



November, 2006

Dr. Peter Zwack Memorial Scholarship

Dear Friends,

In November 2005 the Canadian Autism community lost one of our most enthusiastic and hard-working supporters with the passing of the Autism Society Canada (ASC) sitting President, Dr. Peter Zwack. Many of you took the time to sign the memory book on ASC's website and we truly appreciate the outpouring of support to our organization and to Peter's family during that difficult time.

ASC has spent the past several months searching for an appropriate program to commemorate Peter's dedication to changing the face of autism in Canada. Peter had a keen interest in research, especially research projects related to Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD). Peter served on numerous committees related to autism: his scientific training coupled with his own expertise in the field of autism made him a very valuable resource for our community (and earned him the name Mr Autism). It was Peter's commitment to research and development that has inspired Autism Society Canada to set up a commemorative program.

It is with great pleasure that ASC announces the introduction of a memorial research scholarship in memory of Dr. Peter Zwack and the work he so diligently championed in the ASD field. The scholarship will be known as the " Dr. Peter Zwack Memorial Scholarship." In cooperation with our partners at the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and other Autism Spectrum Disorder community members, applications will be solicited and adjudicated and then awarded to the individual deemed to be most deserving in this important research field. It is our goal that with the initial awarding of this scholarship, further partnerships can be realized and a program to award this scholarship annually can be developed.

The final amount of the scholarship is yet to be determined – our goal is to raise \$10,000.00 for the inaugural award. To do this, we are asking you, those who truly can recognize the loss that our community has suffered, to assist in our fundraising for this fitting tribute to Peter. It is our intention to

make a public announcement of the award and invite applications during October 2006, which is Canadian Autism Awareness Month.

You can make a donation in two ways:

- 1) Online, through our secure donation section of our website at www.autismsocietycanada.ca. Please assign your donation to the "Peter Zwack Memorial Scholarship."
- 2) By sending us a cheque. Please make you cheque payable to Autism Society Canada and note your designation of funds to " Peter Zwack Memorial Scholarship" on your cheque.

You will receive a tax receipt for your donation. ASC's charitable number is: **13160 7657 RR 0001**

If you would like further information about this fundraising campaign, please do not hesitate to contact me at louise@autismsocietycanada.ca .

Thank you, in advance, for your help with our efforts to pay tribute to Dr. Peter Zwack. Peter was an extremely dedicated, committed and knowledgeable parent and volunteer and his contributions to the autism community continue to bear fruit. At ASC, we still miss Peter very much and we are honoured to have had such a wonderful leader, colleague and friend.

Sincerely,



Louise Fleming
Executive Director
Autism Society Canada