

# Cancer fight hits streets

## Thousands join forces in today's Run for the Cure

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Sun Media

For Heather Webber, today's 16th annual CIBC Run for the Cure is about more than simply raising awareness about breast cancer.

It's a day of hope.

That's because the 45-year-old co-director of the Calgary run is battling the disease herself and hopes the nationwide event can help create a future without breast cancer.

"It creates a feeling of hope," she said.

"Instead of being afraid all the time ... there is hope.

"The Canadian Breast Cancer slogan is a future without breast cancer and ... I would like my girls to not have to go

through this," she added.

Webber was first confronted with the disease in 2000 after she found a lump in her breast when she was only 37 years old.

She is continuing treatment after being re-diagnosed this year.

Webber said the run promotes public education about breast cancer and gives survivors and people fighting the disease the chance to join together in support of one another.

"What this has done is create a phenomenal amount of awareness," she said.

"People have suffered silently — it has put it in the public."

Because it affects so many



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About 15,000 Calgaryans walked and ran one or five kilometres at the CIBC Run for the Cure in helping to raise about \$1.8 million last year. The goal in this year's run is to raise \$2 million for the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation in Calgary.

families, and both women and men, Webber said the run makes people think about their own health.

This year's goal is to raise \$2 million for the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation in Calgary.

Last year the run raised \$26 million across the country,

about \$1.8 million in Calgary.

Between 12,000 and 15,000 people are expected to take part in the one- or five-km run or walk, which has become a family-oriented event, Webber said.

Registration for the event is from 7 a.m. to 8 a.m. in the northwest parking lot of

Southcentre Mall.

The run begins at 9 a.m. and winds through the communities of Maple Ridge and Willowpark, where residents are expected to decorate their trees and houses to show support.

Closing ceremonies and awards presentations are on

tap for 9:50 a.m.

Webber said the event would not be possible without the help of its dedicated volunteers.

"What's important is the amount of work the volunteers do," she said.

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Heather Webber, co-director of the CIBC Run for the Cure and a breast cancer patient