



PRIME MINISTER . PREMIER MINISTRE

It is with great pleasure that I extend my warmest greetings to everyone attending the Celebs for Kids fundraisers.

Proceeds from this year's events at the Mayfair Lakes Golf and Country Club, the Sutton Place Hotel, and the River Rock Casino and Resort, will help establish the Dr. Ross Petty research chair in paediatric rheumatology, and support the important work of the Arthritis Society and Lupus Society. Most people are not aware that arthritis, lupus and other rheumatic diseases can affect young people. But the sad fact is that children as young as three years of age can be victims of these debilitating, chronic diseases.

Thanks to the efforts of Mr. Karim Chandani, and the generous participation of many celebrities and sponsors, Celebs for Kids Canada has been successful in raising awareness of juvenile arthritis and lupus in recent years. That success has translated into funding that benefits the internationally respected programs of BC Children's Hospital, University of British Columbia. I would like to commend each one of you for making a difference in the health and well-being of your community's youngest members.

On behalf of the Government of Canada, please accept my best wishes for a successful campaign, as well as every success in meeting your fundraising objectives.

The Rt. Hon. Stephen Harper, P.C., M.P.

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