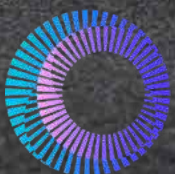


More hope.



**ALBERTA
CANCER
FOUNDATION**

Lorne Miller with his family.

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As the fundraising partner for all of Alberta’s cancer centres, the Alberta Cancer Foundation acknowledges that our work and initiatives take place, and serve the people, on traditional and ancestral Indigenous lands. These lands include the territories of Treaty 6, Treaty 7 and Treaty 8, the homeland of the Blackfoot Confederacy — Kainai, Piikani and Siksika — the Cree, Dene, Saulteaux, Nakota Sioux, Stoney Nakoda and the Tsuut’ina Nations, and the Métis Nation of Alberta and eight Metis Settlements. We acknowledge the many First Nations, Métis and Inuit who have lived on and cared for these lands for generations. We express this acknowledgement as an act of reconciliation and a meaningful gesture of gratitude to those whose territories we reside on or are visiting.

Looking back.

Celebrating generosity: the incredible impact of donors.

History was made in 2024 — a year that underscores the unwavering dedication of our donors and the extraordinary power of philanthropy. Together, we are reaching milestones once thought impossible, transforming cancer care and making a lasting impact across Alberta.

In October, we celebrated the monumental opening of the Arthur J.E. Child Comprehensive Cancer Centre. This extraordinary



Wendy Beauchesne

facility represents the difference we can make when united by a shared purpose. Through the OWN.CANCER campaign, nearly **\$300 million** was raised to revolutionize cancer treatment, enhance patient care and fuel world-class research and innovation — a shared accomplishment that will bring more hope and more moments to Albertans for generations to come.

We reached another massive milestone as the Enbridge Tour Alberta for Cancer achieved **\$100 million raised** since its inception 16 years ago. This event — which is so much more than an event — continues to propel momentum in cancer care and research. This success is a testament to the determination of the riders, donors, sponsors and event organizers to make a lasting difference for Albertans facing cancer.

While we are incredibly proud of our fundraising successes, it remains critical that we strategically utilize the gifts entrusted to us to maximize impact. In 2023-2024, we disbursed more than ever before — over **\$27.5 million** — to advance cancer care and research across the continuum, from early detection to survivorship. Thanks to the innovation and the advancements made possible by our donors, more people are not only surviving cancer but also living longer, healthier lives than ever before.

We unveiled a fresh, bold new look for the Foundation last fall, thoughtfully designed to embody hope and our collective will. It reflects our clear purpose, our commitment to Albertans and the warm embrace we provide to patients facing cancer, their families and all those who care for them.

None of this would have been possible without our donors — every innovation, every life saved and every moment of hope. Your generosity continues to fund clinical trials that will shape tomorrow's standard of care, supports vital programs that offer patient navigation and financial assistance when it is needed most, and drives discoveries that push the boundaries of what's possible. Our momentum, fueled by donors and driven by an incredible team, will propel us into 2025, where even greater strides await.

In the darkest moments of a cancer journey, we are the light that gives hope.

Wendy Beauchesne
CEO, Alberta Cancer Foundation



Dr. Chris Eagle

The role of the Alberta Cancer Foundation is simple, yet critical. It elevates care through the public health system to help people living with cancer, their families and their communities. The Foundation's scope is broad — donor generosity has an impact on research, prevention, acute care, ongoing treatment and end-of-life care to support Albertans with cancer.

The research that the Foundation funds has led to amazing results, including the advancements in CAR T-cell therapy as one example. The screening programs for breast cancer (and soon lung cancer) are life-saving for many Albertans across the province. The new investments at the Cross Cancer Institute in Edmonton and the new Arthur J.E. Child Comprehensive Cancer Centre in Calgary are remarkable. These facilities thrive because of the support of thousands of people from across Alberta. The generosity has been astonishing.

Donors in the community play a huge part in that, as do the world's top cancer scientists, including our very own right here in Alberta.

The Alberta Cancer Foundation Board of Trustees, made up of community leaders, provides countless hours, expertise and

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Current at time of publication

leadership in supporting the Foundation to produce the most benefit to Albertans living with cancer. A big thanks to our trustees, some of whom are completing their terms and have done so much to further the important work that is being done. New trustees are joining the Foundation's board at a time of accelerating success to continue this great progress.

Much has been achieved, but the team continues to work to accomplish more and move the needle on cancer care.

Together, we're standing on the precipice of a remarkable new era for cancer care and treatment in Alberta.

Dr. Chris Eagle
Board Chair, Alberta Cancer Foundation

In January 2025, Dr. Chris Eagle's tenure as our board chair came to an end. We extend our sincerest gratitude and appreciation to Dr. Eagle for his many years of visionary leadership.

More transformation.

Leading the way in comprehensive cancer care.

The newly opened Arthur J.E. Child Comprehensive Cancer Centre's state-of-the-art equipment and facilities offer advanced treatments and future discoveries.

Calgary's new world-class cancer centre, the Arthur J.E. Child Comprehensive Cancer Centre (Arthur Child) brings together different branches of cancer care all under one roof. "It really allows for that wholesome multidisciplinary activity profile, which we know is better for our patients," says **Dr. Don Morris**, the cancer centre's medical director.



Caroline Hatcher (left) and Dr. Don Morris



Along with significant space for patient care and research, the Arthur Child is home to world-leading technology, attracting the best and the brightest in the cancer field. It's the first cancer centre in Canada to have two MR-Linac machines, which allow for real-time adaptive radiation therapy. With this specialized equipment, physicians can adjust radiation doses during treatment to be more precise, reducing side effects for patients and limiting the risk of damage to surrounding tissue and organs. "This is only one of many examples of how precision medicine is being introduced to our patients," says Morris.

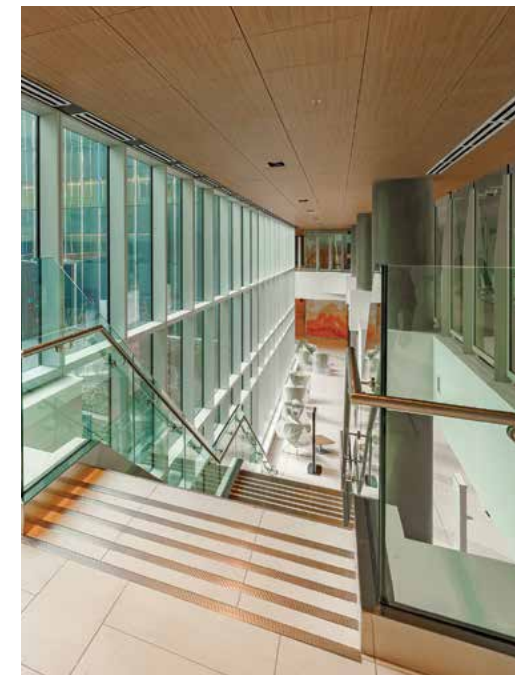
"The future of cancer care and research is bright, and the Arthur Child will undoubtedly propel amazing discoveries and advancements in cancer care into the future," adds **Caroline Hatcher**, executive director of the Arthur Child.

When the Arthur Child officially opened its doors to patients on October 28, 2024, it welcomed **1,093 outpatients on the first day**. Throughout the following two weeks, the cancer centre averaged 1,500 outpatients each day, marking a strong start to its operations. With a key focus on supporting the patients making the transition to

the new cancer centre, staff at the Arthur Child also ensured effective treatment and patient satisfaction, while integrating new opportunities such as psychosocial oncology, spiritual care and other essential services to ensure a truly comprehensive approach to care. All of this was made possible, in large part, due to the success of the OWN. CANCER campaign, which well surpassed its \$250 million goal.

"This was not a start and a stop; this was one part of an evolution and a maturity going forward," says Morris. This incredible success has become a source

of hope for patients and staff at the Arthur Child, knowing that this is just the beginning.



Heather Culbert

OWNING CANCER

Heather Culbert's drive to bring world-class cancer care to Calgary began in 1986 when her mother was diagnosed with breast cancer. Her own breast cancer diagnosis in 2009 galvanized her resolve. Along with fellow campaign cabinet co-chairs John Osler and Deborah Yedlin, Culbert led the OWN.CAMPAIGN to unimaginable success. "It makes me very emotional when I think about this place. The Arthur Child will rival the top cancer hospitals in the world," Culbert says. "And we deserve it."

More transformation.

A transformed space means improved cancer care and research.

Re-imagining space at the Cross Cancer Institute will make all the difference for patients.

Edmonton's Cross Cancer Institute (Cross) has undergone a significant transformation in 2024, with additional enhancements set to be completed in 2025. Recent upgrades include a new high-dose radiation therapy vault, the five-room Triffo Virtual Care Centre, a dedicated staff wellness space, a state-of-the-art brachytherapy suite and the revitalized Dorothy Triffo Atrium.

