

## 2014-2015 ANNUAL REPORT



# HE SAVED my life!



CHANCES FOR SURVIVAL were not good...

### "Serges asked me what his chances of survival were.

I explained to him that the treatment protocol developed at the Mayo Clinic had not been successfully completed by patients at a Quebec institution, including at the MUHC. Meanwhile, the Mayo Clinic was using a treatment that was garnering excellent results. I suggested to Serges that he seek care there or in Toronto, where the protocol had also been previously successfully performed, but he elected to stay in Montreal. So the MUHC Royal Victoria Hospital put together a multidisciplinary team to handle Serges' care.

Everything happened very quickly. I make it a habit of staying on top of my patients' progress even while I'm not on duty. When I received Serges' test results, there was no time to waste. Given the severity of the postoperative infection, I went straight to the hospital to perform emergency surgery.

"The Cancer Research Society's work is essential. There are over 200 types of cancer. Treating them all is hard because everyone responds differently to the treatments. Research enables us to develop treatments tailored to each type of cancer. For instance, the treatment we used on Serges, and which has since been improved upon, will help us treat patients who will develop that same type of cancer."

#### - Dr. GEORGE ZOGOPOULOS, MD, PhD, FRCS(C), FACS

Assistant Professor of Surgery at McGill University
Surgeon at the McGill University Health Centre (Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary
and Transplant Surgery, Royal Victoria Hospital – Glen site)

### Table of contents

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

RESEARCH FRONT AND CENTRE 6

CANCER AFFECTS TOO MANY OF US 7

TANGIBLE RESULTS, MAJOR DISCOVERIES 8

THE NEXT GENERATION OF SCIENTISTS

COLLABORATING AGAINST CANCER AND RESEARCH FUNDS 13

FUNDING ACROSS CANADA 14

OUR EXPERT COMMITTEES

FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES 16

THANKS TO OUR DONORS 18

FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 22

# **EXECUTIVE** summary



Somfiella

DUMENIC PILLA

Chairman of the Board



Quelisbot

ANDY CHABOT President and Chief Executive Officer

FOR 70 YEARS, THE CANCER RESEARCH SOCIETY HAS BEEN WORKING TIRELESSLY TO DEFEAT CANCER. WE HAVE MADE MANY DISCOVERIES AND GREAT STRIDES THIS YEAR THANKS TO GENEROUS DONORS WHO SHARE OUR CONVICTION THAT RESEARCH IS THE ONLY WAY WE WILL PREVENT, CONTROL OR EVEN BEAT THIS TERRIBLE DISEASE.

Stories like Serges' have become far too common. Yet they move us every time...

It is impossible to remain indifferent in the face of the growing number of people with cancer. Behind the figures are the patients and families whose lives are forever altered by the disease. We want to save more lives, which is why we strive harder year after year to fund the most promising research out there. And each time a life is spared, especially when it is thanks to one of our own talented scientists, like Dr. George Zogopoulos, it confirms that our research investments are bearing fruit.

This past year, you have made it possible for the Cancer Research Society to fund basic research, which is where many of the innovative discoveries originate. The Society was also able to fund environmental cancer research, a field we are helping to pioneer in Canada. More recently, the Society added early translational research to its portfolio, to help improve how we detect and treat tumours in general, because we are aware of the importance of looking at cancer in its entirely.

The Society has also tasked itself with stemming the brain drain by ensuring the most talented young scientists stay in Canada after their studies or move back and pursue their career here after completing their postdoctoral training. Consequently, as a result of our grants program for the next generation of scientists, we have already been able to retain or repatriate a growing number of our best and brightest Canadian students.

We urge you to read on and peruse the report's numerous stories and firsthand accounts underscoring the value of your contribution. Together (donors, partners, volunteers, researchers, board members and employees of the Cancer Research Society) we have all had a hand in the important discoveries and tangible progress we made in 2015.

Serges is alive today because many people have invested in cancer research. On his behalf and on behalf of the thousands of people with cancer, thank you for your compassion and generosity!



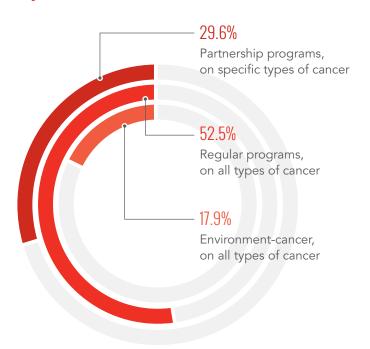




IN THE 2015 FISCAL YEAR, WE INVESTED \$12.9 MILLION IN 157 RESEARCH PROJECTS, INCLUDING 70 NEW PROJECTS.

In addition to fulfilling our operating grant commitments stemming from our annual competitions, we also continued to support research projects jointly funded with various partners. The Cancer Research Society received 386 grant applications this year. Almost half (187) of these applications met the minimum scientific score required to receive funding. It is worth noting that an additional \$7 million would have been needed to fund the 187 deserving projects that met the minimum scientific criteria. Also, the Cancer Research Society continued supporting the development of new scientists across the country, through its innovative Next Generation of Scientists program.

