

April 10, 2017

Relive the Marathon of Hope at Terry Fox exhibition

VICTORIA, BC—The Royal BC Museum is opening *Terry Fox: Running to the Heart of Canada* on April 12— exactly 37 years to the day that Terry Fox dipped his prosthetic leg into the Atlantic Ocean and began his Marathon of Hope.

The feature exhibition, on view until October 1, is developed by the Canadian Museum of History, in partnership with the Terry Fox Centre.

“This, the 150th anniversary of Canada, is a monumental year, and we are marking it with an exhibition about a young man who inspired the nation,” said Prof. Jack Lohman, CEO of the Royal BC Museum. “Few people capture the imagination quite like Terry Fox, whose story has something for everyone: positive energy, selflessness, hope and, importantly, making the most of your life.”

The exhibition is the most comprehensive collection of artifacts related to Fox – who was raised in Port Coquitlam, BC – and his 143-day run from St. John’s, NL, to Thunder Bay, Ont, to raise money for cancer research.

Visitors will be greeted by the iconic Ford E250 Econoline van that provided shelter for Terry on his journey. This presentation at the Royal BC Museum is the only opportunity for Canadians to see the van as part of the exhibition, apart from its original display at the Canadian Museum of History.

The story of the Marathon of Hope is told through photographs, newspaper imagery and personal mementos. The exhibition depicts a day-in-the-life of the run, the heartbreaking end of the Marathon, and the thrilling story of Terry Fox’s ongoing legacy.

The exhibition also explores Terry’s impact on modern Canadian life and his unique place in our collective memory—the numerous schools, community centres, and features of the landscape named for him, the Canadian coins, stamps and passports bearing his image.

People can engage with the exhibition on social media by using **#RBCM TerryFox** to share their memories of Terry Fox and impressions of the exhibition.



The Marathon of Hope began with little fanfare on April 12, 1980, when Terry began his grueling marathon-a-day cross-country run to raise money for cancer research. His determination, courage and integrity soon drew the attention—and won the hearts—of Canadians from coast to coast to coast. He died a national hero in June 1981, aged 22, having raised some \$24 million—achieving his goal of raising \$1 from every Canadian. During the past 37 years, more than \$715 million has been raised in Terry’s name for cancer research.

Family: Bonds and Belonging (#RBCMFamily)

Terry Fox’s family set an inspiring example of the incredible strength of family bonds. The Royal BC Museum has created a complimentary feature exhibition, ***Family: Bonds and Belonging (#RBCMFamily)*** to explore the concept of family, inviting interactions and emotional responses from visitors about the bonds that keep families together. The exhibition opens June 2 and is on view until October 31.

About the Royal BC Museum

The Royal BC Museum explores the province’s human history and natural history, advances new knowledge and understanding of BC, and provides a dynamic forum for discussion and a place for reflection. The museum and archives celebrate culture and history, telling the stories of BC in ways that enlighten, stimulate and inspire. Looking to the future, the Royal BC Museum will be a refreshed, modern museum, extending its reach far beyond Victoria as a world-class cultural venue and repository of digital treasures.

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#RBCMTerryFox

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A travelling exhibition developed by the Canadian Museum of History, in partnership with the Terry Fox Centre.

Une exposition itinérante réalisée par le Musée canadien de l’histoire, en collaboration avec le Centre Terry Fox.

