

For immediate release

September 20, 2015

30th Scotiabank AIDS WALK for LIFE raises \$170,210

Vancouver, BC: A lively and dynamic crowd of close to 1,000 participants and 200 volunteers gathered at Sunset Beach on September 20th to raise money for people with HIV in British Columbia as part of the Scotiabank AIDS WALK for LIFE. Through their enthusiastic efforts, a total of \$170,210 was raised.

Celebrating its 30th year, the WALK for LIFE raises money for Positive Living BC's Community Health Fund (CHF). The fund supports people living with HIV in BC by providing access to health care services and products that aren't covered by other plans, such as vitamins, supplements, bottled water and over-the-counter medications. This year, the WALK also directed its efforts at combating HIV stigma, by participating in the HIV Anonymous campaign (www.hivanonymous.ca).

Although HIV is now a condition that can be controlled by medication, the need is still great. There are approximately 13,000 HIV-positive people living in British Columbia, and many depend on services like the CHF to maintain their health. Says Positive Living BC Chair, Valerie Nicholson, "We have newly diagnosed members walking through the door every day. People need to be aware that living with HIV can be a struggle every day."

Positive Living BC thanks the walkers, volunteers, donors and sponsors who supported the 2015 Scotiabank AIDS WALK for LIFE. The Society also extends gratitude to everyone who has contributed to the event over the last three decades, helping to support health for PLHIV in this province.

- 30 -

Contact:

Adam Reibin, Director of Communications
Positive Living Society of BC
604.612.0222

The Positive Living Society of British Columbia exists to enable persons living with HIV and AIDS to empower themselves through mutual support and collective action.