

LAUNCH OF FREE, PUBLIC SUNSCREEN DISPENSERS IN KELOWNA BY MORGAN'S MOLE PATROL AND SAVE YOUR SKIN FOUNDATION

Official Launch Event on Thurs, Aug 8th at 12pm at the Kelowna Visitor's Centre with Save Your Skin Foundation, Morgan's Mole Patrol and Kelowna City Councillor

Aug 6, 2019 - KELOWNA, BC – Thurs, Aug 8th will mark the official launch of two free, public sunscreen dispensers in key Kelowna hot spots. This project has been powered by Morgan's Mole Patrol and Save Your Skin Foundation, with the support of the City of Kelowna and Tourism Kelowna, and Kelowna Golf & Country Club.

"We commend Save Your Skin Foundation and the efforts of Morgan's Mole Patrol for getting this initiative going in Kelowna – a city where a lot of people enjoy many outdoor activities," said Kelowna Mayor Colin Basran. "It's great to have free sunscreen available for skin health and cancer prevention in these central locations where thousands of people pass by every day."

Morgan Forshner was just 33 years old when he passed away in December of 2016, after being diagnosed with melanoma. His mother, Karen Wells of Kelowna, started Morgan's Mole Patrol Foundation to spread awareness about the importance of sun safety. Her aim is to stop the spread of melanoma, a largely preventable cancer - with the application of some sun smart behaviour.

"If you can't do it for yourself, do it for Morgan, who would have done things differently if he only knew," says Karen. "If we can just save one family to not go through what he's gone through and they could see their children to grow up, he would want that."

One dispenser will be placed in Kelowna's Visitor Centre downtown and is kindly being sponsored by Moxie's Grill & Bar, Kelowna. The second dispenser will be placed at Kelowna Golf & Country Club. The dispensers are automatic and touchless, and will provide free, Health Canada approved SPF 30 sunscreen for anyone who needs it. The dispensers use Bright Guard Natural SPF 30, free from known dangerous ingredients such as parabens, oxybenzone, retinyl palminate, phthalate, PEG, parfume, and sodium lauryl sulphate. Click **HERE** to view the full list of ingredients.

"Studies show that young people still aren't taking sun safety seriously despite incidence rates rising every year," says Kathy Barnard, stage 4 melanoma survivor and Founder of Save Your Skin Foundation. "Skin cancer can be deadly, but it is also highly preventable."

Applying sunscreen is part of an overall sun-safe way to enjoy the outdoors. First, limit your time in the direct sunlight, especially between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., seek shade, cover up by wearing long sleeves and pants and a wide-brimmed hat. Use sunscreen, specifically one labelled broad-spectrum, SPF 30, protect the lips with lip sunscreen or zinc oxide. Apply 20 minutes before sun exposure, and reapply every two hours or after swimming.

About Save Your Skin Foundation

Save Your Skin Foundation (SYSF) is a national patient-led not-for-profit group dedicated to leading the fight against non-melanoma skin cancers, melanoma and ocular melanoma through nationwide education, advocacy, and awareness initiatives. Save Your Skin Foundation is committed to playing an active role in reducing the incidence of skin cancer in Canada, and ensuring equal, timely, and affordable access to treatment and compassionate support for all Canadians living with skin cancers.