

**The Bruce Denniston Bone Marrow Society (BDBMS)** is working with the Leukemia/BMT Program of BC to collect stem cells from within Canada and around the world for bone marrow transplant patients in British Columbia. Less than 1 year since beginning this program, 50 missions will have been completed by retired RCMP officers serving as volunteer couriers.

The process involves the following steps:

1. One day of training is provided at Vancouver General Hospital (VGH), and a training manual is provided to each volunteer courier.
2. When the services of a courier are required VGH makes contact with BDBMS by email, requesting a courier and providing the retrieval location and possible dates.
4. BDBMS Courier Program Coordinators check their spreadsheet listing the couriers who are currently active and whose coordinates are always kept current, together with a record of each mission. Equal opportunity is given to provide the service over time.
5. Email is sent to VGH and copied to the courier, providing the courier's name, date of birth, passport information, address, telephone numbers, email address, Aeroplan # and seating preferences.
6. The courier receives an outline of the Trip Report template, and expense claim form.
7. A mission meeting is coordinated by VGH and held a few days before departure.
8. VGH is in constant contact with the courier through the BDBMS Courier Program Coordinators.
9. Travel and accommodation is coordinated by the hospital and their travel agency in collaboration with the courier.

**If you are interested in serving as a volunteer courier for the Leukemia/BMT Program of BC please contact the Bruce Denniston Bone Marrow Society Courier Program Coordinator at [bdmarrow@uniserve.com](mailto:bdmarrow@uniserve.com). The next training session will be held at VGH between June 10<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>, 2013.**