### The 2014-2015 Investments by areas of research





#### GRePEC Environmental Cancer Research and Prevention Group

It is now common knowledge that eating right, exercising regularly, and maintaining a healthy weight help guard against cancer. The GRePEC program studies the effects of potentially carcinogenic physical, chemical, and biological agents for the purpose of generating results that could be quickly communicated to public health officials and the general population.

The Cancer Research Society and its GRePEC program partners (i.e. the Fonds de la recherche du Québec – Santé [FRQS], the Ministère de l'Éducation, de l'Enseignement supérieur et de la Recherche, the Réseau de recherche en santé environnementale [RRSE], and Rio Tinto Alcan) are focused on supporting university research teams.

# CANCER Affects Too Many of Us

FOR 70 YEARS, THE CANCER RESEARCH SOCIETY HAS BEEN CONTRIBUTING TO SCIENTIFIC ADVANCEMENTS AIMED AT PREVENTING, DETECTING, AND TREATING CANCER.

The Society has invested \$57.6 million in research in the last five years alone, while funding 334 new cancer research projects in the process. The work continues unabated, because the time for action is now: this year, it is estimated that 196,900 Canadians will develop cancer, and that 78,000 will die from it.

Source: Canadian Cancer Statistics 2015

### TANGIBLE RESULTS, Major Discoveries

HERE ARE SOME OF THE MORE NOTEWORTHY BREAKTHROUGHS FROM RESEARCHERS FUNDED BY THE CANCER RESEARCH SOCIETY.

### Uniting Viruses and Drugs to Fight Cancer

Ovarian cancer research by renowned Canadian scientists, including Barbara Vanderhyden, and funded by the Cancer Research Society, contributed to an article published in the March 2015 issue of the prestigious scientific journal *Nature Communications*. The team, led by one of our emeritus reviewers, Dr. Jean-Simon Diallo, demonstrated that certain chemical compounds used in chemotherapeutics significantly increased the effectiveness of oncolytic virotherapy treatments in laboratory models.

The team of researchers also identified the mechanism that triggers the synergy between the two anti-cancer treatments. The chemotherapy-induced microtubule destabilization alters the antiviral response and allows the oncolytic viruses to attack cancer cells more vigorously and effectively.

In addition to ovarian cancer, the research also addressed colon, breast, and skin cancer. The team of researchers hopes to begin clinical trials in a few years, once all the laboratory trial conditions are optimized.

### Targeting a New Root Cause in the Fight Against Colorectal Cancer



DR. DANIEL DE CARVALHO, PHD Researcher at the Princess Margaret Cancer Centre

Colorectal cancer is one of the deadliest forms of cancer. Dr. Daniel De Carvalho and his team at the Princess Margaret Cancer Centre have discovered a mechanism capable of mimicking a virus and potentially triggering an immune response to fight the cancer like an infection.

This discovery, published in the respected journal *Cell*, demonstrates that viral mimicry is a viable anti-tumour strategy and that a low dose of the chemotherapy drug decitabine can induce an antiviral and immunogenic response in colorectal cancer stem cells.

#### Genetic Mutations and Breast Cancer



DR. WILLIAM D. FOULKES PHD Director, Program in Cancer Genetics, Lady Davis Institute Photo Credit: Quebec Breast Cancer Foundation

A team of Canadian and Polish researchers, including Dr. William D. Foulkes and Dr. Patricia N. Tonin, both supported by the Cancer Research Society, has dis-

covered that mutations of a gene called RECQL are strongly linked to the onset of breast cancer in some women. Even though mutations of this gene are fairly rare, researchers estimate that nearly half of the women carrying the gene develop the disease. In this study, published in the prestigious journal *Nature Genetics*, about 20,000 different genes were studied, from among 195 patients with breast cancer. This discovery could have future implications in preventing the development of breast cancer in some families.



#### Lung Cancer and Wood Dust

#### DR. JACK SIEMIATYCKI, PhD

Epidemiologist,
Guzzo EnvironmentCancer Research
Chair of the Cancer
Research Society,
in partnership with the
Université de Montréal;
and Professor, Social
and Preventive
Medicine, École
de santé publique
de l'Université de
Montréal (ESPUM).
Photo Credit: Amélie
Philibert, UdeM



Epidemiologist Jack Siemiatycki, with his PhD student Éric Vallières, published an article in the prestigious journal *Environmental Health* on the results of a study involving 4,369 lung cancer cases and control subjects.

The study concluded that substantial cumulative exposure to wood dust increases the probability of developing lung

cancer. The risk of lung cancer is 40% to 70% greater in workers most exposed to wood dust. The risk increases based on the duration and intensity of the exposure. The most frequently exposed are workers in forestry, carpentry, and construction. Dr. Siemiatycki's team was able to establish a statistically significant link by comparing the incidence of cancer in workers exposed to wood dust with those not exposed, including the subjects of the control group who did not have cancer (Université de Montréal, 2015).

