

2009 Winnipeg Walk for ALS a Huge Success

Plan it and they will come. And come they did; in groups, in teams, in batches and bunches. So many, in fact, that for the first while we were not sure how many were there. We did know that, even though not everyone stayed for lunch, the 400 sandwiches supplied by Manhattan Catering were not enough to feed all of them. Luckily, it wasn't all about the food. It was about raising funds and awareness for the ALS Society of Manitoba and its 190 plus clients. In this, the Walk was successful beyond our wildest hopes.



Piper Scott Stothers Leading the Walkers

This year's Winnipeg Walk for ALS not only brought out a huge amount of walkers, an estimated 475, not including volunteers, it also brought on board many new sponsors and supporters, increases in sponsorships from existing supporters, and a huge increase in media support. Financially, the Walk was incredibly successful, bringing in over \$102,000 so far, with more still coming in, which will go towards



A view from behind the Lunch Counter

supporting clients living with ALS in Manitoba, as well as helping to find a cure for ALS.



Jim Rondeau, Grant Nordman, Sharon Blady and Steven Fletcher

Special guests at this year's Walk included Charleswood, St. James, Assiniboia MP Steven Fletcher; Assiniboia MLA Jim Rondeau; Kirkfield Park MLA Sharon Blady; and St. Charles City Councilor Grant Nordman. Other special guests included piper, Scott Stothers; Dan the Magic Man; Goldie from the Goldeyes; Lionel, the Boston Pizza mascot; the Green Drop mascot; and the MTS

Clowns.

Even though the weather for this year's Walk was cooler than normal, people had a great time, and many are already planning to return next year. The ALS Society would like to thank everyone who made this year's Winnipeg Walk for ALS the success it was. Thanks go to the more than 70 volunteers who helped to make it all run smoothly; to our sponsors, and prize donors, and, of course, to the many, many people who gathered pledges, put on their walking shoes, and came out to show their support.



Goldie, Lionel & Green Drop



Some of our canine supporters

Thank you all and we look forward to seeing you all again next year and making the 2010 Winnipeg Walk for ALS even bigger and better.