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Childhood cancer survivor rides into Halifax **LATEST NEWS**

BY ROBYN YOUNG
The Daily News

When Tim Harriman was only 14, he was diagnosed with leukemia and spent the next three years undergoing chemotherapy and radiation treatment.

At 19, he's been in remission for two years and is at the tail-end of a cross-country bicycle tour to raise funds and awareness for childhood cancer. "I think it's important to raise awareness that kids are affected by cancer and give them a chance to tell their stories," he said Sunday afternoon.

About 50 people met the Airdrie, Alta. native at Gorsebrook Field Sunday and joined him on a five-kilometre walk/run to Point Pleasant Park to raise funds for the Childhood Cancer Awareness Foundation.

As of this weekend, the young activist had raised \$56,429 through his Spokesman Tour for Childhood Cancer. In addition, 2,622 people had signed his petition to name September as the national childhood cancer awareness month. He plans to present this petition to federal Health Minister Tony Clement in the fall.

NEWS

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Teen cycles to support kids with cancer 🚲

ROBYN YOUNG

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Harriman has spent much of his journey, which began in Victoria, B.C. on June 3, meeting with young cancer patients in hospitals across the country. He spent a few hours after yesterday's walk at the IWK Children's Hospital.

"Visiting the hospitals is one of the main focuses of my tour and collecting their messages and artwork to get September named childhood cancer awareness month," he said.

Harriman has shared his story with his young friends and listened to theirs in return.

"I think it brings a lot of hope and a lot of light to their day," he said.

Harriman vividly remembers when he was young and sick. "It was a very long and tough battle, and every day I had to make a choice when I woke up, what the outcome of my day was going to be," he said. He hopes his story of survival brings them comfort.

The 7,738 kilometre trek across the country will end in St. John's Newfoundland on Aug. 24. Harriman will have cycled an estimated 412 hours.

He said the journey has been tough, but rewarding, likening the experience to his battle with cancer. "I never knew what obstacles I would encounter through my day; I just had to make the best of it," he said.

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