#### Quebec Tobacco Industry Class Actions

Dr. Siemiatycki's contribution as an expert witness for tobacco victims during class actions in May 2015 should also be noted. The originality of his approach and his innovative way of assessing the health risks associated with tobacco use and establishing a causal link between smoking and lung, throat, and larynx cancer, were decisive factors in the ruling against the tobacco companies. Justice Brian Riordan expressed his full confidence in the scientist's analysis. Furthermore, he used Dr. Siemiatrycki's innovative calculations to determine the amount of compensation payable. Many experts agreed that the risk calculations were realistic. The ruling will likely set a legal precedent.

#### **Ovarian Cancer and Genetics**

Right now, an estimated 17,000 women in Canada are living with ovarian cancer, and 2,600 new cases will be diagnosed within the next year. Ovarian cancer is the fifth most common cancer in women and one of the most lethal. We know that the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes play a significant role in hereditary breast and ovarian cancers.

Dr. Patricia Tonin, Associate Professor, Departments of Medicine and Human Genetics at McGill University, and her colleagues (Moria H. Bélanger and Lena Dolman of McGill University; Suzanna L. Arcand from the RI-MUHC; Zhen Shen and George Chong of the Jewish General Hospital; Anne-Marie Mes-Masson and Diane Provencher of the Centre de recherche du Centre hospitalier de l'Université de Montréal and the Montreal Cancer Institute) examined more than 400 tissue samples from a unique population of French Canadian women with ovarian cancer, but with no family history of cancer. Their analysis revealed that 19% of these women carried mutations of the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes.

According to Dr. Tonin, these findings demonstrate that all women with ovarian cancer should be offered genetic testing to see if they carry BRCA1 or BRCA2 mutations. Women with ovarian cancer who carry these BRCA mutations are very responsive to some of the newer therapies, so knowing they are carriers means being able to offer them better treatment.

Genetic testing would also make it possible to identify other women in the family as carriers at risk of developing ovarian cancer, and subsequently to offer them risk-reducing strategies.





The first grant I received came from the Cancer Research Society. Since 2003, the Society awarded me five operating grants. It is evident that this support has been a great help. Thus, it is because of your assistance,

dear donors, that I was able to build my team of researchers. Our research on chronic myelogenous leukemia has produced results. We can now identify more quickly whether a patient will respond favourably to conventional treatment or if, for example, we must immediately proceed to a stem cell transplant. Also, our research can improve the treatments that only destroy cancer cells and not healthy cells. Survival rates for chronic myelogenous leukemia have increased from 50% to over 90% within a few years, thanks to new treatments and research. Continuing our research will save more lives.

- Dr. XIAOYAN JIANG, MD, PhD Professor at the University of British Columbia BC Cancer Agency

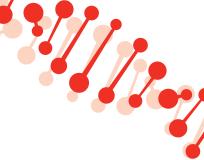


"Cancer is a very complex disease that affects everyone in some way. Basic research is essential to defeat this terrible illness. Unlike other diseases, cancer is caused by combinations of multiple genetic mutations, hence

why the challenge is huge. Chemotherapy and radiotherapy are currently seen as the best treatments to date, but radiation and chemicals cause damage to normal tissue. There have been few successes with targeted therapies with highly specific inhibitors, and identifying such targets becomes extremely important for developing novel therapeutic strategies. Our lab focuses on developing such targeted therapies by applying a basic biological concept called synthetic lethality. These research strategies are of high therapeutic relevance because the treatments of the future will most likely be targeted and customized to the genome of the patient and the type of cancer. Funding from the Cancer Research Society greatly helps us move forward towards this level of personalized medicine.

> - Dr. FRANCO VIZEACOUMAR, PhD Saskatchewan Cancer Agency

# THE NEXT GENERATION of Scientists



#### Scholarships for the Next Generation of Scientists

Canada's brain drain, i.e., the emigration of highly skilled workers to the U.S. or elsewhere, has been a recurring news item in recent years. Losing the most promising elements of society has a detrimental effect on scientific development, as it slows innovation and reduces potential synergies in areas such as advanced cancer research. Also, these departures have significant economic consequences, since they deprive Canada of scientists whose training was funded by millions of dollars from Canadian taxpayers. Retaining our graduates must be seen as a priority and a real concern.

One of the objectives of the Cancer Research Society is to ensure that the most talented researchers working in various cancer-related fields stay in Canada or come back here to pursue their career after studying or interning abroad. This is why the Cancer Research Society established a scholarship program for the Next Generation of Scientists. The program facilitates the transition for postdoctoral researchers who become full members of various university research teams and who wish to continue their work as independent researchers in a Canadian university. The program is also aimed at our brightest students interning abroad, and encourages them to move back to Canada and pursue their scientific careers here.

The Scholarships for the Next Generation of Scientists program has two components and covers a period of three years. The first component is a one-year postdoctoral salary awarded to a candidate finishing his or her fellowship. The second is an operating grant awarded once the candidate has obtained a faculty position at a recognized Canadian institution. This grant is for a maximum of two years.

#### **PART 1** 1 YEAR \$40.000

One-year postdoctoral salary awarded to a candidate finishing his or her fellowship. The candidate must have completed at least two years of postdoctoral training when accepting the scholarship.

