

Kingston, ON – August 17, 2017

KINGSTON to CORNWALL

MAN WILL RUN 180K FOR ALZHEIMER RESEARCH

Kingston ON – August 17, 2017 – While most of us would consider the drive between Kingston to Cornwall a day trip, Cornwall resident David Merpaw is going to run that exact route in about 24 hours. On Monday morning, August 21, he will begin this intense run from the offices of the Alzheimer Society of Kingston, which will take him mostly along highway 2, and arrive at the Alzheimer Society of Cornwall and District the next morning. An avid athlete, Merpaw is training for an international event in Mexico later this year and figured “since I have to make these long training runs, I might as well use that time to promote a worthy cause.”

Three out of four Canadians know someone with dementia. It touches so many homes in every community. The Alzheimer Society of KFL&A currently has an estimated 4000 people in this region living with Alzheimer’s disease and other dementias and many more still not yet identified.

Merpaw has been collecting pledges in the weeks leading to his Kingston to Cornwall run and has already accumulated over \$2,000. The support has encouraged him and he hopes to receive even more pledges, which will be donated to the Alzheimer Society towards research in Alzheimer's disease and other dementias. With more than 25,000 Canadians diagnosed with dementia each year and no cure yet, the need to support research has never been greater.

In July of 2015, Merpaw swam from Kingston to Montréal and last month, he swam the Ottawa River, from Deep River to Ottawa in celebration of Canada 150. Recipient of the 2016 River Award from the St. Lawrence River Institute and the 1997 Cornwall Jacques Richard Trophy for sports person of the year, he has maintained an active athlete and been involved in causes important to him. During his upcoming run, he said he “will be thinking of all of the families affected by this disease and hoping that efforts to find a cure will be successful.”

To donate towards David Merpaw’s run for Alzheimer’s research, contact the Alzheimer Society of Cornwall and District at 613 932-4914 or visit alzheimer.ca/cornwall

The Alzheimer Society is a nationwide, not-for-profit network of provincial and local societies and volunteers.