

Alex A. Campbell



Golf Tournament

The majority of British Columbians are familiar with the late Alex Campbell who founded the highly successful chain of Thrifty Foods grocery supermarkets. Those of us on the Island are even more familiar with his extremely generous support to community activities, charitable organizations, special events and the Canadian Cancer Society. His philanthropy has been recognized across this country and we are most fortunate to have had him in our midst.

In 2012 discussions regarding the tournament resulted in the Campbell family agreeing to honour Alex by becoming the title sponsor of our event and naming it the Alex A. Campbell Conquer Cancer Classic. The Committee could not have been more pleased with their decision, which coincided with the Silver Anniversary edition of the tournament.

This tournament is held each year on the first Monday in May and is played on three different courses in Victoria, namely, Bear Mountain Gorge Vale, and Uplands Golf Club. Entrants are grouped into approximately 52 foursomes and will play at the three courses named above. Following tournament play, the banquet will be held at Gorge Vale Golf Course.

Last year, this tournament raised \$50,000 to support the Canadian Cancer Society's Vancouver Island Lodge here in Victoria. Since the first classic 29 years ago, this tournament has raised over \$1,000,000. The Lodge provides low cost accommodation for Vancouver Island cancer patients and their families who need to travel to Victoria for their cancer treatments. In addition to providing a home away from home, it provides meals and shuttles residents to the Cancer Clinic in the shuttle van purchased by the tournament by a volunteer driver service. Donations make a tremendous difference and enable the Lodge to improve the quality of life for persons living with cancer. Statistics show that one in four persons are affected by various forms of this disease – twelve million Canadians will be impacted by cancer over the next five years, which will result in a doubling of the workload of the local office of the Canadian Cancer Society.

In 2011, for the first time, the tournament was opened to ladies, and the response was encouraging. If you are new to Vancouver Island, or have never participated in this event, please consider doing so. With the involvement of the Campbell family, your entry will honour his life and his achievements as well as contribute to a very worthy cause.

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