MS Bike Tour - Leduc to Camrose	35013.94
13	Who-Hah's	15	RONA MS Bike Tour - Leduc to Camrose	33483.21
14	Let's Ride	24	RONA MS Bike Tour - Leduc to Camrose	33060.7
15	Team Tazza	42	RONA MS Bike Tour - Airdrie to Olds	32159.78
16	Stantec's Cyndie's Cyclists	34	RONA MS Bike Tour - Leduc to Camrose	31720.3
17	Fitness Fever	12	RONA MS Bike Tour - Leduc to Camrose	28377.72
18	Team Chris	4	MS WALK - Edmonton	25550
19	Biker Chicks and Bocce Boys	6	RONA MS Bike Tour - Airdrie to Olds	25548.14
20	Team TELUS	16	RONA MS Bike Tour - Leduc to Camrose	24226

\*\* Takes place September 6 & 7, 2008

## TeamMS Provincial Contacts

Are you interested in finding out more about the TeamMS program in your area?

Please contact the following:

If your area is not listed above please contact Graham Metzger and I will be happy to help you out!

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# Jasper versus MS

Story by Graham Metzger

**T**he 2008 MS Mountain Bike Tour in Hinton will mark Greg van Tighem and the Jasper Rockhoppers second year participating in the Tour. In the team's first year, the 17 team members were able to raise just under \$15,000. With one year under their belts Greg and his team have amped up their goals and plan on going above and beyond last year's totals.

Currently, the Rockhoppers, who are made up largely of volunteer firefighters (as well as Greg who is the Municipality of Jasper Fire Chief) are represented by 35 team members and have raised an astonishing \$24,000. But they are far from finished. With a fundraising goal of \$45,000 Greg and his team have been extremely active and creative in their fundraising techniques in Jasper, and Greg is beginning to earn the reputation around town as a man who will do nearly anything for a donation.

"We are pulling out all stops this year in regards to fundraising," explains Greg. "Some of the team events we have carried out include numerous public barbecues, car washes; we hosted the beer gardens for the Jasper/Banff relay race, held a silent auction, a western dance with a live band, 50/50 draws and we are hosting a farmers market and mountain bike poker rally and a live auction where the feature item is supper and a round of golf at Jasper Park Lodge with sports celebrity Kelly Hrudey."

Personally, Greg's goal is \$20,000. To reach his personal goal, Greg has come up with some unique fundraising ideas himself, such as celebrity bartending at the annual Jasper Brewing Company customer appreciation night and bouncing the door at a local pub, just to name a few. On top of that he has secured the catering contract for the Jasper Golf Association's Club

Championship banquet and he has even hired himself out to clean up after a number of wedding parties and banquets this summer.

It seems as though the man will stop at nothing: "The word is out in Jasper that I am willing and able to do just about anything to meet my goals so who knows what is next."



facebook

MS Society - Alberta has a Facebook page! Become a fan and stay up to date with upcoming events, functions, and news. Feel free to upload pictures or videos from an MS Society event that you attended this year. This is a

great way to connect with fellow fundraisers across the province, chat and share ideas. Invite your teammates and friends to join as well!

Go to [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) and sign up as a member. Once you have a Facebook account, search MS Society - Alberta Division and become a fan.

**MS** Multiple Sclerosis Society of Canada

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