By the end of this year, the Cross will also feature a new 16-chair systemic therapy unit, a 10-bed clinical trials unit, five-bed outpatient clinic and a state-of-the-art pharmacy. "We will be able to expand our research capacity and enroll more patients in clinical trials than ever before. This is a win for patients and a step forward for healthcare in Alberta," says **David Dyer**, executive director of the Cross Cancer Institute. "Most importantly, these improvements will allow us to see more patients each week and help reduce wait times."

The team at the Cross recognizes that cancer care extends beyond treating the disease — it's

David Dyer (left) and Dr. Helen Steed



about supporting the overall health and well-being of patients, their families and healthcare professionals. That's why, as spaces continue to be re-imagined, the central focus will remain on enhancing the experience for every individual involved in a cancer journey.

"We want to provide the best patient-centred care, from the moment they walk through the door to the moment they leave," says **Dr. Helen Steed**, medical director at the Cross. Support for these projects came through the We Cross Cancer campaign, which raised an extraordinary **\$30 million in just eight months**. The campaign's success is a testament to Alberta's philanthropic spirit and, in particular, the generosity of Edmontonians.



More innovation.

Fuelling cancer treatment through gut health.

This winning **Breakthrough Fund** researcher uses the microbiome to improve immunotherapy treatment.

Dr. Saif Sikdar, postdoctoral research fellow at the Riddell Centre for Cancer Immunotherapy in the Arthur J.E. Child Comprehensive Cancer Centre and CEO of the biotechnology research company Oncobiotix, is leveraging the power of the microbiome to advance cancer treatment.

The microbiome — a community of microorganisms living inside the gut — plays a significant role in supporting immune health by producing specific small molecule compounds called metabolites. Metabolites, naturally produced by gut bacteria during metabolism, help the immune system recognize and provide resistance against cancer cells.

With support of Alberta Cancer Foundation's Breakthrough Fund donors, which awarded **Oncobiotix \$100,000** in May 2024, Sikdar explores how to use these metabolites in combination with immunotherapy treatments to help the body target cancer cells with more precision.

"The Breakthrough Fund award will allow us to advance our work, which could open new avenues in cancer care and improve treatment outcomes," says Sikdar. "This can translate into better tumour control, slower disease progression and extended survival for patients, especially those with advanced-stage cancers."



Dr. Saif Sikdar



DONOR SUPPORT FOR EARLY-STAGE RESEARCH IS MAKING AN IMPACT.

The Breakthrough Fund is driven by generous donors who want to support early-stage cancer research and innovation with commercial potential. By committing to a five-year investment, donors have empowered these groundbreaking projects to advance treatment options across Alberta. In addition to Oncobiotix, the Breakthrough Fund awarded two other research projects last year:

- **48Hour Discovery**, led by Dr. Frank Wuest, is developing a non-invasive approach to treating various cancers with greater accuracy and reduced side effects.
- **Entos Pharmaceuticals**, led by Dr. John Lewis, is researching immunotherapy treatments through the development of personalized DNA vaccines to combat cancerous tumours.

"This funding helps move our research through to clinical trials in a much faster and more efficient way, with the intent to bring this product to patients years before it would otherwise be an option," says Lewis, Entos Pharmaceuticals' CEO.

Alberta is blazing the trail in venture philanthropy, moving these discoveries from concept to a commercial reality.

Innovation in anesthesia.

A new technique results in fewer side effects and quicker recovery after cancer surgery.

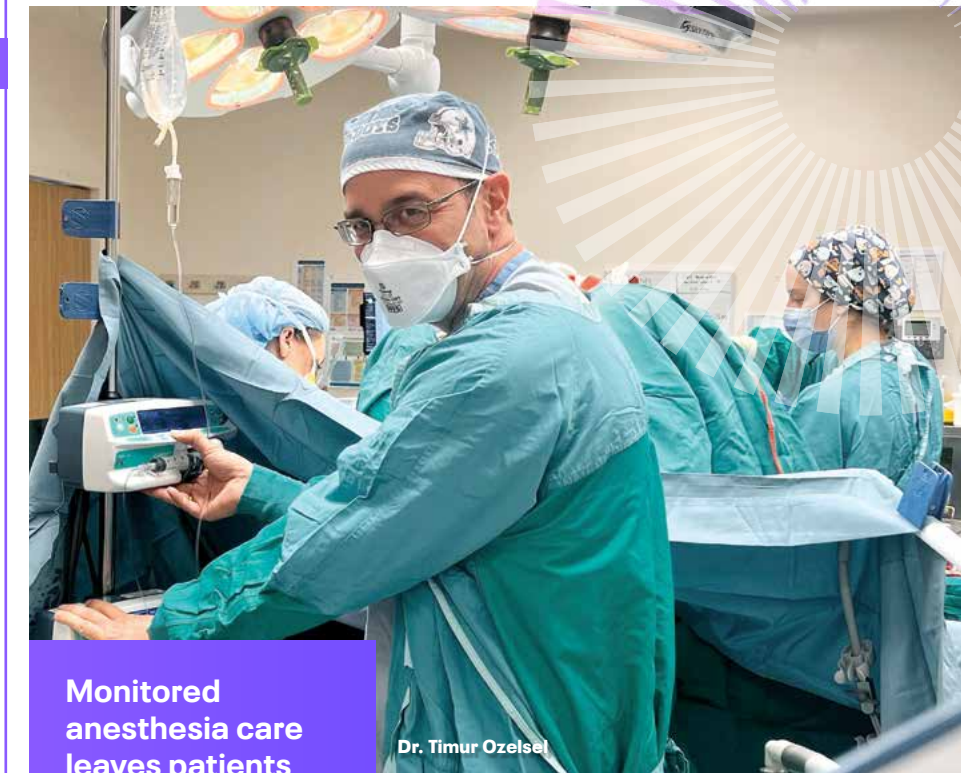
Dr. Timur Ozsel, site chief of anesthesia at the Cross Cancer Institute (Cross), has pioneered a novel approach to local anesthesia that results in fewer side effects for individuals after surgery, earlier discharge from the hospital and a faster recovery.

General anesthesia puts patients into a state of artificial coma so they don't move or feel pain during surgery; it requires intubation to control breathing and strong medication to keep patients sedated. It's a trusted method, but it can leave patients with lingering side effects such as pain, nausea, vomiting and grogginess.

To counter this, Ozsel developed an innovative way to use monitored anesthesia care in surgeries that previously used general anesthesia. Ozsel's method uses an anesthetic injection to induce a lighter state of sleep that does not require intubation. Unlike with general anesthesia, where patients require time to wake up and recover, monitored anesthesia care leaves patients alert, with minimal pain, and lower risk of common post-surgery side effects.

"Patients are wide awake at the end of surgery and can be discharged rapidly. They almost never experience pain, nausea and vomiting, and since we do not intubate them, they have no throat or jaw pain after," says Ozsel. Monitored anesthesia care is particularly beneficial for individuals who have experienced complications from general anesthesia or for vulnerable groups such as seniors.

Ozsel, together with Dr. Ezekiel Weis, developed this groundbreaking technique during the COVID-19 pandemic to address concerns around spreading the COVID-19 virus during general anesthesia.



Dr. Timur Ozsel

Monitored anesthesia care leaves patients alert with minimal pain and lower risk of common post-surgery side effects.

Ozsel then approached Dr. Nikoo Rajaei, a breast cancer surgeon, to expand the use of this new approach.

To date, Ozsel has successfully used monitored anesthesia care for surgeries related to breast, ocular and gynecological cancers, and for laser resurfacing of burn

scars and procedures involving the bladder or prostate.

While the Cross is the only institution in North America currently offering this remarkable new method, Ozsel hopes that monitored anesthesia care will one day become the standard of care, offering safer, more efficient and more comfortable surgical experiences.

More innovation.

Harnessing data to improve cancer care.

Using advanced artificial intelligence, a new Precision Analytics Program helps to predict and plan for Alberta's future cancer care needs.

Alberta's new first-of-its-kind Precision Analytics Program uses advanced artificial intelligence (AI) to analyze complex data, identify challenges and provide insights to improve cancer care. By interpreting patterns and connections, the program uses evidence-based data to support decision making that can lead to healthcare improvements.

"Analytics and AI are increasingly changing our ability to assess vast amounts of information, making it interpretable and actionable — expanding opportunities to support the healthcare system," says **Dr. Lorraine Shack**, director of cancer advanced analytics for Cancer Care Alberta, which oversees the Precision Analytics Program.

Shack is a 2024 recipient of the AMS-Fitzgerald Fellowship in AI and Human-Centered Leadership, which aims to transform healthcare through the integration of AI. The highly competitive fellowship enables recipients, like Shack, to explore opportunities for system-wide improvements in the health system and implement AI to target them.