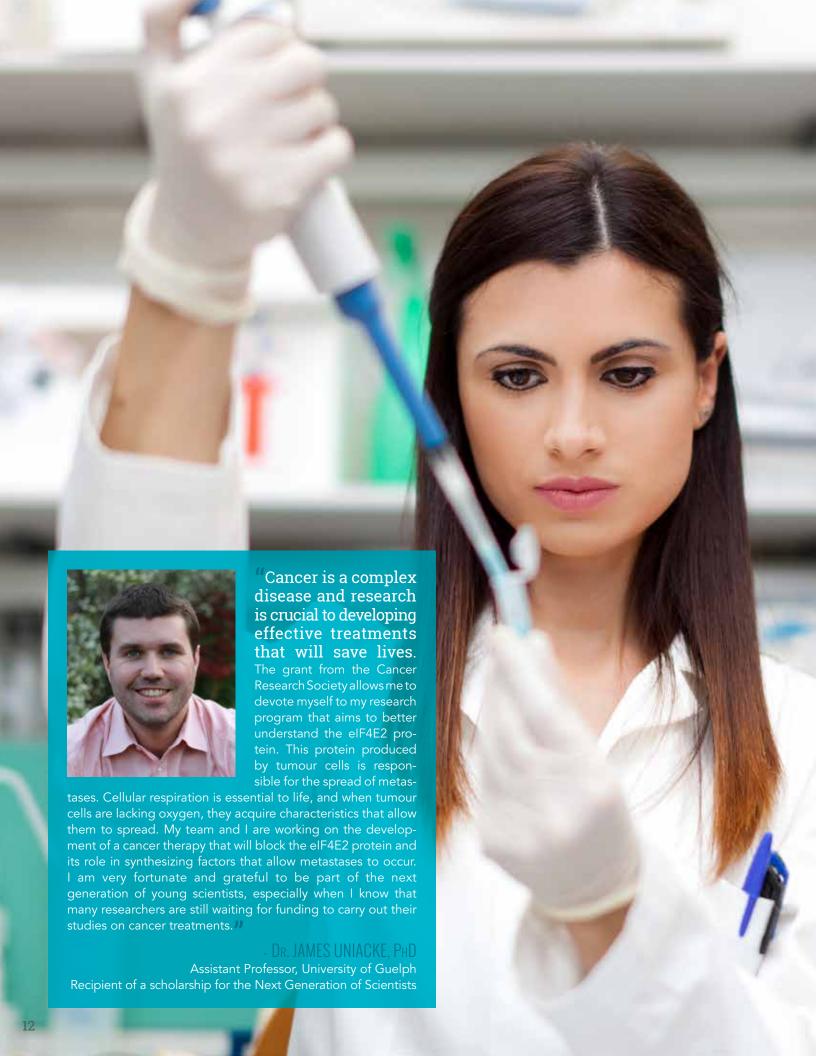
#### **PART 2** 2 YEARS \$120,000

Operating grant awarded once the candidate has obtained a faculty position in a recognized Canadian institution.



"The grant from the Cancer Research Society has been a tremendous help, as it allowed me to rapidly establish a functional academic laboratory as soon as I graduated. Currently, we aim to understand why certain cancers induced by viruses respond differently to treatments compared to cancers without viruses. Research on viral infections and cancer development will help us devise tailored treatments for more resistant cancers. I have always been fascinated by the ability of a virus containing eight proteins to take over our body and promote carcinogenesis. Only basic research can help us solve this mystery."

- DR. AMÉLIE FRADET-TURCOTTE, PHD Assistant Professor at the Université Laval, CHU de Québec Cancer Research Centre Recipient of a scholarship for the Next Generation of Scientists



### COLLABORATING AGAINST CANCER and Research Funds

#### WE WISH TO THANK OUR PARTNERS, WHO ALLOW US BY THEIR GENEROSITY TO SUPPORT MORE RESEARCH.

- Alberta Innovates - Health Solutions
- Andy Chabot Fund
- Bergeron-Jetté Fund
- C<sup>17</sup> Council
- Canadian Cancer Research Alliance
- Canadian Institutes of Health Research
- Canadian Partnership Against Cancer
- Carcinoid-NeuroEndocrine Tumour Society Canada
- Charlotte Légaré Fund
- CURE Foundation
- Environment-Cancer Fund™, Cancer Research Society
- Fonds de recherche du Québec - Santé (FRQS)
- Ganotec/Marc-André Pigeon Fund
- Give for the Cure
- ISAIAH 40:31 Fund
- Kathryn Jeanne Randle Fund
- Marjolaine Bazinet Fund

- Ministère de l'Enseignement supérieur, de la Recherche, de la Science et de la Technologie du Québec
- l'Innovation et des Exportations du Québec (MEIE)
- Myeloma Canada
- Ottawa Hospital Research Institute
- Ovarian Cancer Canada
- Pancreatic Cancer Canada
- Pancreatic Cancer Canada John van Haastrecht Fund
- PROCURE
- PROCURE Biobank/Cancer Research Society Partnership
- Quebec Breast Cancer Foundation
- Read for the Cure
- Rio Tinto Alcan
- Rob Lutterman Fund
- S. Cohen Suits for the Cure®
- Steven E. Drabin Fund

- The Cancer Research Society Division of Epidemiology in Departement of Oncology at McGill University
- The Guzzo Environment-Cancer™ Research Chair of the Cancer Research Society
- Université de Montréal
- University of Alberta
- University of Calgary
- University of Ottawa

#### WE ALSO WANT TO THANK THE NEWLY ESTABLISHED PARTNERS THAT WILL ALLOW US TO FUND SEVERAL ADDITIONAL PROJECTS IN THE COMING YEARS.

