



*Thomas Pashby (1915-2005) C.M., M.D.
Founding Chairman*

PRESS RELEASE

October 12, 2011

Ken Bocking MD FRCS (c) FACS is the recipient of the 2011 **Dr. Tom Pashby Sports Safety Fund Award**, given to a Canadian who has made an outstanding contribution in the prevention of catastrophic injuries in sport and recreation.

A catastrophic injury is one that leaves a person with a permanent impairment that might affect the eyes, brain or spinal cord.

The Award includes a \$10,000 prize and the trophy is on permanent display at Canada Sports Hall of Fame.

presentation: Sunday, October 16, 2011

Directors

*Robert Allan
Betty Ann Armstrong
Joanne Banfield
Virginia Edmonds
Blair Fleming
Douglas Green
Lois Kalchman
Christopher Martin
Daniel Murphy
Jane Pashby
Robert Pashby, M.D.
William Pashby
Al Stewart
Charles Tator, C.M., M.D.
Heather Whitaker
Robert Wilton
Beverley Woods*

7:00 P.M. at Centre Ice

St. Thomas Timkin Community Centre

2- 3rd Avenue,

St. Thomas, Ontario.

Dr. Bocking, 61, graduated from the University of Western Ontario medical school in 1975. He practised general surgery and served as Chief of Staff and Chief of Surgery at St. Thomas-Elgin General Hospital until his recent retirement. But his avocation was amateur hockey where he coached and later served as a physician to the St. Thomas Stars junior B team.

"As a team doctor, I saw at least four to six concussions a year of varying degrees," he says. His son Steven suffered two concussions and had post concussion syndrome.

It was mid 1990's long before concussions were front page news. Dr. Bocking approached Ontario Hockey Association president Brent Ladds who subsequently convened a meeting involving kinesiologist Dr. Pat Bishop chair of the Canadian Standards Association Committee of Equipment and Facilities for Ice Hockey. Later Dr. Tom Pashby joined their committee resulting in the OHA becoming the first hockey association in Canada to have a 'no headchecking' rule. They lobbied Hockey Canada as well as the NHL and NHLPA.

"He is clearly the guy who brought the concussion problem to hockey," Bishop said.

Hockey Canada followed the OHA lead in 2002 and later hosted concussion seminars in Ottawa, Winnipeg, Regina and Montreal. This year it has developed a concussion education website.

"Dr. Bocking reminds me of my father," says Fund president Dr. Bob Pashby. "He worked quietly and efficiently behind the scenes moving towards solving a major problem.

The Fund was formed in 1989 to carry on the ideals and passion for safety of Toronto ophthalmologist, Dr. Tom Pashby who pioneered face protectors for hockey players that has prevented blind eyes.

Previous award winners are kinesiologist Dr. Pat Bishop, neurosurgeon Dr. Karen Johnston, sport medicine specialist and Chief Medical Officer of Hockey Canada Dr. Mark Aubry, Kevin Stubbington who created the STOP (Safety Towards Other Players) patches worn on the back of sweaters as well as Toronto Star journalist Randy Starkman, Richard Kinar of Vancouver for his work in safety for skiers and last year's winner, emergency physician and researcher with emphasis on soccer. Scott Delaney of Montreal.

-30-

For Further Information – call Lois Kalchman, 416-323-3778 or cell 416- 319-3778. -30-

Legal Counsel

Borden Ladner Gervais LLP

Auditors

Weinberg & Gasparic LLP

Charitable Registration

BN 13563 3097 RR0001

*Dr. Tom Pashby Sports Safety Fund
Scotia Plaza, Suite 4400 (WTP)
40 King Street West
Toronto, Ontario M5H 3Y4
(416) 367-6249
E-Mail: wpashby@blgcanada.com
Web Site: www.drpushby.ca*