

## News

# RHS student inspires Terry Fox runners

Laura Booth  
TIMES & TRANSCRIPT

Despite the rain, hundreds came out to the 36th annual tri-community Terry Fox Run that took place along the Pettaquamscutt Riverfront.

To get the crowd motivated prior to the race's start on Sunday afternoon, Riverview High School student and Terry Fox Run youth ambassador, Rebecca Schofield, 17, shared her story.

"I was chosen as the youth ambassador this year because at the age of 15 I was diagnosed with a rare form of brain cancer," she said to the crowd gathered at the Moncton riverfront. "As part of my treatment I had my brain and my spine bathed in radiation, which unfortunately did not turn me into a superhero."

Schofield, who uses a wheelchair, told the runners she underwent 48 weeks of chemotherapy and is now working to regain her mobility and strength so she can go back to school.

"Cancer can take a lot from you. It can take away your hope, your positivity, your energy, your senses," she said. For Terry Fox, it ultimately took his life. "But what it didn't take away from him was his courage," she said. "Courage is not the absence of fear, but the knowledge that something else is more important than giving into that fear. For Terry, finding a cure was more important than that fear."

Schofield's inspiring and motivating words garnered cheers from the crowds, many of them fellow Riverview High School students wearing their school jerseys in support of their classmate. In fact, her classmates raised more than \$700 for the event, said Aloma Jardine, member of the event's organizing committee.

In total, the event is expected to have brought in more than \$10,000.

The annual run not only raises money to support cancer research but also pays tribute to Terry Fox. When the Canadian was 18 years old, doctors found a tumour in his right leg and amputated from above the knee. Following his treatment, on April 12, 1980, Fox went to St. John's in Newfoundland and began his quest to run across the country to raise funds for cancer research. The Marathon of Hope was cut short 143 days in. Fox had made it near to Thunder Bay, Ontario when the cancer had spread to his lungs. Fox died June 28, 1981. Since then, runs in Fox's name have been held annually across the country and world, raising more than \$700 million.



Participants of the 36th annual tri-community Terry Fox Run get positioned at the Moncton riverfront starting point on Sunday Sept. 18, 2016. PHOTO: LAURA BOOTH/TIMES & TRANSCRIPT



Riverview High School student Rebecca Schofield, 17, addresses the crowd at the 36th annual tri-community Terry Fox Run. PHOTO: LAURA BOOTH/TIMES & TRANSCRIPT



Riverview High School students participate in the 36th annual tri-community Terry Fox Run at the Moncton Riverfront. PHOTO: LAURA BOOTH/TIMES & TRANSCRIPT