



**BC Epilepsy  
Society**

E-NEWSLETTER

*Improving lives.  
Inspiring courage.*

May 20, 2015

## **7th Annual Cindy's Walk Fundraiser**

**SUNDAY, JUNE 28TH**

On Sunday, June 28th the 7th Annual Cindy's Walk will be bringing people together to raise epilepsy awareness and funds for the BC Epilepsy Society.

This year the walk will start at John Lawson Park in West Vancouver at 10:00 am and go through the West Vancouver Seawall. Come out to see the beautiful scenery, smell the fresh ocean air, and support people with epilepsy.

The walk will be followed by refreshments, socialization, and arts and crafts.

Registration is \$25 and children aged 12 and younger are free. This event is wheelchair and transit accessible. There is also free parking on site.

For information about registration and pledges, please contact Lori Eisenhour at [lori@bcepilepsy.com](mailto:lori@bcepilepsy.com) or at 604-875-6704.

We are currently recruiting volunteers to help at this event. Please contact Marlyn Chow at [info@bcepilepsy.com](mailto:info@bcepilepsy.com) to volunteer.

Stay tuned for more details!

## **Camps for Kids with Epilepsy**

**SUBSIDIES AVAILABLE**

Camps are a great way for children with epilepsy to develop social and leadership skills, increase independence, and explore new activities.

The BC Epilepsy Society provides financial subsidies to help cover the costs of various camp programs. These are for children who need extra support due to medical needs and learning or physical disabilities.

The subsidies reimburse camp costs up to \$150 and are awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. Recipients must be a current member of the BC Epilepsy Society to be eligible.

Subsidies are provided for [BC Easter Seals Camps](#), [Eureka Camp](#), [Zajac Ranch](#) and various adaptive day camps such as the ones offered by [PosAbilities](#), [Kids Matter](#), and [Summer Social](#).

[Click here](#) to download the summer camp subsidy form.

For more information about these subsidies, please contact our office at 604-875-6704.

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## Keeping You Informed

### IN THE NEWS & COMMUNITY

#### **UBC Seeking Health Mentors**

UBC is looking for people with epilepsy (or other medical conditions or disabilities) to volunteer as Interprofessional Health Mentors. This involves meeting with teams of students in their medical programs and sharing your ideas and thoughts about how future health care professionals can support people with epilepsy. [Click here](#) for more information.

#### **Human Stem Cell Research Shows Promise For Treating Epilepsy**

Researchers at the University of Florida have been testing the viability of using stem cells to help treat epilepsy. A researcher explained, "We took a cell line of human neuro stem cells and transplanted them into newborn mice to see how well they would develop into functional neurons in the mouse brain." He also said those cells show promise in potentially helping to control seizures. [Click here](#) to learn more about their findings.

#### **Advanced Imaging and Seizure Detecting Machines at Surrey Memorial Hospital**

A new 3T [MRI](#) (magnetic resonance imaging) machine and a [MEG](#) (magnetoencephalography) machine is coming to Surrey Memorial Hospital. The MRI being installed is the most advanced model of MRI machines. It takes extremely detailed images of the brain. The new MEG machine will be the first of its kind in Western Canada. This machine is used to find where in the brain that seizure activity is coming from. Installation of the equipment is expected to be finished this year. [Click here](#) to read more about this news.

#### **Acetazolamide Medication Shortage**

There is currently a Canada-wide shortage of acetazolamide (this medication was previously marketed under the brand name Diamox). If you or your child take this medication, please ensure that you currently have at least an eight week supply. Contact your neurologist immediately if you are unable to renew your prescription. This medication is expected to be back in pharmacies by mid-July.

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### **BC Epilepsy Society**

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*The BC Epilepsy Society is a non-profit, charitable organization, which provides education, advocacy, and support.*