

Media Release

## Cheryl Duffy Memorial Walk

For Immediate Release: September 15, 2023

The Stratford Youth Centre is very honored to be able to announce the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Cheryl Duffy Memorial Walk which will be taking place on Saturday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> as part of the Town of Stratford FallFest Event. Registrations / Check Ins start at 9am, with the Kick Off and the walk starting at 9:30am. 2022 was the first year for the Walk, which raised over \$6300 for the Stratford Youth Centre. This year the Walk will be taking place along the beautiful Cotton Park Trail in Stratford.

Cst. Cheryl Duffy was a 30-year veteran of the RCMP who worked in various detachments across PEI. During her time with the RCMP's Major Crimes Unit, Cheryl was awarded the Queens Diamond Jubilee Medal for her service. Cheryl was a very selfless, community-minded person who was passionate about helping others. She understood the importance that community could have on local youth. After having two boys of her own, she was an instrumental member in founding the Stratford Youth Centre. Her focus on youth involvement in the community made such a difference in the lives of so many young people.

Participants can register as individuals or in teams and choose from 3 different distances: 1km, 2km or 5km. There is no registration fee to participate. Participants are asked to help with fundraising for the event. Fundraising options include collecting donations or creating your own unique fundraisers. Participants are encouraged to register in advance online, but registrations will also be accepted the day of the event. This event is open to all ages and abilities, and we encourage everyone to come out and celebrate Cheryl's life. Following the event, we welcome those that have know and loved Cheryl to share their stories and memories and for everyone to join us for an event social.

In honor of Cheryl's commitment to her community and improving the lives of so many young people, the Stratford Youth Centre has established an educational award in her name. The Cheryl Duffy Service Award will be issued annually to current and former Youth Centre member(s) attending post secondary education to assist with tuition costs. The award winners will be selected based on community service and their involvement with the Stratford Youth Centre. Two winners of the Award were selected for 2023. Tyler Beaver-Hounsell and Ashton Dudley both will be issued \$500 awards.

With the support of her family and the Stratford Youth Centre, the Cheryl Duffy Memorial Walk will be held annually to remember and honor Cheryl and all she has done for our community. All funds raised from this event will go towards funding the new educational award program and to assist the Stratford Youth Centre in funding for programs, equipment and initiatives.

Anyone wishing to make a financial donation to the event can do so on the event Gofundme Page: "2023 Cheryl Duffy Memorial Walk".

Please feel free to follow our Facebook event page for much more information on the event: "2023 Cheryl Duffy Memorial Walk"

For more information about the event or to register, please visit the Stratford Youth Centre Website at [www.stratforyouthcentre.com](http://www.stratforyouthcentre.com).

For More information, please contact:

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