

## **Journey for Julie**

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Meet Russ McCann and Greg Kotlowski their preparing for another day on the road as they bike across Canada to raise awareness and money for meningitis research. Greg lost his young daughter Julie to the disease 21 years ago when she was four.

Russ and Greg are avid cyclists and often race each other, they thought the ride across the country would be a challenge and then decided to use the journey to raise awareness and money for meningitis. “Its two things for me” Greg told LTV, “It’s healing and helping.”

Julie’s meningitis began with flu like symptoms, high fever and vomiting, which are not unusual for children, she also had a rash. Greg’s wife rushed her to the hospital and 13 hours later she was dead.

Greg urges everyone to go the hospital if then have any doubts about their symptoms especially a rash. He would like to see vaccines mandatory in all provinces and meningitis eradicated. Over one hundred thousand people around the world die from the disease every year.

Their goal is to raise \$200,000. They would like people to sponsor them one cent per kilometre or \$65.00 if three thousand people did that their goal would be achieved. With the all challenges a bike tour across the country would pose the hardest part for Greg will be the end, their journey will conclude at Julie’s grave side in Lawrencetown, Nova Scotia.

If you would like to help Greg and Russ meet their goal or would like more information about the Journey for Julie you can log on their website at [www.journeyforjulie.ca](http://www.journeyforjulie.ca)