RAIDERS

11th Annual STICK IT TO CANCER TOURNAMENT 2026 FINAL UPDATE

GREETINGS, HOCKEY FAMILIES!

From March 19th - 22nd, The Calgary Raiders Hockey Club hosted our **11th Annual Stick it to Cancer Tournament** in support of **Kids Can**cer Care Alberta. The weekend proved to be a massive success as the event promoted awareness of childhood cancer! We challenged our Club and all participating teams to raise as much money as we could to help children fight and **STICK IT TO CANCER!**

Stick It To Cancer Tournament Stats

- Over the last 10 years, through the fundraising efforts from hockey teams across Alberta, corporate sponsorship and community support, the **Stick It To Cancer Tournament has raised $685,000!** This does not include this season's total, and we look forward to raising even more money in years to come.

Top Fundraising Team: Knights BC2 Grey

Hockey is about teamwork, heart, and community, and the Knights U15 BC 2 Grey team showed all three. The team hosted a pub night at 403 Local Eatery & Bar, where they raised **$6,704** in support of the Stick it to Cancer Tournament. Such an incredible effort, making a meaningful difference.

OPENING CEREMONIES

Chan's Opening Ceremonies Message

During the Opening Ceremonies, our Kids Cancer Care Spokeskid, Chan, shared a powerful message with the players and families in attendance. We are honoured to share that message with our community below...

Hi, I'm Chan.

I don't know you, and you don't know me, but I do know you were part of my cancer journey and the journey of countless others. And I'm here to share mine with you today.

It must have been December 2018 when I started noticing constant back pain. It was subtle at first, but suddenly it got really bad. I told my mom about it, and she said it was just from straining myself, running around outside. But the aching pain in my lower back really wouldn't leave me alone. One night, I woke up in severe pain, so I woke up my mom, and she suggested we go to a chiropractor. The thought of going to the chiropractor haunted me, because at this point, lying down was impossible for me. Walking normally caused me so much pain, I was forced to bend over at close to a 90-degree angle just to walk and get to school.

The three minutes it took to walk to school were terrible, and even at school, sitting and listening to the teachers was a battle.

I honestly felt trapped. I couldn't sleep without sitting up, and even when I sat up, I was still in pain. Only when I was truly exhausted could I finally fall asleep.

We had visited hospitals for close to three weeks now, where the common diagnosis would be muscle stiffness or constipation. It wasn't until we requested a blood test that my mom discovered it was Burkitt's lymphoma – a rare, highly aggressive form of B-cell non-Hodgkin's lymphoma.

I had no idea what I had been diagnosed with. All I knew was that whatever it was, looking at my mom's face, it felt like a get-out-of-jail free card from going to that chiropractor.

This was January of 2019, and I would not be going home that night, nor would I be going home for the next several nights. And I was ecstatic! And you must be wondering why, in such a critical situation, was I "ecstatic"?

Well, that was because of the wheelchair I was in, carrying me around with no pain whatsoever. It was the first relief I had felt in almost a month. Thus, I was very tired, and when my mom wheeled me to the front desk, I was in the midst of falling asleep. Next thing I know, I'm in a room with my mom, who was having a very serious phone call for obvious reasons. But I didn't care. They must've given me painkillers because, on a comfortable bed, lying down, keep in mind. I wasn't in pain.

Soon after I was admitted to the hospital, I had a port installed in my chest. This allowed for easy access to my veins to deliver chemotherapy, fluids, medications, and to draw blood.

About two weeks in, I noticed that whenever I touched my head, clumps of hair would fall out into my hands. Still not knowing what this meant, I would go to sleep and wake up to large piles of hair on the side of my bed. That's when my mom decided the hair had to go, so she buzzed it all off. In hindsight, it was definitely my first round of chemo that caused this to happen.

The next luxury that left me was food. The treatment had weakened my body, my throat was red, and it was very painful to swallow. While hair wasn't necessary to survive, fluids and food were, so I constantly had fluids going through the line in my chest, which I never noticed, except for the number of times I had to use the bathroom. Something I did notice was the other line that I had going through my nose so that I could "eat". The technical term for this line is a nasal-gastric tube.

Chan's Message Continued

It wasn't all bad, though, because a couple of months into treatment, I was allowed to have visitors. My older sister would visit, bringing me gifts that would allow me to focus on something other than cancer. It was a reminder that this wouldn't last forever. This was such a big deal for my family because my mom had to pause work for a while to take care of me. And even when the treatment began to bring me back to health, and my mom could start working again, she and my grandma would take shifts: my grandma during the day and my mom overnight.

Around the end of my cancer treatment in June of 2019, I heard of Camp Kindle, a camp run by Kids Cancer Care, where kids and families affected by cancer go to make the best memories. I secretly didn't like the idea of going to camp because I would be by myself, and it would be filled with new people. But I met a counsellor there, his camp name was Chilli. He pushed me to engage with camp activities and showed me what they call "camp magic". It. Was. Extraordinary, and I was inspired.

