



## **TERRY FOX – A CANADIAN ICON**

Terry Fox grew up near Vancouver on Canada's west coast. An active teenager involved in many sports, Terry was only 18 years old when he was diagnosed with osteogenic sarcoma (bone cancer) and forced to have his right leg amputated 15 centimetres above the knee in 1977.

While in hospital, Terry was so overcome by the suffering of other cancer patients, many of them young children that he decided to run across Canada from coast to coast to raise money for cancer research.

He called his journey the Marathon of Hope. Terry Fox ran close to 42 kilometres a day through Canada's Atlantic Provinces, Quebec and Ontario when on September 1, after 143 days and 5,373 kilometres, Terry was forced to stop running outside of Thunder Bay, Ontario because cancer had appeared in his lungs.

Terry passed away on June 28, 1981 at the age 22. The heroic Canadian was gone, but his legacy was just beginning. Every year, countries around the world stage events in support of Terry's dream of finding a cure for cancer. The Terry Fox Run is no longer just a Canadian tradition as we work together to eradicate a disease that knows no political or geographic boundaries. To date, over \$650 million has been raised worldwide for cancer research in Terry's name.