



April 15, 2009

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Annual *Skate with Daniel* Proceeds to support brain tumour research**

**THORNHILL** – The third annual *Skate with Daniel* will take place on Saturday, May 23, 2009 from 12:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Thornhill Community Centre West Arena located at 7755 Bayview Avenue, north of Steeles. Funds raised will support the Daniel Bertoia Family Endowment Fund and b.r.a.i.n.child at the Hospital for Sick Children Foundation for brain tumour research.

The event includes hockey games and various fundraising activities such as a balloon pop, an amazing silent auction and other fun events. There are also several event sponsorship opportunities available, ranging from Presenting Sponsor \$5,000 to Sponsoring a Player for \$20.

*Skate with Daniel* is supported by the NHL Alumni and the National Hockey League Players Association (NHLPA). Andrew Cogliano from the Edmonton Oilers and other NHL players will be in attendance.

"The b.r.a.i.n.child fundraising *Skate with Daniel* is held for a tremendous cause, and the NHLPA is proud to be associated with this great event, in honour of Daniel Bertoia," said Glenn Healy, NHLPA Director of Player Affairs.

Over 300 children are diagnosed annually with a brain tumour in Canada. Brain tumours are the second most common childhood malignancy after leukemia and the number one cause of cancerous death in children/youth under 20. The cause of brain tumours remains unknown and at this time there is no way to predict or prevent a brain tumour.

Daniel Bertoia was diagnosed with a brain tumour in the winter of 2007 at the age of 16. In the spring of 2007, family and friends got together in a show of support for Daniel; the first *Skate with Daniel* event was held, raising over \$2,011 for brain tumour research. In 2008, the second *Skate with Daniel* received the support from the National Hockey League Players' Association and many others and \$47,511.11 was raised to help find a cure. On August 20, 2009, at the age of 18, Daniel succumbed to the illness.

Share Daniel's goal to help find a cure on Saturday, May 23 in Thornhill. Proceeds from the event benefit the Daniel Bertoia Family Endowment Fund at Sick Kids Foundation and b.r.a.i.n.child.

Together we can make a difference – Imagine a Cure.

[www.skatewithdaniel.com](http://www.skatewithdaniel.com)

[www.coffee2help.com](http://www.coffee2help.com)

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