A key focus area of the Precision Analytics Program is addressing wait times for patients facing cancer. Using advanced analytics and AI to better understand the complexities and interconnections of factors that affect wait times, the program can identify challenges, improve system flow and ultimately, reduce wait times. With its innovative approach, Alberta's Precision Analytics Program is setting a new benchmark for leveraging advanced AI in healthcare, ensuring better outcomes for cancer patients across the province.

"Albertans deserve a health system that is informed by the best evidence. Robust analytics evaluate and provide this evidence to support the best outcomes for cancer patients," says Shack.



Dr. Lorraine Shack

With its innovative approach, Alberta's Precision Analytics Program is setting a new benchmark for leveraging advanced AI in healthcare. All with the aim of ensuring better outcomes for patients facing cancer across the province.

An innovative approach to breast cancer surgery.

The Sentimag Localization Program in Calgary replaces traditional hook wire markers used for breast cancer surgery.

Imagine preparing for breast cancer surgery while enduring the discomfort and stress of traveling with a wire protruding from your breast or undergoing a painful injection to map your lymph nodes. For many patients, this has been the reality.

For decades, the standard of care has involved inserting hook wires on the day of surgery to mark small breast tumors. These wires must remain in place while patients travel to their surgical location, carrying the risk of accidental dislodgement, which can lead to surgical delays. While radioactive seed localization offers some improvements, it is not widely accessible and requires special safety protocols.

Additionally, almost all women need a painful radiotracer injection to map affected lymph nodes. These procedures add stress, pain and logistical challenges to an already emotional journey.

Recognizing these challenges, **Dr. May Lynn Quan**, medical director of the Calgary Breast Health Program and scientific director of SPHERE



Dr. May Lynn Quan

(Strategies for Precision Health in Breast Cancer), sought to improve the quality of care for patients needing breast cancer surgery. With funding from Calgary Health Foundation and the Alberta Cancer Foundation, Quan launched the Sentimag Localization Program, a three-year pilot project launched in Calgary in 2024, that replaces traditional hook wires with tiny magnetic markers (Magseeds). These markers, about the size of a grain of rice, are placed at tumour sites, and surgeons can precisely locate them with magnetic tools before surgery.

The radiotracer used for lymph node mapping is now injected during surgery under anesthesia, significantly reducing any pain or discomfort felt by the patient. Additionally, the Sentimag Localization Program offers greater flexibility for scheduling surgical procedures as the seeds can be inserted in the breast at any time before surgery, including during an initial biopsy, unlike hook wires, which must be placed on the day of surgery.

"By taking advantage of opportunities to use devices like [Magseed], we can enhance the patient experience and remove strain from the healthcare system," says Quan. She hopes the pilot project will demonstrate the benefits of magnetic markers and pave the way for them to become the standard of care for people diagnosed with breast cancer across Alberta.

More discoveries.

Leading the way in cancer research and clinical trials.

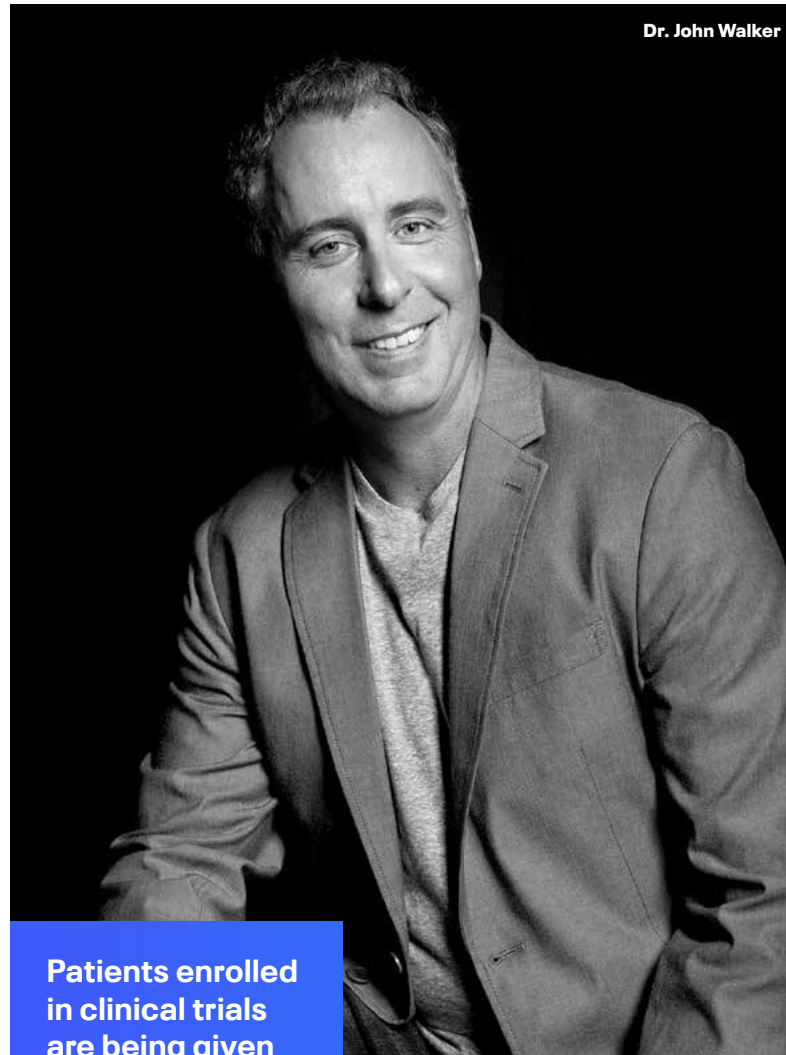
Alberta is home to hundreds of active clinical trials that offer patients access to cutting-edge treatments today, while advancing cancer care for future generations.

Clinical trials are essential in empowering researchers and clinicians to better understand cancer as a disease by discovering and implementing new treatment options. That's why Alberta's major cancer centres have robust clinical trial units that launch dozens of new studies each year.

"Every one of these clinical trials has the potential to impact cancer care. Patients enrolled in clinical trials are being given the opportunity to receive tomorrow's treatment, today," says **Dr. John Walker**, an oncologist at the Cross Cancer Institute (Cross).

Last year, the team at the Cross, including Dr. Walker, were overseeing more than 100 active clinical trials. These trials continue to explore new ways to prevent, diagnose and treat cancer.

Alongside other investigators, Walker launched an immunotherapy trial for virus-associated cancers in 2017. Remarkably, a quarter of the participants are still alive and in remission today — a milestone made possible only through clinical trial research.



Dr. John Walker

Patients enrolled in clinical trials are being given the opportunity to receive tomorrow's treatment, today.

While some patients experience immediate benefits, the long-term impact of clinical trials can be even more significant as they often

lead to new standards of care that transform how cancer is treated in the future.

"During my time practicing as an oncologist, I have had the good fortune to first enroll patients in an exciting clinical trial and later offer that very same treatment to subsequent patients as the new gold standard of care," says Walker.

Clinical trials offer hope.

After several unsuccessful treatments, Marilyn Tams has found a new lease on life, thanks to a new medication.

In 2023, **Marilyn Tams** visited her doctor for a sore knee, but routine blood tests revealed serious findings: low red and white blood cell counts. This led to Tams being diagnosed with multiple myeloma, a cancer that affects a person's bone marrow.

Tams started treatment immediately, but her first line of treatment was unsuccessful, and her body began developing tumours. After a second line of treatment also showed no signs of improvement, her doctors started discussing a promising new drug, teclistamab.

While teclistamab has shown great potential to one day become the standard of care for multiple myeloma, the drug is still being studied and is currently in a phase 3 clinical trial at the University of Calgary. However, thanks to this trial, patients like Tams can access teclistamab if prescribed by their doctors.

Following an unsuccessful stem cell transplant, Tams' doctors recommended trying teclistamab. Tams, who lives in Taber, was visiting her daughter in Calgary when she received her first set of blood test results since starting the drug. "Wonder of wonders, my numbers were back down to almost nothing!" she recalls. "I cried tears of joy all the way back to Taber. Almost a year after diagnosis, we finally have a drug that works." She now receives weekly injections of teclistamab and will continue this regimen for the foreseeable future.

Although Tams is not technically in remission, the drug is successfully keeping her cancer at bay. "I feel very hopeful for the future, to spend time with our six children and five grandchildren," she affirms.



Marilyn Tams at home with her dog, Leo

More discoveries.

