



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**GUELPH WELLINGTON ONTARIO HEALTH TEAM LEADERS
SUPPORTING EASTER SEALS THROUGH “DANCING WITH THE STARS” EVENT**

[Oct. 17, Guelph, ON] Guelph Wellington Ontario Health Team (GW OHT) leaders, Marianne Walker, President and CEO of Guelph General Hospital and Ross Kirkconnell, Executive Director of the Guelph Family Health Team, are putting on their dancing shoes and competing in Guelph “Dancing with the Easter Seals Stars” on Friday, Oct. 21 at the Grand Banquet Hall.

Walker and Kirkconnell are two of the participants paired with professional dancers from various dance studios across Guelph. Celebrity judges will determine who will be the winning duo of the evening, but the public can also have their say! With votes – both online and at the event – you can help crown your favourite dancers as the “People’s Choice” winner!

“Dancing with Easter Seals Stars is one of our most memorable events of the year and we could not be more thrilled to be hosting it once again in Guelph this year,” says Jennifer Tremaine, Community Engagement Officer, Easter Seals. “We are so touched by the many local community-minded individuals who have stepped up and dedicated their time to being our ‘stars’ for the evening. Each year, this event raises crucial funds that help provide the kids we serve with the tools they need to overcome obstacles in their lives and grow into empowered adults.”

Walker says it’s a cause that is close to her heart. “As a paediatric nurse, children’s health and well being remains my passion and this is one way I and others can improve a child’s life.”

Her feelings were echoed by Kirkconnell. “When Easter Seals called me to help how could I say no?” he says. “Learning to dance is way out of my comfort zone but it’s such a fun way to contribute to a great cause. I’m so grateful to friends and colleagues who have pledged to sponsor me as I know all the funds raised go to helping kids live better lives.”

[Click here](#) to view the participant pages, including Walker and Kirkconnell’s voting/donation pages for the Guelph Dancing with the Easter Seals Stars event.

Tickets are still available, each ticket provides a delicious sit-down dinner, wine, a live and silent auction and a celebrity dance competition. It will be a memorable evening of glitz, glam and entertainment for all to enjoy. The dance floor will open to attendees after the celebrity dance competition to show off their “moves”! Visit: [Guelph - Dancing with Easter Seals Stars \(eastersealsdancing.org\)](http://Guelph - Dancing with Easter Seals Stars (eastersealsdancing.org)) for details.

The Guelph Dancing with the Easter Seals Stars event is an excellent example of how Guelph Wellington Ontario Health Team partners are working together to improve the health of our communities. Proceeds raised from this event will support families with much needed funds for essential mobility and accessibility equipment. Funds will also support children to attend fully accessible and inclusive summer camps.

ABOUT GUELPH WELLINGTON OHT

Ontario Health Teams are a way of organizing and delivering care that is more connected to patients in their local communities. Under Ontario Health Teams, health care providers (including hospitals, doctors and other health care providers including home and community care providers) work as one coordinated team - no matter where they provide care. The Guelph Wellington Ontario Health Team exists to transform the way care is provided in the Guelph-Wellington community. **Our goal is to improve the health of our shared population. [Click here](#) to view a list of core partners of the Guelph Wellington Ontario Health Team. Learn more about GW OHT at guelphwellingtonoht.com.**

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