

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE June 15, 2022

Cycle for Sight returns in-person to the GTA with goal of raising over \$500,000 for critical vision research in Canada

On Saturday, June 18, Fighting Blindness Canada's Cycle for Sight is back in-person, raising essential funds for vision research in the Toronto area and across the country. Being held at the Gibson Centre in Alliston, ON, the annual event encourages participants of all ages and abilities to get active to support over eight million – 1 in 5 – Canadians living with a blinding eye disease that puts them at significant risk of blindness.

"There are 1.2 million Canadians who are living with uncorrectable vision loss and that number is expected to grow to 2 million by 2050," says Doug Earle, President, and CEO of Fighting Blindness Canada. "This is why raising funds for vision research to restore their sight is critical. We are so grateful to Cycle for Sight participants and their supporters in helping to prevent blindness."

Joining Cycle for Sight this year is Canada Winter Games silver and bronze medalist Maya Jonas, as well as New Tecumseth Mayor Rick Milne to welcome cyclists at the starting line. Once the ride through some of Ontario's most picturesque areas is complete, cyclists can enjoy food, prizes, and the opportunity to meet FBC-funded scientists who are making groundbreaking discoveries in vision research – all with protocols to keep cyclists and their families safe and comfortable.

For those unable to participate in-person, Cycle for Sight's virtual component allows Canadians anywhere to help raise money for vision research by joining celebrated Parapan Silver Medalist, Paralympic 2024 hopeful and Amazing Race Canada alumni Lowell Taylor on a Zwift ride. Participants can create their own challenge at their own pace, whether it be walking, dancing, yoga or any other favourite physical activity, all in support of vision research funding.

Both the in-person and virtual event will honour participants' accomplishments and share stories of individuals whose lives have been touched by the work of researchers funded by Fighting Blindness Canada.

Date: Saturday, June 18, 2022

Location: Gibson Centre and PPG Park, 63 Tupper St. W., Alliston, Ontario L9R 1E4 Timing: 8:15 am for the 80km and 100km ride; 9:45 am for the 18km, 35km and 50km ride Choice of activities: Cycling (in-person), or any other type of activity that gets people moving (virtual)



Fundraising Goal: \$500,000 in support of Fighting Blindness Canada for research into cures and treatments for blinding eye diseases.

For more information and to register, visit cycleforsight.ca or call 1.800.461.3331 ext. 231.

-30 -

About Fighting Blindness Canada:

Fighting Blindness Canada (FBC) is the largest charitable funder of vision research in Canada. Over our 48-year history, FBC has contributed over \$40 million in funding for the development of sight-saving treatments and cures for blinding eye diseases. Thanks to our supporters, FBC is helping drive forward research to understand why vision loss occurs, how it can be slowed, and how sight can be restored. To learn more, visit fightingblindness.ca or call 1-800-461-3331. For vision health inquiries, call 1-888-626-2995 or email healthinfo@fightingblindness.ca to reach FBC's Health Information Service.

Contact:

Mirja Raita, Manager, Cycle for Sight 416.360.4200 Ext. 231 mraita@fightingblindness.ca

Jackie Rosen, Executive Assistant to Doug Earle 416-360-4200 Ext. 246 jrosen@fightingblindness.ca