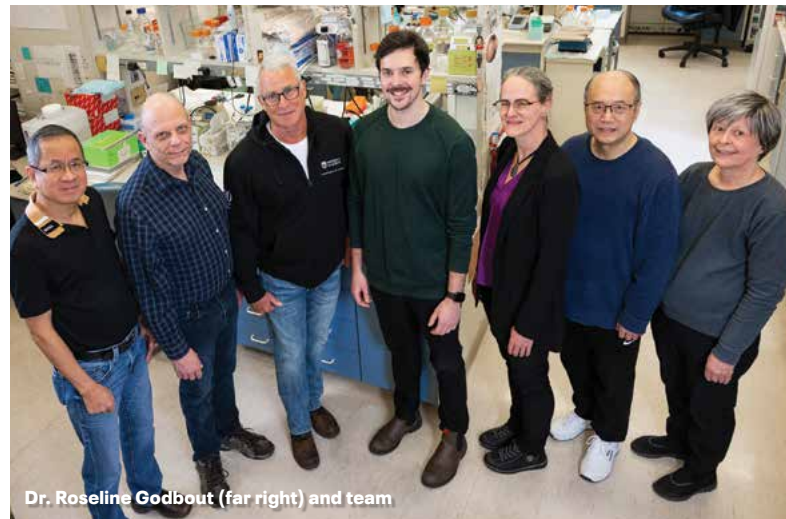
Groundbreaking research offers new hope for metastasized prostate cancer treatment.

The discovery of a new gene could mean new approaches to treating metastasized prostate cancer.

Dr. Roseline Godbout and her team are working to uncover innovative treatment strategies for individuals diagnosed with metastasized prostate cancer (cancer that has spread to other parts of the body). While localized prostate cancer has a nearly 100 per cent survival rate, effective treatment options for metastatic prostate cancer remain limited.

As winners of the 2024 Game Changer Competition, Godbout and her team were awarded a grant of \$1.25 million to explore alternative treatment options for metastatic prostate cancer.

Godbout's research identified a gene called FABP12 that is considerably more abundant in people with metastatic prostate cancer compared to those with localized forms.



Dr. Roseline Godbout (far right) and team

By targeting and blocking FABP12 in people with metastatic prostate cancer, it may be possible to enhance the effectiveness of existing treatment methods. This research also offers new insights into what causes prostate cancer to metastasize and presents promising strategies for preventing its spread.

Thanks to the Alberta Cancer Foundation's donor-supported Game Changer Competition, Godbout's research holds the potential to improve outcomes and care for people diagnosed with metastatic prostate cancer.

Thanks to the tremendous success of the We Cross Cancer campaign, the Game Changer Competition was launched in May 2023.

2024 GAME CHANGER WINNERS

- Dr. Roseline Godbout:** New approaches to treatment for metastasized prostate cancer
- Dr. Vickie Baracos:** Customized treatment for cancer cachexia
- Dr. Ing Swie Goping:** Personalized treatment for breast cancer
- Dr. Kristi Baker:** Novel therapeutic treatment for late-stage cancers



Dr. Roseline Godbout

A bright future.

Donor funding makes access to pediatric clinical trials possible for children in Alberta living with cancer.

Over the last two decades, it's become increasingly difficult for children living with cancer in Alberta to access clinical trials. Several factors contribute to this challenge, but the primary barrier has been the cost. "We needed to find a way to address the funding shortfall in order for our pediatric oncologists to be able to offer children and their families the option to participate in a clinical trial," says **Dr. Dean Ruether**, senior medical director for Cancer Care Alberta. "For our most vulnerable patients — pediatric patients — we want every opportunity for them to do well, and that means access to clinical trials."

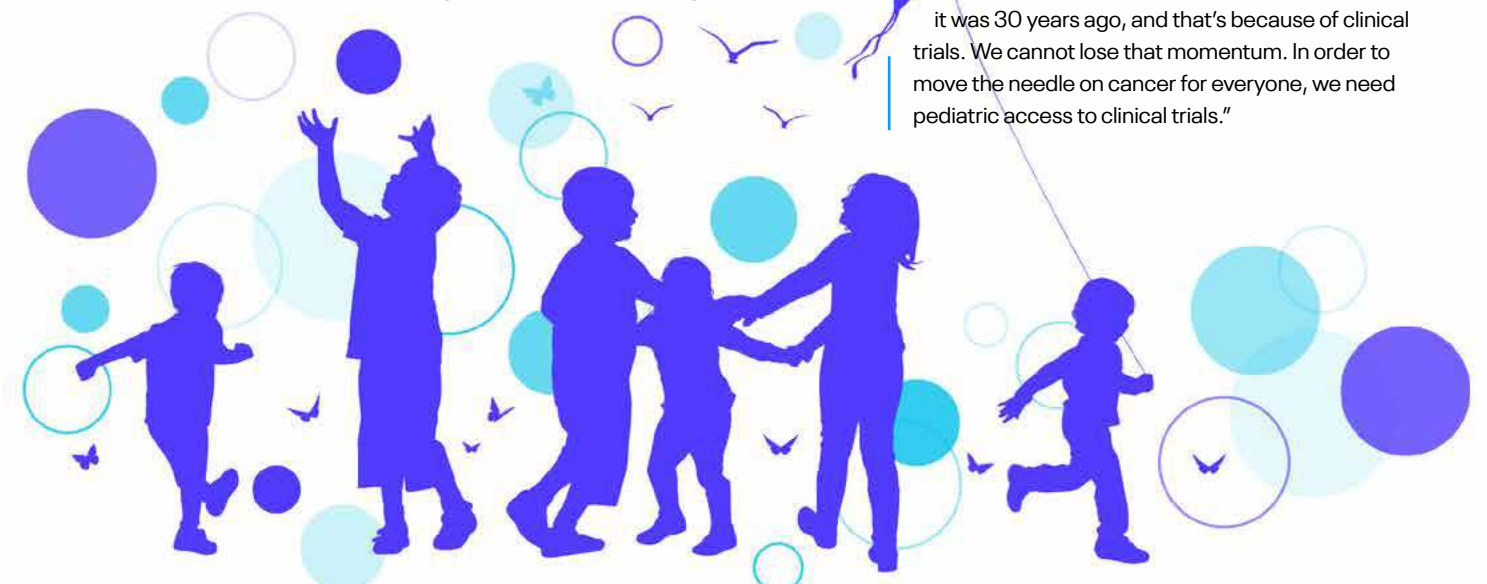
Thanks to the incredible generosity of Alberta Cancer Foundation donors, \$400,000 has been allocated to cover the costs of accessing pediatric clinical trials that are not currently publicly funded in Alberta. "It is because of philanthropy that we've been able to offer this critical access," affirms Ruether.

"The Foundation's More Hope Movement is what propels forward critical initiatives like access to more pediatric clinical trials," says Wendy Beauchesne, CEO of the Alberta Cancer Foundation. "When we have flexibility of funding because our donors trust us to respond to urgent needs, it empowers us to be nimble. Because when it comes to cancer, time is everything."

"And I can't think of a more urgent need than making sure children

have access to treatments that could save their lives."

Launching in early 2025, this life-saving support will cover the funding gap for two years while Alberta's public health system works to develop a sustainable model for providing essential access to pediatric clinical trials. "Clinical trials are how cancer care improves," Ruether affirms. "The outlook for a child diagnosed with cancer today is dramatically different than it was 30 years ago, and that's because of clinical trials. We cannot lose that momentum. In order to move the needle on cancer for everyone, we need pediatric access to clinical trials."



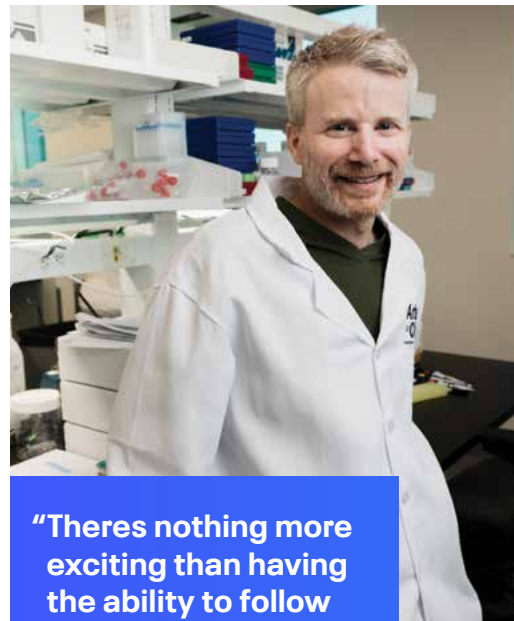
More discoveries.

More discoveries.

Doing now what patients need next.

The Riddell Centre for Cancer Immunotherapy is taking innovations from the lab to the clinic to benefit patients.

Established through a transformational \$25 million gift from the Riddell Family Charitable Foundation to the Alberta Cancer Foundation through the OWN. CANCER campaign, the Riddell Centre for Cancer Immunotherapy (Riddell Centre) is focused on researching and developing immunotherapies — a revolutionary treatment method that harnesses the power of a patient’s own immune system to target their cancer.



As a core research focus of the Arnie Charbonneau Cancer Institute, the Riddell Centre brings together investigators from across multiple sites of activity, including the Cumming School of Medicine, the Arthur J.E. Child Comprehensive Cancer Centre, and the Alberta Children’s Hospital, to detect and eliminate cancer cells.

“The science that we get to do here is just mind-blowing,” says Riddell Centre director **Dr. Douglas Mahoney**.