- CancerCare Manitoba Foundation
- Jean Doré Fund
- R. Howard Webster Fund
- Rina Primeau Fund

Former Montréal Mayor Jean Doré succumbed to pancreatic cancer in June 2015. Prior to his death, Mr. Doré worked



Jean Doré Research Fund

actively with the Cancer Research Society on establishing the Jean Doré Fund to raise money for pancreatic cancer research. This major research fund aims to fight one of the country's most devastating cancers, which has a five-year survival rate of barely 8%.

Donating to research is both an altruistic and a political gesture. and one I encourage you to make. There are a thousand ways to change the world, including prolonging the lives of your loved ones. May your donation change lives.

JEAN DORÉ





### INSTITUTIONS THAT HAVE RECEIVED RESEARCH FUNDING FROM THE CANCER RESEARCH SOCIETY IN 2014-2015:

- BC Cancer Agency (Deeley Research Centre - Terry Fox Laboratory)
- CancerCare Manitoba
- Centre de recherche du CHUM
- Centre hospitalier universitaire de Montréal (CHUM)
- Centre hospitalier universitaire de Québec (CHUQ)
- Centre hospitalier universitaire de Sherbrooke (CHUS)
- Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario Research Institute
- CHU Sainte-Justine
- Fonds de la Recherche du Québec – Santé (FRQS)
- Hôpital Maisonneuve-Rosemont
- Hôpital Notre-Dame du CHUM
- Hospital for Sick Children
- Institut de recherche du Centre universitaire de santé McGill (IR-CUSM)
- Institut de recherches cliniques de Montréal (IRCM)
- Institut National de la recherche scientifique (INRS)
- Lady Davis Institute of the Sir Mortimer Jewish General Hospital
- McGill University
- McGill University Health Centre

- McMaster University
- Mount Sinai Hospital Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute
- Ottawa Hospital Research Institute
- Provincial Health Services Authority
- Queen's University
- Sunnybrook Health Sciences
- Université de Montréal
- Université de Sherbrooke
- University of Ottawa
- Université Laval
- University Health Network (Princess Margaret Cancer Centre - Toronto General Research Institute)
- University of Alberta (Department of Oncology)
- University of British Columbia
- University of Calgary
- University of Guelph
- University of Manitoba
- University of Saskatchewan
- University of Toronto
- University of Victoria
- University of Western Ontario
- University of Windsor

"As a scientific committee member since 2013 and a member of the Cancer Research Society community for more than eight years, I have observed the evolution of the impact that the Society has had within the scientific community in Canada. The competition selection process is robust, fair, and invests in the top research projects across the country. This year alone we are very proud that in Alberta a total of ten grants were awarded from the Cancer Research Society. It is hard to predict where the next big scientific discovery will occur, but we are very pleased that the Cancer Research Society is committed to funding basic research in areas where we can have a significant impact."



- DR. DONNA SENGER, PHD
Department of Oncology
& Arnie Charbonneau
Cancer Institute, Cumming
School of Medicine
University of Calgary

### **OUR EXPERT** Committees

EXPERT COMMITTEES OF THE CANCER RESEARCH SOCIETY ARE COMPOSED OF STRONG TEAMS OF DISTINGUISHED CANADIAN SCIENTIFIC AND MEDICAL RESEARCHERS, ALL SPECIALIZED IN ONCOLOGY.

#### **SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

This committee of experts advises the Cancer Research Society on the choice of its scientific orientations.

Dr. Eduardo Franco Dr. Dwayne Barber Dr. Lynne-Marie Postovit Dr. Mark Basik Lucille Beaudet<sup>1</sup> Dr. Donna Senger Andy Chabot<sup>2</sup>

#### MEDICAL EXPERT COMMITTEE

These experts help to increase visibility and to position the Cancer Research Society as an invaluable reference when it comes to answering questions related to cancer.

Dr. Rebecca Auer Dr. Wassim Kassouf Dr. Mark Basik Dr. Denis Soulières Dr. Julie Carrier Dr. Christian Steidl Dr. Jean-Luc Urbain Dr. Karen Gelmon Dr. Anand Ghanekar Dr. Sam Wiseman Dr. Michelle Ghert Dr. George Zogopoulos

#### **GRANT APPLICATIONS EVALUATION COMMITTEES**

In order to ensure a fair and proper administration of grants, the Cancer Research Society has established a rigorous selection process that is carried out by our committees of experts, so that our grants are awarded to the best researchers and most innovative research projects across Canada.

