

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New Book Project from the Canadian Premature Babies Foundation-Fondation pour Bébés Prématurés Canadiens (CPBF-FBPC) Will Provide a Valuable Resource for New Parents



“We are confident that parents of premature babies who document their struggles and achievements will help new parents meet the challenges ahead and help them work through the challenges.”

- Katharina Staub, Executive Director, CPBF-FBPC

The Canadian Premature Babies Foundation-Fondation pour Bébés Prématuurés Canadiens (CPBF-FBPC) is launching a new book project which will give parents an opportunity to purchase pages in a book to share their experiences of delivering and raising premature babies. These first-hand accounts will be published in concert with perspectives from healthcare professionals and leading researchers to produce a comprehensive resource for new parents.

EDMONTON, ALBERTA (April 7, 2014) – The Canadian Premature Babies Foundation (CPBF) is asking parents of premature babies to tell their stories in support of others. Contributors can purchase a page or pages in an anthology to share their experiences using their own words and photos. All submissions will be published in [Early Beginnings: Stories of Premature Birth](#) which will also include contributions from healthcare professionals and researchers. The project is being launched on April 7, in concert with [Socks for Life](#), an international campaign sponsored by the European Foundation for the Care of Newborn Infants. Publication of the completed book is scheduled for World Prematurity Day, November 17, 2014.

Contributors will be able to upload photos and stories through [the CPBF website](#). All submissions will be professionally edited and designed in either a one or two page format. Authors will approve a proof copy of their story suitable for framing in advance of publication. Prices range from \$50 - \$120 and include a copy of the finished book.

Early Beginnings will allow parents of premature babies to create a personal keepsake while providing a valuable peer resource for others. [The importance of peer support in improving health outcomes](#) is being increasingly acknowledged as healthcare providers shift their focus from disease to wellness. Peer support is also a primary goal of the Canadian Premature Babies Foundation. CPBF was founded in 2012 to prevent preterm birth through education and research, support the best standards of care for premature babies and to give premature babies and their families a voice across Canada. 20% of proceeds from the book project will be used to help fund CPBF work.

In Canada approximately 1 in 10 babies are born prematurely, which means delivery occurring prior to 37 completed gestational weeks. While the majority of babies born prematurely do well, the effects of prematurity may last a lifetime with the most common problems being developmental disabilities.

“Giving birth prematurely can be both a terrifying and bewildering experience,” said CPBF Executive Director Katharina Staub. “We are confident that parents of premature babies who document their struggles and achievements will help new parents meet the challenges ahead and help them work through the challenges.”

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