“There’s nothing more exciting than having the ability to follow an idea — especially when it could turn into something meaningful for people.”

The Riddell Centre team includes principal investigators, trainees, staff scientists and experts in biomanufacturing, pediatric oncology

and other specialties. Projects range from fundamental research surrounding unexplored cell therapies to clinical trials that could save lives.

To call the Riddell Centre research innovative may be an understatement. **Nubia Zepeda**, associate director of business operations, says when she first heard about the Riddell Centre’s work, she likened it to science fiction. “It feels like something that should be very far off in the future. It’s incredible that it’s happening today.”

At the heart of the Riddell Centre’s success is a culture of collaboration and a shared determination to see research through to clinical application that improves the lives of Albertans facing cancer. Mahoney and Zepeda emphasize that none of this would be possible without the visionary generosity of donors.

“There’s nothing more exciting than having the ability to follow an idea — especially when it could turn into something meaningful for people.”

—Dr. Douglas Mahoney



Nubia Zepeda (left) and Dr. Douglas Mahoney

Increasing access to screening will save more lives.

Two new mobile screening units facilitate more breast cancer screening, leading to earlier detection and increased survival rates.

Every year, thousands of Albertans are diagnosed with breast cancer, making it one of the top four most commonly diagnosed cancers. The good news is that early detection leads to some of the best outcomes. The five-year survival rate for a person diagnosed with stage 1 breast cancer is 99 per cent, proving the life-saving potential of programs like Screen Test, which operates the mobile breast screening units.

Screen Test offers inclusive equitable access to breast cancer screening and mammograms, and has been operating mobile screening units since 1991. Over the years, it has performed more than 500,000 mammograms, detecting over 25,000 abnormalities, leading to over **3,000 diagnoses of breast cancer**.

In 2021, the Alberta Cancer Foundation committed \$3 million to support the replacement of the current units. **To date, donors have contributed \$2,351,439**. Once operational, the new units will increase the screening capacity for Albertans by up to 50 per cent, featuring updated, state-of-the-art equipment and larger spaces designed to accommodate those with mobility challenges.



MOBILE LUNG SCREENING

Along with breast cancer, lung cancer is also among the top four most commonly diagnosed cancers in Alberta. Unfortunately, it has one of the lowest survival rates. However, like most cancers, the likelihood of survival increases dramatically the earlier it is detected. To ensure

access to this vital screening, the Alberta Cancer Foundation has committed to raise \$1.5 million, which will be matched by the Government of Alberta, to fund two new mobile units that will bring lung screening services to rural and remote communities as early as 2025.

More moments.

Helping to steer the course of a cancer journey.

Two new cancer patient navigators provide critical guidance following a cancer diagnosis.

"You have cancer." Three words that can unleash a storm of uncertainty that tears through everything in its path. Deciding what steps to take and understanding the options available can feel daunting, especially for underserved communities, like Indigenous Peoples or those living in rural or remote communities, who face unique barriers and have uncertainty regarding access to treatment.

That's why providing support to navigate the health system is of critical importance. "Cancer patient navigation is an equity-informed intervention that aims to support cancer patients to overcome barriers that limit their access to care. Some barriers may relate to their ethnic background, their age, their financial state or where they live in the province," explains **Dr. Linda Watson**, executive director of Supportive Care Services and Patient Experience with Alberta Health Services. "Cancer patient navigators work closely with the patient, their family/caregivers and their cancer care team to help patients get the care and support they need."

Thanks to generous funding from the Alberta Cancer Foundation donors, two new patient navigators have joined the Cross Cancer Institute in Edmonton to address these critical needs. Both patient navigators — registered nurses with years of patient care experience — are ready to guide and support Albertans throughout their cancer journeys.



Dr. Linda Watson

"Cancer patient navigators work closely with the patient, their family/caregivers and their cancer care team to help patients get the care and support they need."

—Dr. Linda Watson



Meghan Johnson (left) and Juliet Foster

Meghan Johnson

HEAD AND NECK CANCER PATIENT NAVIGATOR

Head and neck cancer, which affects areas such as the tongue, tonsils, nose or jaw, can be aggressive and make essential everyday actions, like eating, swallowing or talking, difficult and painful.

Meghan Johnson supports patients through their cancer journey, offering guidance through an often-overwhelming healthcare system. She coordinates with oncologists, connects patients to resources for emotional support and provides personalized treatments to manage pain or stress while helping them adjust to living with cancer. With Johnson's guidance, patients facing head and neck cancer can focus on treatment, recovery and spending quality time with loved ones.

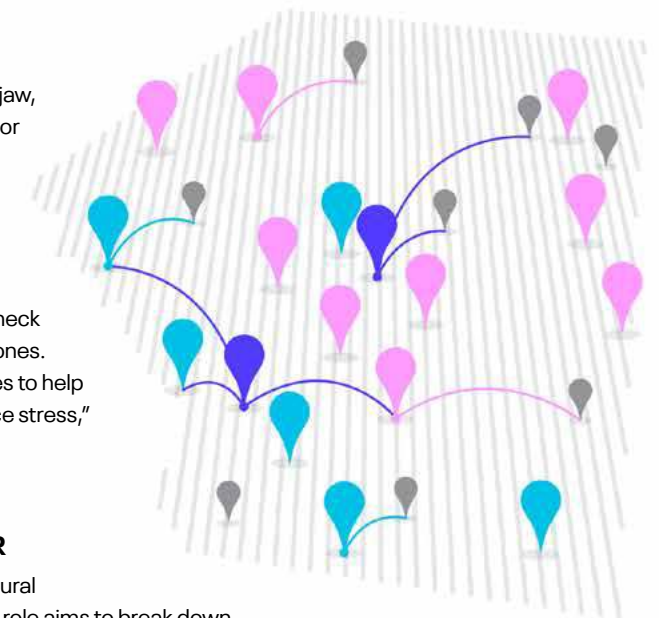
"I hope to act as a consistent, proactive resource for patients and their families to help them make informed choices, access resources, manage symptoms and reduce stress," affirms Johnson.

Juliet Foster

INDIGENOUS EARLY PALLIATIVE CANCER PATIENT NAVIGATOR

Indigenous Peoples often face barriers to healthcare, ranging from a lack of cultural understanding to limited support for traditional healing methods. **Juliet Foster's** role aims to break down these barriers by providing culturally appropriate care and understanding, with a special focus on early palliative care for Indigenous Peoples living with a cancer diagnosis. Foster not only offers both physical and mental supports to patients, but also provides vital information and resources for their families.

She helps with symptom management and facilitates meaningful conversations about goals of care, offering guidance on how to navigate the complexities of living with late-stage cancer. "I am excited to contribute to this health equity-focused role, eager to learn and grow while building relationships that foster positive impact and support long-term systemic change," says Foster.



More moments.

The gift of time.

Donor generosity ensures more Albertans facing cancer have more moments.

Dr. Kimberley Nix

Dr. Kimberley Nix passed away in May of 2024 from a rare and aggressive cancer — undifferentiated pleomorphic sarcoma. Throughout her journey, Nix bravely shared her experiences via social media, garnering a global following and raising awareness about sarcoma cancers. In her final TikTok (@cancerpatientmd), posted after she had passed away, Nix shared a powerful message of gratitude and joy: “The real thing that is huge in life, is enjoying the small things throughout. Find beauty in the day-to-day moments.” That single post has more than nine million views, underscoring the profound reach Nix had on raising sarcoma awareness.

Her husband, **Michael Maclsaac**, cherishes the moments they had together. “We never stopped accumulating moments; sometimes they had to be adjusted, and they certainly started looking different, but her love for life ensured we never stopped living. That’s hard to do when mortality is peering over your shoulder, but