#### **EXPERT GRANT REVIEW COMMITTEE** 2014 COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Dr. Peter A. Greer Dr. Micheal Scheid Dr. Etienne Leygue Dr. Peter Sieael Dr. Jeffrey Medin Dr. Peter Watson Dr. Morag Park

Dr. Laurie Ailles Dr. Jean-François Côté Dr. Alison Allan Dr. Andrew Craig Dr. Shoukat Dedhar Dr. Jean-Sébastien Delisle Dr. Rebecca Auer Dr. Dimcho Bachvarov Dr. Bradley Doble Dr. Dwayne Barber Dr. Susan Done Dr. Samuel Benchimol Dr. Jon Draper Dr. Régen Drouin Dr. Nathalie Bérubé Dr. Nicolas Bisson Dr. Marie-Josée Boucher Dr. Marc Fabian Dr. Ralph Buttyan Dr. Gordon Chan Dr. Sherri Christian Dr. Lori Frappier Dr. Jennifer Cobb Dr. Michael Conner Dr. Mihaela Ginj

Dr. Aaron Goodarzi Dr. Charles Graham Dr. Savraj Grewal Dr. Razgallah Hakem Dr. Gilles Hickson Dr. Kristin Hope Dr. Suleiman Igdoura Dr. Nada Jabado Dr. Frank Jirik Dr. Russell Jones Dr. Wassim Kassouf Dr. Sachin Katyal Dr. Benoît Leblanc Dr. Hoyun Lee Dr. Susan Lees-Miller Dr. Louis Lefebvre Dr. James Lim Dr. David Litchfield Dr. David Lohnes Dr. Julian J. Lum Dr. Mathieu Lupien Dr. Douglas Mahoney Dr. Koren Mann Dr. Alberto Martin Dr. Christopher Alan Maxwell Dr. J. Andrea McCart Dr. Greg Moorhead

Dr. Roseline Godbout

Dr. Steven Narod Dr. Lisa A. Porter
Dr. Lynne-Marie Postovit Dr. Moutih Rafei Dr. Janusz Rak Dr. Sheela Ramanathan Dr. Afshin Raouf Dr. Gregor Reid Dr. Donna Senger Dr. Trevor Shepherd Dr. David Szwajcer Dr. Jose Teodoro Dr. Pauline Truong Dr. Barbara Vanderhyden Dr. Michael Witcher Dr. Sarah Wootton Dr. Eldad Zacksenhaus Dr. George Zogopoulos

#### "The Cancer Research Society's philosophy is unique and very promising:

to support all types of cancers and to invest in basic and applied research. In addition, with its excellent scholarship program for young scientists, it helps emerging researchers establish themselves quickly in order to advance cancer research. As a member of a review committee, I see many projects with great potential, but only the most brilliant can be funded! The quality of the expertise on scientific committees is exceptionally high. It is very rewarding to participate in the fight against cancer. The hope of finding ways to defeat this disease is huge!

#### - Dr. JAMES FAWCETT, PhD

Dalhousie University, Halifax Review Committee Member

### FUNDRAISING Activities

#### Second annual URBAN BBQTM







Buoyed by the resounding success of the 1<sup>st</sup> Urban BBQ in 2014, the Cancer Research Society re-held the event in 2015. Approximately 800 people attended this impressive lunchtime BBQ at Windsor Station in Montreal.

Restaurateur Carlos Ferreira came with his chef Joãs Dias. The event, co-chaired by Martin Thibodeau of RBC Royal Bank, and hosted by Cancer Research Society spokesperson Stéphane Rousseau, raised a record \$405,000 for cancer research.

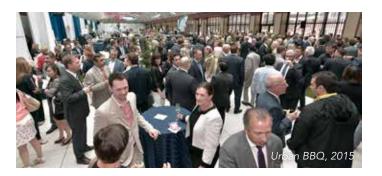


Having a loved one who had cancer changed my way of seeing life. I told myself that I had to act and contribute to funding cancer research. That is why I agreed, for a second consecutive year, to personally get involved in the Urban BBQ. This one-of-a-kind BBQ lunch has rapidly become the most ambitious fundraising event

ever undertaken by the Cancer Research Society!"

#### - MARTIN THIBODEAU

President, Quebec Headquarters RBC Royal Bank



#### CRS Challenge™ Program

The CRS Challenge™ Program spans a series of expeditions that raise funds for cancer research. These expeditions require courage, effort and perseverance. By getting involved in these athletic challenges held all over the world, participants pay tribute to their cancer heroes and raise thousands of dollars for the cause. The Cancer Research Society would like to thank all participants, partners, donors and volunteer specialists who helped the CRS Challenge™ Program raise about \$765,000 this year.





In 2007, my son Olivier Tremblay died on the eve of his fifteenth year with acute lymphoblastic leukemia. Since then, I have taken part in three expeditions with CRS Challenge™ and I intend to continue participating in this great adventure, in Olivier's

memory. I am convinced that cancer research can save many lives. For example, Dr. Sauvageau's recent discovery of a molecule capable of multiplying umbilical cord blood stem cells that could be transplanted to young adults like Olivier will greatly increase patients' chances of recovery. Moreover, through my involvement with the Cancer Research Society, I have met exceptional people who have helped me greatly with my grieving process. For me, the Cancer Research Society represents hope stemming from research and hope for survival.

