



## CANFAR Facts and Statistics

- CANFAR is the only national charity in Canada dedicated to finding a solution to the AIDS pandemic.
- CANFAR's mission is **to generate funds for research into HIV and AIDS**. This role is particularly vital, given that Canada is one of a handful of countries with the brain-trust, infrastructure and resources to make a significant difference in the global fight against AIDS.
- It is only through research that a long term, sustainable solution to the AIDS pandemic will be found. This is why CANFAR exists.
- Since 1987 CANFAR has awarded approximately \$16 million to 347 Canadian research projects.
- 100 per cent of net proceeds go directly to HIV/AIDS research and awareness.
- CANFAR's activities do not duplicate those of existing research programs, organization or agencies. CANFAR augments and compliments existing research programs, providing additional funding to sustain or complete ongoing efforts.
- CANFAR is perhaps best known for the Red Ribbon Campaign which sees thousands of red ribbons distributed on World AIDS Day each year. The red ribbon is a symbol of hope and commitment to the search for an end to the AIDS pandemic.
- CANFAR's fundraising events include: Bloor Street Entertains, the Bizbash Fundraising event of the year in 2007 and 2008; AIDSbeat, an all-out battle of the bands featuring legal professionals; and Spring for Life, an awareness campaign raising funds through flower sales in downtown Toronto locations.



### **Canadian Statistics on HIV/AIDS:**

- 73,000 Canadians are HIV positive, up from 49,000 in 2001.  
*Source: UNAIDS. Epidemiological Fact Sheet on HIV and AIDS 2008 update*
- Approximately one quarter of Canadians living with HIV are unaware that they are HIV positive.
- Two thirds of grade 7 students, half of grade 9, and one third of grade 11 students wrongly believe that there is a cure for AIDS.
- Aboriginal people are almost three times more likely to be infected than other Canadians.

*Source: Public Health Agency of Canada . HIV/AIDS Epi Updates, November 2007, Surveillance and Risk Assessment Division, Centre for Infectious Disease Prevention and Control, Public Health Agency of Canada, 2007.*