

Hockey moms' tourney raises \$50,000 for Headwaters HCC

The Honeywood Hockey Moms, along with the family of Jennifer Widbur, presented a cheque for \$50,000 to the Headwaters Health Care Foundation on June 3. The money, which was raised at this year's Jennifer Widbur Memorial Hockey Tournament held in April, will go toward cancer care at the hospital.

"Jennifer was my wife and a hockey mom," said Mike DeLaat, tournament committee member. "After she passed in December of 2007, her fellow hockey moms decided to pull together a hockey tournament in honour of Jennifer, and by April of 2008, they held the first one, with total proceeds being donated to the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation."

After the first year, they decided to put the money towards the hospital's Cancer Care facilities, to help others battling cancer. Now in their 7th year, they have been able to raise \$267,000 total towards the Headwaters Health Care Centre.

"It's amazing," said Chris Stewart, a member of the Headwaters Health Care Foundation. "They've been doing it for years, and to get that support from local groups like this is what makes the hospital continue to be able to work. They put a lot of effort in getting this together, and it's just amazing to receive such a generous donation."

This year's donation of \$50,000 was the second largest donation they have made to the hospital since the tournament began. The mammography suite in the hospital was dedicated to the tournament as a thank you for their continued support, and in memory of the battle Jennifer Widbur had with breast cancer.

"It's our local hospital and they are improving and building on their Cancer Care program," said Mr. DeLaat. "The money that we raise in this community stays in our community through our hospital. While breast cancer eventually defeated Jennifer, we're hopefully working towards making it better for someone else, and giving them a chance at surviving."

Next year's tournament is scheduled for April 10 and 11, and they are still looking for more teams to join, as well as to add more corporate sponsors. To find out more information, register a team or donate as a corporate sponsor, visit jwtournament.ca.