- NATHALIF BRFALII

Participant, CRS Challenge™





#### 22<sup>nd</sup> Golf Classic

The Cancer Research Society's 22<sup>nd</sup> annual golf tournament attracted a great number of participants from the business community who gathered to support cancer research. The event raised \$188,000. Philippe Duval, President and CEO of the Uniprix Group, and Mario Desautels, Vice-President, Commercial Banking, Scotiabank, served as the tournament's Honorary Co-Chairs, with Alain Champagne, President of McKesson Canada, acting as Honorary Patron.

### BMO® Cancer Research Society MasterCard®

Over the years, the Cancer Research Society has developed an important partnership with BMO Bank of Montreal™ through the BMO® Cancer Research Society MasterCard®. Each time the card is used, BMO makes a direct contribution to the Cancer Research Society. This partnership has already allowed us to collect more than two million dollars that we used to finance major research projects throughout the country.

Games have raised more than \$60,000 for the Cancer Research Society, and I am very proud of this. It is the Cancer Research Society that gave me my first operating grant for my research projects, and holding the Games is my way of thanking the Society. It is essential to invest in basic research to successfully beat cancer. While promoting physical activity among young people, the Saint-Lambert Games contribute to scientific breakthroughs for the fight against cancer. My research focuses, among other things, on oncogenes as well as carcinogens and their role in the development of different types of cancer.

- VOLKER BLANK

Founder and Organizer of the Saint-Lambert Games

THIRD-PARTY ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS RAISED \$105,000 THIS YEAR. THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HELPED ORGANIZE THEM AND WHO PARTICIPATED.

#### Third-party fundraising events

Over 35 fundraising events were held this year due to individuals and groups who took the initiative of supporting cancer research. The Cancer Research Society thanks you all, and hopes you will renew your donation year after year.

### THANKS TO our Donors

THE CANCER RESEARCH SOCIETY WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE DONORS WHOSE NAMES APPEAR BELOW. AS WELL AS THOSE WHO HAVE CHOSEN TO REMAIN ANONYMOUS. FOR HAVING FINANCIALLY SUPPORTED THE CAUSE OF CANCER RESEARCH DURING THE 2015 FISCAL YEAR.

#### **DONORS - SPONSORS AND PARTNERS**

#### \$100,000 AND ABOVE

- Alberta Health Services
- Alberta Innovates - Health Solutions
- C<sup>17</sup> Council
- CURE Foundation
- Fonds de recherche du Québec - Santé
- Lemaire Family Foundation
- Mirella & Lino Saputo Foundation
- Ovarian Cancer Canada
- Power Corporation of Canada
- PROCURE
- Quebec Breast Cancer Foundation
- Read for the Cure Foundation Inc.
- University of Ottawa and Ottawa Hospital Research Institute

#### \$25,000 \$ TO \$99,999

- Bergeron-Jetté Foundation
- BMO Cancer Research Society MasterCard
- Carcinoid NeuroEndocrine **Tumour Society**
- CN's Employees' and Pensioners' Community Fund
- Ganotec Inc.
- INNOVAIRRE
- McKesson Canada

- Myeloma Canada
- Pancreatic Cancer Canada
- Prosol Distributions Inc.
- RBC Royal Bank
- Saputo Inc.
- Corporation
- The Ottawa Hospital

#### \$10,000 TO \$24,999

- Felicia and Arnold Aaron Foundation
- National Bank of Canada
- Scotiabank
- Strategic Charitable Giving Foundation
- TELUS
- Teva Canada
- Uniprix Group
- Valero Energy Inc.
- Wellington Laboratories Inc.

#### \$5,000 TO \$9,999

- Actavis Pharma Company
- Apotex
- Interior Designers of Ontario
- BCF Business Law
- BDO Canada
- Degrandpré Chait
- Desjardins General Insurance Group

- Counselling Inc.
- Fondation Gisèle et Charles Young
- Cadillac GMC
- Great-West Life
- JCB Entrepreneurs Généraux
- KPMG
- La Cordée
- Royal Canadian Legion Lasalle Branch 212

- Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP
- Porter & McMillan Insurance Ltd
- Sandoz Canada
- Desiardins Card Centre
- The Charles Norcliffe Baker And Thelma Scott Baker Foundation
- Transelec Common Inc.
- TransForce
- Visagisme International Inc.

#### \$1,000 TO \$4,999

- 1329194 Ontario Inc.
- 2165-1153 Quebec Inc.
- 3652955 Canada Inc.
- 3806120 Canada Inc.
- 9178-3373 Quebec Inc. • Acier d'Armature Ferneuf Inc.
- Addenda Capital
- AkzoNobel Pulp and Performance Chemicals Canada
- Alfid Group
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THERE ARE MORE THAN 188,000 INDIVIDUAL DONORS WHO HAVE FINANCIALLY SUPPORTED THE MISSION OF THE CANCER RESEARCH SOCIETY. THANK YOU!

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The Visionaries Circle is an initiative highlighting the commitment of people who have decided to support the mission of the Cancer Research Society through a planned gift or other form of deferred gift.

