

# 150th Birthday of the National Capital 2008 Skate the Distance

On the Rideau Canal,  
Friday, February 15th, 7 a.m.



## Skater: Jake Maarse

I plan to skate up to 150 KM in support of the Campaign to build a new Ottawa Rotary Home. Together we can help this organization expand the essential respite it provides families in our community. Thank you for your support!

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**The Ottawa Rotary Home** provides a warm and loving home away from home for children and youth with physical disabilities and complex medical needs for a few hours to a few weeks at a time while their parents take a much needed break. Led by local Rotarians, the 24-hour Home was the only respite program of its kind and proudly served as the model for respite programs across the continent until the 1900's.

Over the years our children have grown into adulthood, and while the supports their families depend upon end at age 21, their needs do not. Several hundred young adults over the age of 21 are currently in need of respite in our community *today*.

With no space left to expand at the current site, Ottawa Rotarians are once again taking the lead and have committed to building a new Ottawa Rotary Home. The new building will not only offer the children the space they need, but will allow for the development of new respite programs to young adults in the region whose families currently have very few affordable options available to them.

90% of the \$6.5 million needed to build the new Home has already been raised!

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## **Jake Maarse**

Horticulturist / Landscaper / Marathon Speed Skater

Born: October 1, 1954

Birthplace: Aalsmeer, The Netherlands

Jake got his love for skating in the winter of 62/63 when Holland had great outdoor ice everywhere. He joined a skating club when he was 17 and skated Olympic style and Marathon distances.

In 1977 he graduated from the Royal Dutch Horticultural College, married Mary and they immigrated to Canada. They had 2 girls and a boy who are now grown. He worked in the green industry until 1987. At that time he and his wife started their own landscaping company. Skating was done sporadically. In 2002 he moved to Ottawa to live close to the canal. He is currently involved in running, rollerblading, sailing and cycling and renewed his interest in Marathon skating. He was part founder of M.S.I. – Marathon Skating International. He attended all North American marathon skating races and winning in his age category became the norm. He has organized several races here in Ottawa at the Brewer Park oval but his dream to have an international race on the canal has not been realized yet.

Jake has been a Rotarian for 10 years, first in Cobourg and now with the Ottawa West Rotary Club. He hopes that 'Skating the Distance' will raise much needed funds for the very deserving children that need the Ottawa Rotary Home.

**Dear Potential Sponsor,**

I am Skating the Distance. All proceeds will go to the new Ottawa Rotary Home. You can sponsor me for an amount per kilometer or set amount. After the skate I will return to tell you how many kilometers I skated and collect your contribution. Donations can also be made online at [www.orhfoundation.ca](http://www.orhfoundation.ca). Thank you for your support!

<b>Sponsor Information</b>	<b>Pledge per KM</b>	<b>Maximum pledge</b>	<b>Amount collected</b>
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Please make cheques payable to the Ottawa Rotary Home Foundation.  
 Tax receipts will be issued for any contributions over \$5.  
 Charitable Registration Number 89418 7962 RR0001