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Ride For Karen battles cancer

Sep 1, 2005

Chris Traber, Staff Writer - [More from this author](#)

Everyone with two wheels and a big heart is invited to join the Ride For Karen, an annual York Region cycling event to raise funds for charities that help people living with cancer and those who care for them, Sept. 11.

The fourth ride in memory of Markham's Karen Tobias rolls out from St. Joan of Arc High School in Maple. Two separate cycling events are scheduled. Registration for the first -- 160 kilometres through York and surrounding regions -- begins at 7:30 a.m. and the ride commences at 9 a.m. The second ride -- 25 kilometres -- has registration at 11:30 a.m. and begins at 1 p.m.

Brothers Kris and Kirk Tobias organized the first ride in 2002 after their mother died. They have raised more than \$150,000 for charities and this year's \$50,000 target will go to three children's cancer camps -- Camp Quality, Camp Oochigeas and Camp Trillium.

The entry fee is \$50 but will be waived if riders raise \$200 in pledges.

The day includes stations with water and energy foods, lunch during the 160-km. event, a barbecue and draw prizes.

Riders must wear helmets.

More than 200 riders are expected, Kirk said.

The 160-km ride starts and ends in York, Kris said, adding a core group will all ride together.

"For most, it's not a race, but an opportunity to see friends, work out, talk and put a face on the effort. Everyone, it seems, is touched by the ride," he said.

The bike courses, chosen for their scenery, will be closed for the riders.

"We've received tremendous support from the schools, the police chief, local businesses and superintendents from each district," Kirk said.



Staff Photo/Bill Roberts

Kirk Tobias (left) and brother Kris are once again taking part in the Ride For Karen, a cancer fundraising event in memory of their mother.

The State Of York Region

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For information, go to www.rideforkaren.com

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