Dr. Kimberley Nix (left) and Michael Maclsaac

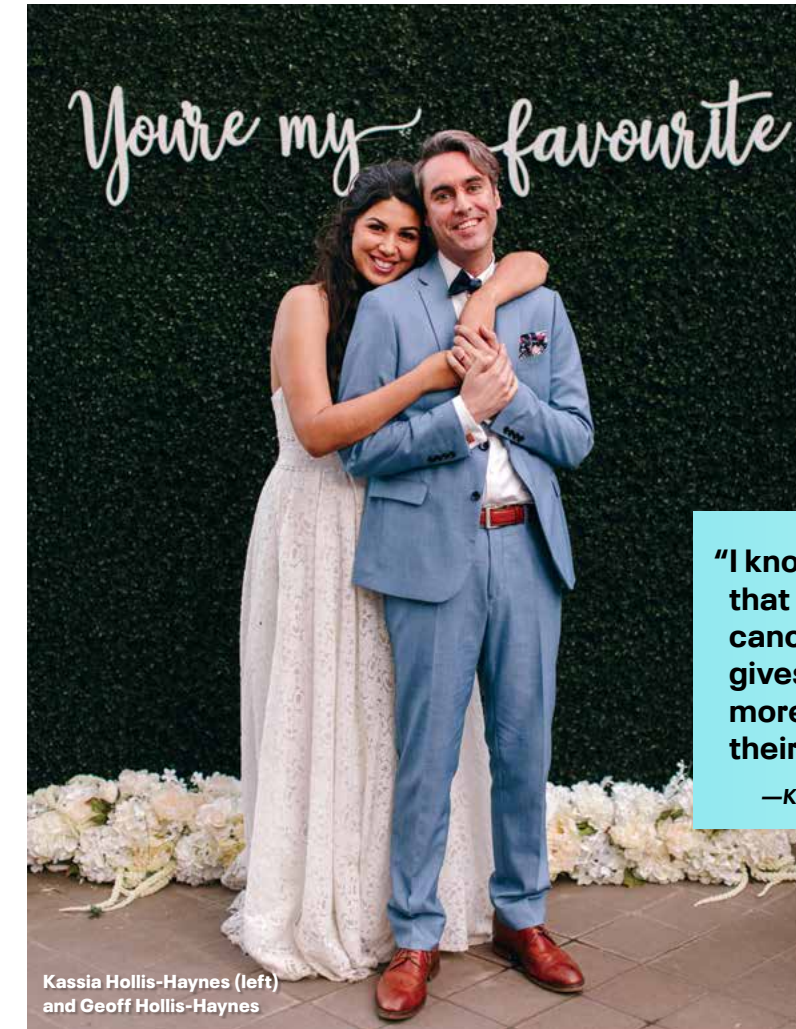


“Find beauty in the day-to-day moments.”

—Dr. Kimberley Nix

the alternative is to stop living and start dying, so we chose to live.”

Nix dedicated her final days to garnering support for sarcoma research and education. She raised over \$124,000 for sarcoma research and, in her honour, a memorial scholarship was established at the University of Calgary to help support further education for future generations. “I like to say that Kim only got 31 years, but she’ll outlive all of us with the moments she’s going to help create for people following in her footsteps,” says Maclsaac.



Kassia Hollis-Haynes (left) and Geoff Hollis-Haynes

“The last treatment Geoff was on was encorafenib. It was kind of a game-changer for us. It gave Geoff 18 more months when only five or six were expected, which was wonderful.”

To honour Geoff’s memory, Kassia created the Ring of Fire fundraiser, often referred to as the “marathon of pain” inspired by Geoff’s love for spicy food. The event challenges participants to eat progressively hotter chicken wings, even enticing some local celebrities who were brave enough to take the hot seat to raising funds for colorectal cancer research in Alberta, including former Edmonton Oiler Georges Laraque and MLA Brooks

Arcand-Paul along with support from MLA Janis Irwin.

The Ring of Fire fundraiser is a way to celebrate Geoff’s memory and his enduring impact on the community. It brings more hope for those facing colorectal cancer and supports improved outcomes through the funds raised.

For Kassia, that’s what

“I know firsthand that funding cancer research gives people more time with their loved ones.”

—Kassia Hollis-Haynes

matters. “I know firsthand that funding cancer research gives people more time with their loved ones.”



Geoff Hollis-Haynes

Geoff Hollis-Haynes faced his cancer diagnosis with the same grace and determination that defined his life. A devoted husband, adoring cat-dad, loyal friend and brilliant scholar, Geoff found joy in life’s daily rituals and cherished the company of those closest to him.

As part of his treatment, Geoff participated in a clinical drug trial that used an innovative treatment option being studied by Dr. Jacob Easaw at the Cross Cancer Institute. The results were remarkable, extending Geoff’s life by 18 months beyond his original prognosis.

“He ended up living for over four years with cancer because his doctor, Dr. Easaw, was very diligent and was always looking for the most cutting-edge research and clinical trial options,” says **Kassia Hollis-Haynes**, Geoff’s widow.

More moments.

More generosity.



Milan Heck

Milan Heck is charting a promising future while inspiring more hope for others.

models of her disease. This pivotal finding led to the development of a groundbreaking CAR T-cell therapy, which was tested on a single patient in 2023, marking the first time Canadian scientists invented, manufactured and delivered a CAR T-cell treatment for solid tumours entirely within the Canadian research environment.

For Heck, this breakthrough meant a personalized treatment tailored to her, if she needs it. "It's the difference between me having perhaps debilitating loss of function for the rest of my life versus a targeted treatment where I can have a somewhat normal future," she says. Today, Heck is thriving. Having earned a Bachelor of Health Sciences degree from the University of Calgary, she is now a graduate student in the Department of Biochemistry at McGill University, charting a promising future while inspiring more hope for others.

Milan Heck

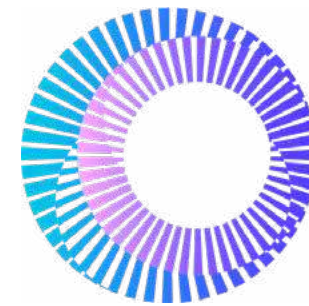
Milan Heck was only 14 years old when she discovered a lump on her hip in 2015. That lump turned out to be a tumour, leading to a diagnosis of alveolar soft part sarcoma (ASPS).

Soon after, a lesion was discovered on Heck's brain, along with 13 lesions on her lungs. Over the next eight years, Heck would face a challenging journey that included 10 surgeries, two rounds of radiation and several medication regimens. "The effects of cancer physically and psychologically are something that you actually live with for life. You're never really done. And that's been a heavy thing to understand," says Heck.

Despite her challenges, Heck made a meaningful contribution to cancer research by donating samples of her tumour to the Clark H. Smith Tumour and Tissue Bank at the Arnie Charbonneau Cancer Institute. These samples became instrumental in advancing research to better understand ASPS. In 2021, the research team discovered that modified immune cells could eliminate Heck's cancer cells in preclinical



We are continuously inspired by our donors. Both for their willingness to give and for their leadership in providing more hope for Albertans facing cancer. In 2023-2024, the Alberta Cancer Foundation was proud and humbled to have received over **\$115.7 million** from our generous community of donors.



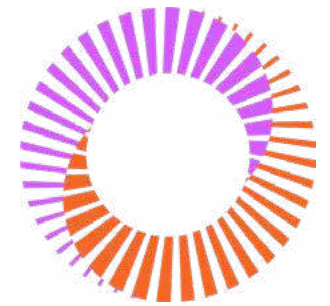
Individual & Corporate Giving \$94.6M

The Alberta Cancer Foundation strives to ensure that every donor — and every dollar — make a difference. As a single community of committed, passionate Albertans focused on a single goal, we are relentless in our pursuit of bringing the best cancer care and research to our province. We ensure meaningful opportunities for our donors to support significant advancements in how we detect, diagnose, treat and live with cancer through our public fundraising campaigns and through personalized fundraising efforts.



Legacy Giving \$9.7M

Donors who have considered the Alberta Cancer Foundation in their estates have entrusted us with the responsibility of continuing to deliver on our shared promise to ensure Albertans facing cancer have access to the support they need and the very latest treatments, now and in the future. These lasting gestures of generosity create impact today that will be felt for generations to come.



Lottery & Events \$11.4M

The Alberta Cancer Foundation is the sole recipient of funds raised through the Alberta Cancer Foundation Lottery (formerly the Cash & Cars Lottery). Revenue from our lottery activity is net. The costs associated with our lottery program include prize acquisition, operating expenses and strategic marketing efforts. We regularly assess the impact and return on investment of our lottery program to ensure it continues to deliver the best value for Albertans facing cancer.

We are also the recipient of funding from numerous special events across the province including our signature fundraising event, the annual Enbridge Tour Alberta for Cancer.

Revenue has been summarized and figures have been rounded for presentation purposes. Detailed financials are available via our website at albertacancer.ca/reports

More generosity.

Celebrating Alberta's largest cycling fundraiser.

The Enbridge Tour Alberta for Cancer provides a community of support while raising millions for cancer research and care.



For 16 years, the Enbridge Tour Alberta for Cancer (Tour) has brought together thousands of riders, volunteers and supporters in a united effort to make life better for Albertans facing cancer. Hosted by the Alberta Cancer Foundation, this two-day, annual cycling event is more than a fundraiser — it's a community of hope and determination.

In 2024, more than 1,500 cyclists and over 400 volunteers participated in the Tour, raising an incredible \$7.6 million. These funds directly benefit Alberta's cancer centres, supporting groundbreaking clinical trials, innovative treatments and enhanced care for patients. **The 2024 event marked a historic milestone as the Tour surpassed \$100 million raised since its inception.**

"Many of us who were involved at the very beginning had no idea just how successful this event would be," says **John Osler**, formerly an Alberta Cancer Foundation board chair, inaugural chair of the Tour and a co-chair of the OWN.Cancer campaign cabinet. "It speaks volumes about the superb organization, the incredible work of the Foundation, the tireless efforts of the volunteers, the massive corporate and community support, and, of course, the riders."

