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Local Volunteer Growing Hope with Amaryllis for Huntington Disease Awareness

(LETHBRIDGE, AB) November 20, 2017 – For years Faith Wood has been volunteering to sell Amaryllis flowers to raise money for families affected by Huntington disease (HD). For Wood, selling Amaryllis is one of the easiest ways to make her contribution to the cause that directly affects her family.

“I put an ad in my local paper every year about the kits and in that same day I sell most of the kits,” says Wood. “After someone buys an Amaryllis, they send me lots of photos of their own blooms. Then people come back every year because they love how interesting it is to watch the flower grow.”

The Amaryllis is the signature flower of the Huntington Society of Canada. Volunteers sell bulb kits to raise vital funds for programs in research, services and education. Each year, around 20,000 amaryllis bulbs bloom coast to coast, across Canada, inspiring hope of a world free of HD. Since the sales began in 1985, HSC volunteers have raised well over five million dollars through Amaryllis sales.

All Amaryllis volunteers have their own reasons for selling. “For me, selling these flowers is the best way I know to contribute to the cause,” says Wood. “So many of my relatives are affected by HD whether they have the gene or are caregivers, so I just know I need to help raise these funds for services and research.”

If you would like to help HSC reach their goal of 20,000 amaryllis bulbs blooming coast to coast across Canada, please visit www.inspirehope.ca.

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Huntington disease (HD) is a debilitating brain disorder that is fatal and incurable. About one in every 7,000 Canadians has HD and approximately one in every 5,500 is at-risk of developing the disease. Many more are touched by HD whether as a caregiver, a family member, or a friend. Huntington disease is often described as having the symptoms of Alzheimer’s, Parkinson’s and ALS – simultaneously. As the disease progresses, a person with Huntington’s become less able to manage movements, recall events, make decisions and control emotions. The disease leads to incapacitation and, eventually, death.

The **Huntington Society of Canada (HSC)** is a respected leader in the worldwide effort to find a meaningful treatment for HD. HSC is the only Canadian health charity dedicated to providing help and hope for families dealing with HD across Canada. HSC aspires for a world free from Huntington disease. For more information about HD and HSC visit www.huntingtonsociety.ca.

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