"On his birthday, my husband went to the hospital and three weeks later, he passed away. It was only after the autopsy that we found out he had cancer from the roots of his hair to the tips of his toes. He'd had no symptoms and no pain. For me, the bequest to the Cancer Research Society is a necessity. For over 50 years, I have supported the Cancer Research Society and I will continue to do so through my bequest. The more we help, the sooner we'll find a cure."

- ANNIF LIFFITON

"My mother died from cancer, too young and too fast. My grandmother and my great grandmother, and many other people around me died because of cancer. Cancer has decimated my family. I decided to make a bequest to the Cancer Research Society because I am convinced that genetic research can help us overcome this insidious disease. Research is important. Because of it, we will find solutions!"

- JACOUES MANTHA

"Investing in research is extremely important in the fight against cancer. We see a lot of progress and discoveries stemming from the research that has been conducted. Several of my relatives died of cancer, and for me, making a bequest is important and my way of contributing to the fight!"

- JOAN THOMPSON

# FINANCIAL Activities

We are pleased to present the financial statements of the Cancer Research Society for the fiscal year ending August 31,

2015. During the past year, the Society increased its contribution to research by almost 20%. With pride in its 70 years of existence, the Cancer Research Society wanted to highlight the anniversary of its founding by increasing from 50 to 70 the number of new operating grants awarded during its annual competition. This entailed a contribution of 12.9 million dollars to finance a total of 157 projects compared to 10.9 million the previous year. The Society's results are even more satisfying because it ended the year with a surplus of almost 4 million dollars that will be invested in research during the next year.

Financial						
Activities		2015		2014		
AS AT AUGUST 31, 2015 (IN THOUSANDS \$)	GENERAL FUND \$	RESTRICTED FUNDS \$	TOTAL	GENERAL FUND \$	RESTRICTED FUNDS \$	TOTAL \$
REVENUES						
Donations from public	11,027		11,027	10,325		10,325
Major and planned gifts	3,499		3,499	2,338		2,338
Fundraising projects & partnerships	1,972	5,520	7,492	1,905	4,511	6,416
Investment income	1,801		1,801	1,017		1,017
Change in unrealized gain on investments	423		423	2,359		2,359
	18,722	5,520	24,242	17,944	4,511	22,455
EXPENSES PROGRAMS						
Research grants	5,246	7,680	12,926	4,587	6,301	10,888
Administration	1,394		1,394	1,424		1,424
	6,640	7,680	14,320	6,011	6,301	12,312
Campaign expenses	5,906	25	5,931	5,664	16	5,680
	12,546	7,705	20,251	11,675	6,317	17,992
Excess of revenues over expenses (expenses over revenues) before amortization		(0.405)	0.004		4 004	4.440
and after research grants	6,176	(2,185)	3,991	6,269	(1,806)	4,463
Amortization of property, equipment and software	69		69	60		60
Excess of revenues over expenses (expenses over revenues) after research grants	6,107	(2,185)	3,922	6,209	(1,806)	4,403



The Society received official accreditation through the Imagine Canada Standard program, which is awarded to organizations that demonstrate excellence in Board Governance, Financial Accountability and Transparency, Fundraising, Staff Management, and Volunteer Involvement.

These results were made possible thanks to our supporters, whose donations increased by almost 7%, bringing their contribution to more than 11 million dollars. The success was also the result of sustained efforts and judicious choices that have allowed the Society to reduce its administration costs to 5.8% of revenues, compared to 6.3% in 2014. This situation brings the balance of the Society's funds to over 31 million dollars, thus confirming a solid balance sheet and strengthening the ability of the Society to take on its future commitments.

Also, the Cancer Research Society has recently become one of the 160 entities accredited by the Standards Program of Imagine Canada, the umbrella organization of the Canadian charitable and not-for-profit sectors. This accreditation is awarded to organizations that demonstrate excellence in Board Governance, Financial Accountability and Transparency, Fundraising, Staff Management, and Volunteer Involvement.

Financial Position		2015		2014
AS AT AUGUST 31, 2015 (IN THOUSANDS \$)	GENERAL FUND \$	RESTRICTED FUNDS \$	TOTAL \$	TOTAL
ASSETS CURRENT ASSETS				
Cash	2,036	3,925	5,961	5,372
Accrued interest	95		95	75
Receivables	138		138	550
Prepaid expenses	257		257	460
Other assets	38		38	43
	2,564	3,925	6,489	6,500
Marketable securities	25,658		25,658	22,210
Fixed assets	232		232	254
	28,454	3,925	32,379	28,964
LIABILITIES CURRENT LIABILITIES				
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	564		564	877
Deferred contributions	720		720	914
	1,284		1,284	1,791
FUND BALANCES				
Invested in property, equipment and software	232		232	254
Endowment		115	115	112
Externally restricted		3,687	3,687	1,841
Internally restricted		123	123	167
Unrestricted	26,938		26,938	24,799
	27,170	3,925	31,095	27,173
	28,454	3,925	32,379	28,964

Note - see audited financial statements on the Cancer Research Society's website

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