For **Janie Munro**, the 2024 Tour was a deeply personal journey. As a past participant in the 2011 and 2012 events to support a friend with cancer, Janie returned to the Tour after her own breast cancer diagnosis in 2023. "When I was first diagnosed, I felt like I was thrust into a world with a lot of uncertainty that felt lonely," says Munro. "But then I noticed that there were others here too — I was not alone. I felt the same while participating in the Tour; I was a part

of a community, and crossing the finish line was one of the greatest moments of the year for me."

This sense of camaraderie and shared purpose is at the heart of the Tour. "Everyone is deeply committed for personal reasons but are united in one common cause: to make the lives of cancer patients and their families better," affirms Osler.

The Enbridge Tour Alberta for Cancer stands as a powerful testament to the strength of community, the resilience of the human spirit and the collective drive to create a future without cancer. Together, participants, donors and supporters prove that every ride, every dollar raised and every act of kindness brings us more hope and more possibilities for the future of cancer care in Alberta.

The 2024 event marked a historic milestone as the Tour surpassed \$100 million raised since its inception.



Team One Aim

Janie Munro (second in from right) with her family



More generosity.

Record donor support on World Cancer Day reduces financial barriers.

The Patient Financial Assistance Program helps ease the financial strain for Albertans facing cancer.

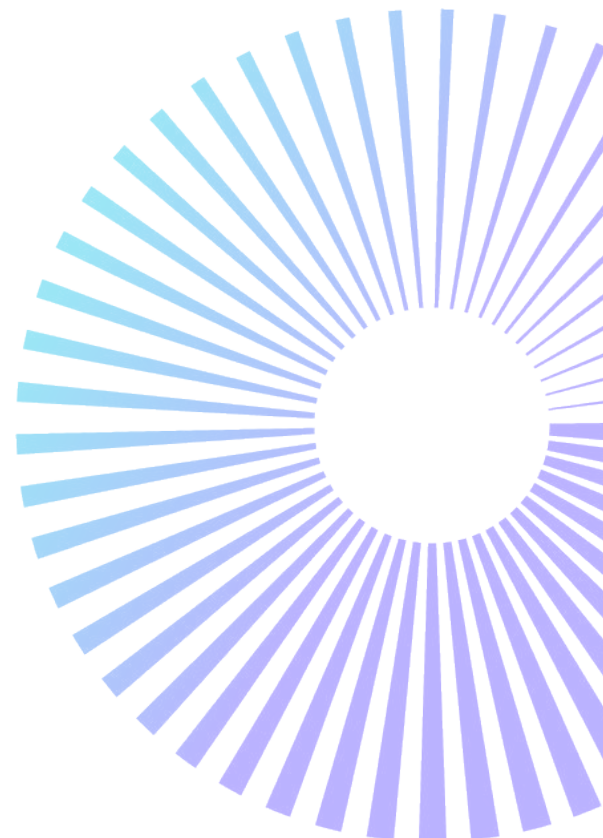
On World Cancer Day 2024, the Alberta Cancer Foundation marked a record-breaking milestone. Thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor who matched donations up to \$200,000, the campaign raised an astounding \$642,686 — six times more than the year prior. This incredible achievement directly supports the Patient Financial Assistance Program, a donor-funded initiative that provides vital financial relief to Alberta families navigating the overwhelming costs of cancer.

Cancer can place a significant financial burden on patients and their families, with out-of-pocket expenses averaging \$290 per month. These costs — covering necessities such as travel, accommodations, caregiver support and medications — can quickly escalate, especially for those unable to work during treatment.

Over a lifetime, a person diagnosed with cancer may face as much as \$33,000 in cancer-related expenses not covered by provincial healthcare programs.

The impact is even greater for Albertans with limited income, no health benefits or those living in rural or remote communities. Last year, over half of the program's recipients were from rural areas across the province, highlighting the program's critical role in ensuring equitable access to care.

Through the fully donor-funded Patient Financial Assistance Program, the Alberta Cancer Foundation ensures that no Albertan has to choose between meeting basic needs and accessing life-saving treatment. Every dollar raised, and every act of generosity, helps lighten the load for families and brings them more hope and more healing.



Arbaiza Jamaluddin

“How fortunate we are here in Alberta. No one can describe how special it makes us feel knowing that there are people out there that care about you.”

—Arbaiza Jamaluddin,
recipient of patient financial assistance

NOTES OF GRATITUDE

“Can you please extend my gratitude to all your generous donors. I am thankful for so much help from the people and the organization. Without the love, I would not have found the will to care about my life anymore. Thank you so much for caring about me and all the other patients who have needs due to cancer.”

—Karen

“I am unable to work and provide for myself and my children because of the extensive treatment that I am undergoing. As a result, I am facing a tremendous financial load that includes the payment of my utility bills and other charges. I have just depleted my credit card to cover the payments that are still outstanding. Without a doubt, I concentrate on the most important aspects of the recovery process because of the kind assistance that you have provided. In the near future, when I have finished my treatment, I will be able to contribute to this respectable organization as a contributing member.”

—Bassa

“The financial assistance has not only eased the strain on our family but has also made a tangible impact on my mother’s quality of life. The medication she has been able to purchase because of donor support has provided her with better care and has significantly improved her level of comfort. The generosity of others has extended her remaining days, allowing her to cherish precious moments with her loved ones in a more comfortable and dignified manner.”

—Christopher

More gratitude.

Giving back to the community.

The AGAT Foundation Charity Classic helps provide financial support for Albertans living with cancer.

The AGAT Foundation Charity Classic golf tournament is a longstanding event dedicated to raising vital funds for the Alberta Cancer Foundation's Patient Financial Assistance Program. This program provides a lifeline for individuals facing the overwhelming financial challenges that can often accompany a cancer diagnosis. "For some, the financial burden of cancer can mean choosing between treatment and simply being able to pay their bills," says **Marissa Reckmann**, CEO of AGAT Laboratories. "The idea that this could be happening to people within our own communities doesn't sit well with any of us, as everyone deserves to be able to focus on their health rather than worrying about their finances."



In 2024, the Charity Classic surpassed expectations, enabling the AGAT Foundation to increase their annual contribution to an impressive **\$870,000**. Last year, the program provided essential financial support to hundreds of families in **123 communities** across the province. "This has resulted in an incredible impact to those Albertans and their families who have accessed the program each year, and is something we are deeply proud of," says Reckmann.



For the AGAT Foundation, this partnership extends beyond philanthropy. "Being able to support the Alberta Cancer Foundation has been a tremendously important initiative for the AGAT Foundation. It is our way of being there for our community, our neighbours. We want to constantly remind Albertans that you truly are never alone in this fight."



Helping rural cancer patients access care.

The Dr. B. Bose Road to Home Program provides vital transportation for individuals living in rural Alberta who require travel to Edmonton for cancer treatment.



From the 1970s to the early 2000s, **Dr. Bireswar Bose** was a pillar of the Barrhead community, serving as one of the few surgeons in this small north-central Alberta town. His career was centered around the Barrhead Healthcare Centre, where he dedicated decades to caring for his patients.

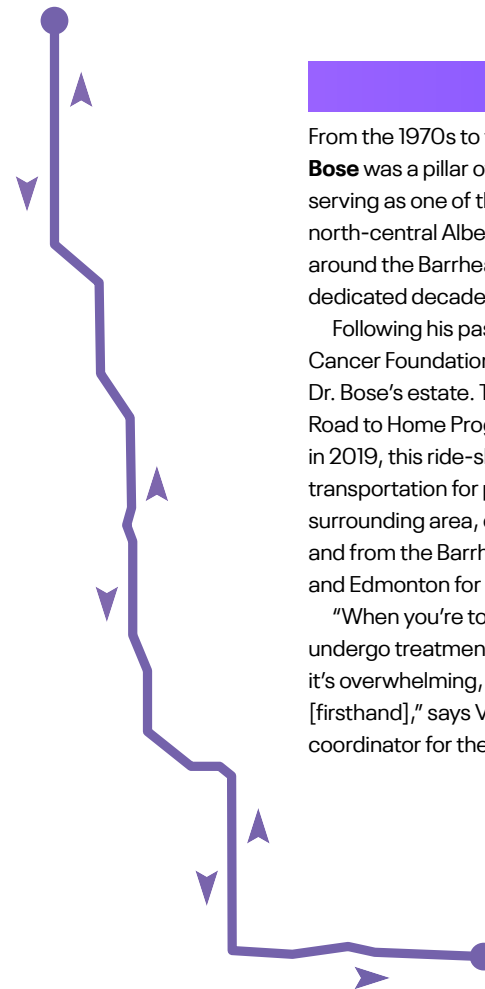
Following his passing in 2018, the Alberta Cancer Foundation received a \$1.3 million gift from Dr. Bose's estate. Through this gift, the Dr. B. Bose Road to Home Program was established. Launched in 2019, this ride-share program provides essential transportation for patients in Barrhead and the surrounding area, ensuring they can safely travel to and from the Barrhead Community Cancer Centre and Edmonton for treatment or appointments.

