

## Cancer group justified in advertising its difference

In response to: "Enough charity sparring, already" (Borderlines, June 15, p. 4)

Let me say up front, "Thank God I've never had cancer."

As is true for many of us, I have lost several dear friends to this horrific disease and as a result feel compelled to do something to help others who are suffering.

For nine years I have volunteered to help raise funds for Charlotte County Cancer. The residents of Campobello have a fundraising supper, I accept donations and several island residents go either to St. Stephen or St. George to take part in the "Walk Cause We Care."

I'd like to share with you some of the experiences I have had as a result of volunteering for Charlotte County Cancer.

Several years ago I lost a dear friend to cancer. I had, upon finding out about his illness, told his wife about Charlotte County Cancer and the support they offer. Unfortunately there was a misunderstanding. When this family needed financial help, they approached the Canadian Cancer Society instead of the Charlotte County Cancer Society (at

the time Charlotte County Cancer used "Society"). It was not until my friend passed away that I became aware of their need and the misunderstanding.

People who are diagnosed with cancer are often times overwhelmed. They hear cancer and fear the worst. During this time, with all the pressure, they often do not distinguish between the various fundraising groups.

I've also given information about Charlotte County Cancer to a family of a cancer patient who have in turn chosen to raise and donate money to the Canadian Cancer Society because they were thankful for the help they received from Charlotte County Cancer when their loved one was in need.

I do not speak "for" Charlotte County Cancer and my intent is not to discredit anyone.

I feel information and knowledge enable people to make good decisions. The ads placed in local papers by CCCS do not tell people to, or not to, support the Relay For Life, they simply inform people that if they choose to support the Canadian Cancer Society's walk, their donation does not go to Charlotte County Cancer as the two groups are not connected.

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