After the COVID-19 quarantine ended, I asked my mom to sign me up for Camp Kindle once more, this time for the SunChaser group. The following year, I was in SunSeeker, which is a special program where we get to go away on out-trips and sleep in tents. I will always keep SunSeeker in my heart. I had an amazing group of people, and all I can remember is laughing and having conversations worth bonding over. I really found home at Camp Kindle.
The year after SunSeeker, I found myself in an interview to join Camp Kindle's Leadership Development Program. This year, I'm joining the Camp Kindle team, as a counsellor, to pay the "camp magic" forward for the younger generation – like Chilli did for me.
And in the fall, with the support of a Kid's Cancer Care scholarship, I'm planning to attend the University of Alberta to do a dual major in computing science and physics.
As a long-term cancer survivor now, the remnants of cancer's impact on my body remain. I have been diagnosed with primary immunodeficiency, where a portion of my immune system remains very weak. To the point that I'm vulnerable to even the common flu becoming a serious problem. Thus, I take Cuvitru shots, which are made of human plasma, every week to help boost my immune system.

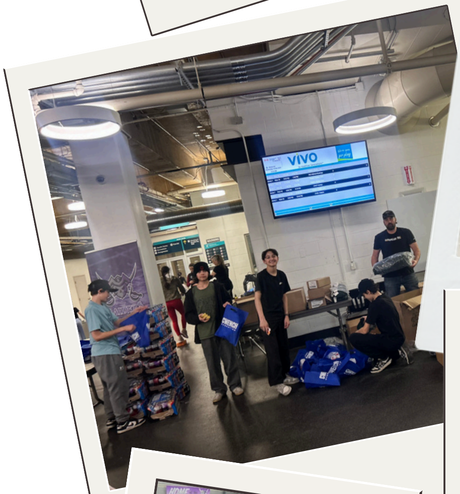
The message I wish to convey through my story is gratitude. We never really take time to admire the blessings we are given each day. I am so grateful for this opportunity to share how grateful I, and countless others, are, whether they are in the midst of treatment, praying for their loved one going through treatment, living out their life to the fullest as a long-term cancer survivor, or someone like you, giving kids like me opportunities to be grateful for. …And, it may be awkward to say this, but I would rather have cancer again than lose what I gained through Kids Cancer Care, with Camp Kindle, a university scholarship, riding in supercars, taking care of horses, and this opportunity to show my gratitude to you.

And with that, I want to say thank you. Because of you, my journey with cancer was so much brighter and filled with hope. Hope that pushed me through the day, the day after that, and many days after that. This isn't limited to me. You have helped thousands of other kids like me, so I ask that you give yourselves and the people sitting beside you a big round of applause.

Thank you!

kids cancer care

2026 Tournament Highlights



WE PLAY FOR KIDS LIKE COLBY!
A WARRIOR, A FIGHTER...COLBY
STOPPED IN TO WATCH HIS FRIENDS
AND BROTHER PLAY AT VIVO

BRAVE

Fundraising Total

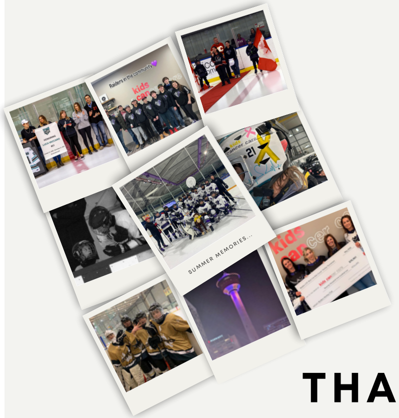
Each year, we turn to our community for support, and once again, we are truly grateful for the overwhelming donations and encouragement from all of you. This season, we set out for a huge goal of raising **$100,000**. Although we fell a little short, we are still so proud of all the money raised for The 11th Annual Stick it to Cancer Tournament! Part of our fundraising efforts come directly from the hockey teams; and we are continually impressed by the creative ways they raise money - from bottle drives, pub nights and bake sales, to silent auctions, skate-a-thons and snow shoveling - thank you!

TOGETHER, WE HAVE RAISED $91,339

Just like on the ice, every contribution matters. Your generosity will help support children and families impacted by cancer by funding camps, outreach initiatives, educational programs, and vital hospital and research support.

The fundraising page will remain open until **May 31st** and funds can still be donated using the following Link.

Thank you for your efforts to Stick it to Cancer, we are already looking forward to next year!



RAIDERS STICK IT TO KIDS CANCER

THANK YOU TO OUR 2026 SPONSORS!!

GOLD SPONSORS: $1000-$5000

WESTJET
Landmark Cinemas
Scotsman's Well

SILVER SPONSORS: $501-$999

Old Dutch — Quality lives here / Ici règne la qualité
splitsville bowl
Papa John's Pizza — Better Ingredients. Better Pizza.
BIO STEEL

BRONZE SPONSORS: $200-$500

Big Chief
Custom Laser Works
Overtime Hockey Lanes
Johnny Morris Bass Pro Shops
Costco Wholesale
Cizzle Brands
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