

Bike ride for Huntington's disease



Not everyone is willing to give up a job to cycle across Canada for a good cause, but Kevin Glenney did.

SHANE KURKI/ THE DAILY NEWS

KEVIN GLENNEY of Vancouver rode through Kamloops Monday evening, cycling across Canada to raise money for Huntington's disease, which attacks muscle co-ordination.

Glenney, 36, an aerospace engineering, left the Goodrich Corp. so he could spend three months cycling coast to coast to raise money for the Huntington Society of Canada.

"A lot of my friends think I'm crazy," he said Monday while en route to Kamloops. He embarks on the next leg of his trip today.

He left Horseshoe Bay on his 8,300-kilometre trek to Cape Spear, Nfld., on Friday.

Glenney hopes to raise \$30,000 toward research and awareness of Huntington's

disease, which affects muscle co-ordination and leads to dementia and eventually death.

Glenney's grandfather and great grandfather had Huntington's.

When Glenney decided to ride across Canada, his dad suggested Huntington's would be a good cause to cycle for, he said.

Neither Glenney nor his father have been tested for the gene. However, his dad is in his 60s and has shown no sign of the disease. Any child of an affected parent has a 50 per cent risk of inheriting the disease.

Father and son visited B.C. 12 years ago.

At that time, Glenney thought it would be fun to spend a winter as a ski instructor then ride home to Ontario.

The ski instructor part came true, but life got in the way of the bike ride.

He's glad the adventure has finally become a reality.

"B.C. is the most awesome place in the world," said Glenney.

To make a donation, go online to www.kevinglenney.com. Glenney is also raising awareness for Engineers Without Borders, who work to help disadvantaged communities around the world.