

## ***MEDIA RELEASE***

*For Immediate Release*

### **Brandt Group of Companies supports Saskatchewan Children's D-Camp**

*Camp helps children living with type 1 diabetes build self-confidence*

**REGINA, SASKATCHEWAN (May 23, 2013)** – For more than 57 years, the Canadian Diabetes Association has been operating its unique Saskatchewan Children's D-Camp, an inspiring place for children and youth living with type 1 diabetes. The Association is excited to announce that Brandt Group of Companies has generously donated \$50,000 to Saskatchewan's camping program over the next two years.

"We all know friends, family, or co-workers affected by diabetes and its life-changing effects. Donating to the Canadian Diabetes Association's Saskatchewan Children's D-Camp is a priority for Brandt, because of the great work they do to help children and families connect and share experiences to better help them cope with and self-manage this serious disease," says Gavin Semple, Chairman, Brandt Group of Companies. "Helping children and families within a supportive and nurturing environment such as this camping program is a very worthy cause—one that Brandt is very honoured to support."

The Canadian Diabetes Association is the only national provider of camps for children with diabetes in Canada. The Saskatchewan Children's D-Camp is the only one of its kind in the province. D-Camps provide children ages 8 to 14, living with type 1 diabetes in communities across Saskatchewan, an authentic and exciting camp experience where they also take steps to becoming independent in managing their diabetes. For many campers, D-Camps is the only place where they spend time with other children living with type 1 diabetes. Parents also have peace of mind knowing that their children are monitored by a dedicated team of trained medical professionals who are available around the clock. This team includes doctors, nurses and dietitians. The team works closely with the campers and counsellors, many of whom also have type 1 diabetes, to provide the highest level of diabetes care.

"Camp is exciting—I get to meet new people and learn new things every day. They show us how to monitor your blood sugars and stay healthy. There is always someone there to help you out too, if needed. When you are there, you are always with people like you and you make new friends. I have attended camp for five years and it has been a blast!" says Caden Davies, 13, D-Camps camper. "You get to do all sorts of outside sports and games, swimming and canoeing. I'm thinking about becoming a leader in years to come, so I can help kids like me."

Type 1 diabetes is an autoimmune disease that occurs when the pancreas no longer produces any insulin or produces very little insulin. Insulin is a hormone that ensures body energy needs are met. The only treatment for type 1 diabetes is insulin—taken by injection or a continuous infusion pump without which type 1 diabetes is fatal. Poorly-controlled diabetes can lead to serious complications including heart attack, stroke, blindness, kidney failure and amputation. Management of type 1 diabetes is complex and children living with the disease face many challenges from the day-to-day management to the emotional isolation they may experience.

“By providing children and youth with programming that supports a healthy lifestyle, confidence and empowerment, they are better equipped to rise above their challenges. They also become role models for their peers and for the community at large,” says Warren Wagner, Regional Director, Saskatchewan for the Canadian Diabetes Association. “Thanks to Brandt Group of Companies, children and youth with type 1 diabetes will continue to enjoy the great outdoors, while they learn to manage their disease. We look forward to working with Brandt in the fight against diabetes.”

### **About the Brandt Group of Companies**

The Brandt Group of Companies—headquartered in Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada—is comprised of Brandt Agricultural Products Ltd., Brandt Engineered Products Ltd., Brandt Equipment Solutions Ltd., Brandt Road Rail Corporation, and Brandt Tractor Ltd. Brandt Tractor Ltd. is the world’s largest privately held John Deere construction and forestry equipment dealer.

Brandt has 27 locations across Canada and the United States and exports their products to North America, Europe, Australia, and Asia. Brandt is one of Canada’s largest privately owned companies and is among an elite group of Platinum Members of the Canada’s 50 Best Managed Companies program.

Brandt recently surpassed a major milestone of \$1 billion in annual revenue. To express their appreciation to the communities, customers, and employees who have helped in reaching this level of success, the Brandt Group of Companies is giving back by way of donations, promotions, and special gifts through their **Thanks a Billion** program. Since the program began, Brandt has given back over \$4.5 million dollars which includes donations to more than 132 charitable initiatives in 71 communities. Learn more at [brandt.ca](http://brandt.ca).

### **About the Canadian Diabetes Association**

The Canadian Diabetes Association is a registered charitable organization, leading the fight against diabetes by helping people with diabetes live healthy lives while we work to find a cure. Our professional staff and more than 20,000 volunteers provide education and services to help people in their daily fight against the disease, advocate on behalf of people with diabetes for the opportunity to achieve their highest quality of life, and break ground towards a cure. Please visit [diabetes.ca](http://diabetes.ca), join us on [www.facebook.com/CanadianDiabetesAssociation](https://www.facebook.com/CanadianDiabetesAssociation), follow us on Twitter @DiabetesAssoc, or call 1-800-BANTING (226-8464).

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