

**I had a lump under my arm since I was 12 years old.
It was always fine... until the day I went to practice golf and couldn't swing the club!**

Date, 2007

John Sample
123 Main Street
Hometown, PQ
XXX XXX



Dear Mr. Sample,

Back in 1999, I was 39 years old, a passionate golfer, and the February weather wasn't going to stop me from going out to practice my swing. I raised the club, but that's as far as I got. I simply couldn't bring it through. I knew from looking in the mirror that my arm always stood out slightly from the right side of my body, but this was something else. With the swelling in my armpit now the size of a tennis ball, it was like I was swinging a baseball bat!

I called my doctor and went in for tests. As there was no pain at the time, I was in no particular rush, yet within a week of my biopsy results, I was hospitalized. The diagnosis was devastating... Stage IV, Grade 3 non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma. It was the beginning of two very painful years for me and everyone in my family.

Over the following six months, I underwent heavy doses of chemotherapy as an outpatient every 3 weeks. Next I underwent 31 days of radiation - treatments that robbed me of every hair on my body and burned my skin. Would it work? We'd just have to wait and see.

While my own feelings remained positive, I'm sure everyone expected the worst. I know my wife, brothers and friends were extremely worried. They had never seen me sick before and I looked very sick... not only hairless and fatigued, but bloated all out of proportion from treatments with steroids. Thankfully, everyone respected my feelings and I felt no negativity. I'll always remember my wife's incredible reassurance and love.

Finally in March 2000, the news arrived. It was not the news anyone wanted. It showed the cancer was still in my body - in my lungs and lymph system. I was referred to the Royal Victoria Hospital. My life - and the future of my family - were now in the hands of medical research!

over...

...a proud partner in the McGill University Health Centre

687 Pine Avenue West, Suite A1.07, Montreal Quebec H3A 1A1
Tel.: (514) 843-1543 Fax: (514) 843-1468
E-mail: rvhfoundation@muhc.mcgill.ca
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Individuals can join the Governors' Circle with an annual donation of \$250.

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Your gift could double if your company has a matching gift program. Please ask your personnel office for the appropriate forms and guidelines.

Please see overleaf for information on our **Friends of the Vic** monthly giving program.

Tel. Home: _____ Office: _____

E-mail: _____

With my positive attitude pushed to the limit, it is hard to describe the new wave of hope that swept over me at the Royal Vic. The care and encouragement from doctors, nurses, specialists, volunteers - both emotional and physical - were phenomenal. It was like I was the only patient there. Because initial treatments had not been successful, they began further heavy rounds of chemotherapy for which I was now confined to the Hospital for one out of every three weeks over an additional 6 months. My immune system was destroyed and I was put into isolation and given a stem cell transplant to get things under control. During the whole process, they also switched me to experimental protocols to which the Royal Vic has access as a leading research hospital in Canada... and it was *only* because of the medical team's dedication, skills and leading-edge resources that I never lost hope. In late 2000, my cancer went into remission.



From that year to this, every day brings a second chance... a chance that has come from the support of others, including the invaluable support of donors like you. That is why my *Annual Drive for the Cure Golf Classic* means so much to me. It started when 12 of my friends forced me to go golfing and continue my passion for the game between my chemo treatments. I only played two holes and sat in the cart for three due to extreme fatigue. Afterwards, we all went for a beer and they passed the hat, collecting \$250 to give to any charity I wanted. The next year it was repeated with 20 friends, then 40, 60, 80, 112... all friends and family, people who cared and through nothing more than word of mouth.

Seeing increasingly large sums of money, I asked Dr. Chaim Shustik, my Royal Vic physician, how the Hospital might best put them to use. He suggested the Lymphoma Research Fund.

I have no doubt that cancer will one day be beaten and it is my belief that you think so too. But if it is to happen, it will only be because of people like you and me. That is why I now ask you to support the Royal Victoria Hospital with as large a donation as you possibly can... because it is research and excellent patient care that lead the fight against cancer in Canada. Please give today. Lives *can* be saved. I'm living proof!

Sincerely yours,

Dan Klimas
on behalf of the Royal Victoria Hospital Foundation

P.S. There are so many ways you can contribute to the Royal Vic in its fight against cancer and you can discover them all by calling (514) 843-1543. I'm sure they would love to hear from you today!

The Friends of the Vic monthly giving program

You can become a member of the Governors' Circle for just \$21 each month in one calendar year.

Please deduct: \$10 \$15 \$21 \$25
 \$30 (\$1/day) or \$ _____

from my bank account on the 1st (or the) 15th of every month commencing: MM / DD / YY

My sample cheque marked VOID is enclosed.

Please charge these monthly donations to my:

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Gift planning allows you to support the Royal Vic and secure tax benefits for yourself or your estate. Options include a gift through your will, donations of life insurance and contributions of securities (stocks and bonds).

- I have included the RVH Foundation in my will.
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- I would like to donate securities to the RVH Foundation and save taxes.
- I would like more information on these and other gift planning options.