

Through a mother's eyes

Local author launches her book, "A cure for Emma"

**Sue Nielsen
Speaker Reporter**

TEMISKAMING SHORES -- Haileybury author Julie Colvin read from her book, "A cure for Emma" during her book launch, held at the New Liskeard Chat Noir bookstore on Thursday, October 13.

"Emma and I were delighted with the turn out to the first book signing event of 'A Cure for Emma'. Copies sold out before the event began; thankfully a new shipment of books arrived with three hours to spare. We sold out that supply as well, which is a fabulous problem to have," said Mrs. Colvin.

"A cure for Emma" is based on Mrs. Colvin's experiences after her daughter Emma was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes (T1).

Emma was diagnosed with T1 diabetes when she was seven years old. Mrs. Colvin said there were subsequently many changes that affected her entire family.

Mrs. Colvin's book is part memoir and partly written from the point of view of a mother who has found herself taking on the role of a diabetes advocate.

The author spent considerable time researching the disease, advocating for a cure for T1 and trying to help her daughter cope with diabetes.

She said it took a lot of soul searching to find the right way to speak about her and her daughter's journey with T1, but she wrote the book with hopes of helping others who have gone through similar situations.

She decided to write her book, not so much on the ins and outs of the disease but about the adventure of discovery and healing she found herself on and to find a cure for her daughter.

Anyone reading the book will come away with a better understanding of the author/mother's role in caring for her daughter's diabetes and as a person interested in finding out as much as she can about T1 diabetes.

In her advocacy role she has created her own Facebook page, the "T1 Diabetes Cure-Global Headquarters" page.

She found writing the book very helpful in the grand scheme of coping with the many changes in her family's life. She compared the writing process to meditation, it quieted her mind and helped her put things in perspective.

DONATING PROFITS

When people purchase "A Cure for Emma" they not only get to read a heartfelt, personal, awareness raising book about diabetes but have the opportunity to support research into a cure for T1.

One hundred per cent of the profits from her book sales for the first five months or 5,000 copies will be given to Dr. Denise Faustman from Harvard Medical School.

Mrs. Colvin brought her daughter to Dr. Faustman's clinic at the Massachusetts General Hospital to help provide blood samples to aid in research methods.

She was so impressed with Dr. Faustman's research that she decided to donate book sale profits to Dr. Faustman's research efforts to begin Phase Two of human clinical trials.

"She has one of the most promising approaches to curing the disease and her lab is about to begin phase 11 of human clinical trials which is very exciting," said Mrs. Colvin.

In addition, a smaller percentage of the book sale profits will be directed towards T1 Cure Research said Mrs. Colvin.

During the book launch, musician/guitarist Robyn Dewar performed a bevy of songs before Mrs. Colvin read a passage from her book.

The author wanted to thank the organizers at Chat Noir and her friend Lois Weston Bernstein for their support.

FUTURE

As far as the future goes, the author said she is enthusiastic



Pictured are Julie Colvin and her daughter Emma at the Chat Noir book launch of Mrs. Colvin's book, a Cure for Emma, on Thursday October 13. (Staff photo by Sue Nielsen)

about her book writing journey and fundraising project.

"During the first two weeks of sales, the book sold in 32 out of 50 U.S. states and in eight different countries. It became a "Best Seller" very quickly."

When asked if she felt researchers were close to a cure for T1, she said, "With the technology out there, what used to take 100 years takes 10, and what used to take 10 years takes one. Things move in leaps and bounds and I definitely think

there is going to be a cure."

Mrs. Colvin will be taking part in several book-signing events across the province in support of Diabetes Awareness Month in November.

Anyone interested in purchasing Mrs. Colvin's book, "A Cure for Emma" will find copies at Chat Noir, most Chapters and Coles locations in Ontario, Chapters.ca and Amazon.ca

For more information visit www.acureforemma.com

On behalf of all local firefighters, we would like to thank committee members Kelly Aggett, Jacqui Lefebvre, Amanda Turnbull, Cathy Fevreau, as well as all of the management and staff of our local Wal-Mart store for your involvement with the firefighters' calendar. Your support has been tremendous and we appreciate your efforts on our behalf.

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