



Rotary Club of LaSalle Centennial announces over \$15,000 to fight Polio

LASALLE, ONTARIO (1 December, 2020) – This year the **Rotary Club of LaSalle Centennial** raised \$5,176.39 through their **Pizza for Polio** campaign. This total will be matched 2 to 1 by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, resulting in a **grand total of \$15,529.17** for the fight to end polio through the **Global Polio Eradication Initiative**.

The **Rotary Club of LaSalle Centennial** would like to thank participating pizzerias and all their customers who purchased pizza in support of **World Polio Day**. On October 20, each of the following pizzerias generously donated a portion of their sales to our annual **Pizza for Polio**.

- **Antonino's Original Pizza – All locations**
- **Armando's Pizza – LaSalle**
- **Armando's Pizza – Amherstburg**
- **Bullseye Pizza – South Windsor**
- **Capri Pizzeria – 3 locations**
- **Oven 360 – 2 locations**
- **Sarducci's Pizza – 2 locations**

Included in the total is a special generous donation from Antonino's Original Pizza, one of our founding Pizza for Polio partners. Over the past 5 years, the pizzeria has raised \$3,200.00 for this cause. This year, Joe Ciaravino honoured our efforts by rounding up his support by an additional \$1800.00 for an impressive 5 year total of \$5000.00!

The **Global Polio Eradication Initiative** is a public-private partnership led by national governments with five partners – the World Health Organization (WHO), Rotary International, the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Its goal is to eradicate polio worldwide.

Polio remains endemic in two countries – Afghanistan and Pakistan. Until poliovirus transmission is interrupted in these countries, all countries remain at risk of importation of polio, especially vulnerable countries with weak public health and immunization services and travel or trade links to endemic countries. When this disease is eradicated, it will be only the second disease to be wiped off the face of the earth, the first being smallpox.

For more information or media inquiries, please contact the following:

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