"When you're told you have cancer and have to undergo treatments and doctor appointments, it's overwhelming, to say the least. I know this [firsthand]," says Violet Schriever, volunteer coordinator for the Road to Home Program.

"I constantly get feedback from the patients saying that having this program and such caring drivers means so much, and it lessens their anxiety."

Volunteer drivers like Jim Imes, who lost his wife to cancer, are at the heart of the program. "All the patients I have driven are so positive and grateful for the service Road to Home provides," says Imes. "I hope that I am helping them as much as their positive attitudes are helping me."

Thanks to the vision and generosity of Dr. Bose, hundreds of rural Albertans facing cancer have received the helping hand they need during their cancer journeys. His legacy of care lives on, continuing to make a profound difference in the lives of patients and their families. "The ability to offer this program to our communities has been life changing," affirms Linda Knapp, cancer patient navigator at the Barrhead Community Cancer Centre. **"We will forever be indebted to Dr. Bose."**

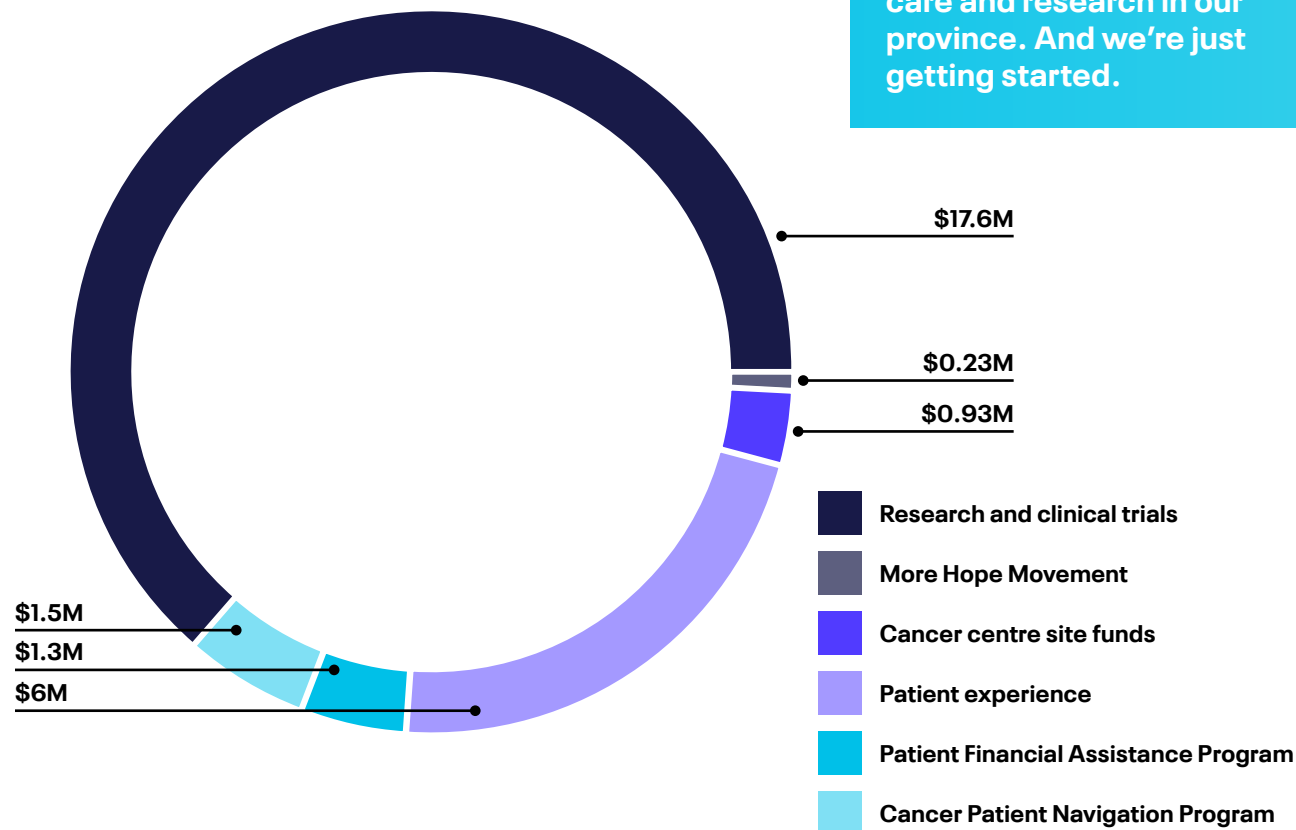


More impact.

The Alberta Cancer Foundation continues to intentionally and aggressively harness the power of donor generosity to increase our impact year over year.

Each year, the Alberta Cancer Foundation thoughtfully utilizes philanthropic contributions to advance cancer care and research in Alberta. Our aim is to drive progress, creating more hope for Albertans facing cancer — at every stage of their cancer journey, no matter where in the province they live or the kind of cancer they're facing.

In 2023-2024, the Alberta Cancer Foundation injected over \$27.5 million into projects and initiatives that advance cancer care and research in our province. And we're just getting started.



Our Finance & Audit Committee contributes to ensuring Alberta Cancer Foundation's overall integrity, financial credibility and long-term viability. Under their leadership, we provide detailed financial information through our Audited Financial Statements available at albertacancer.ca/reports

Values shown are rounded up for display purposes

More Hope Movement.

Cancer can be an uncertain journey full of twists and turns, but hope is what carries us through the darkest moments.

Over the past decade, the Alberta Cancer Foundation has undergone a significant transformation, evolving our mandate to better meet the needs of Alberta's ever-changing cancer care system and its patients. Most of the scientific community agrees that we're at a generational

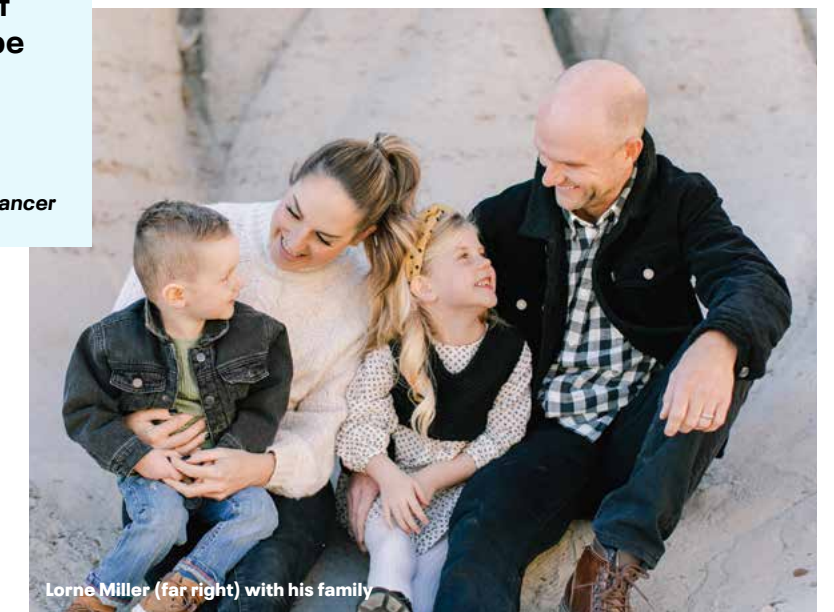
tipping point in how we detect and treat cancer — so while our mission has always been to provide hope and support to Albertans facing cancer, today, we're more audacious and ambitious in our goals.

This sea-change over the last decade required us to shift how we talk about our collective impact and where we aspire to go — a bold, compassionate organization that shares a relentless passion with donors for investing in the absolute latest in cancer care and research.

Donor support of the More Hope Movement ensures that Albertans facing cancer have access to the support they need and the very latest treatment options, now and into the future. With your help, we will continue our momentum and make an even greater difference in the lives of those affected by cancer across the province. Advancements in cancer prevention, detection and treatment — fueled by donor support — are showing remarkable results, with more Albertans surviving and living longer with cancer than ever before. It's an incredible thing to be a part of, and we're so excited to take this next step into the future with you.

"When I was first diagnosed, Esmee was just 5 and August was 2. My biggest fear was that if I didn't survive, they wouldn't be old enough to remember me. That was almost four years ago. Against all odds, I'm still here, soaking up every moment with my family and grateful that I remain stable with no evidence of disease. This outcome wouldn't be possible without the generosity of donors. You gave me — and continue to give me — hope."

—Lorne Miller, Albertan facing cancer



Lorne Miller (far right) with his family

Looking forward.

Redefining what's possible.

Donors play a pivotal role in advancing what's possible in cancer care, turning aspirations into reality. Your generosity empowers researchers, clinicians and healthcare professionals to transform groundbreaking ideas — such as clinical trials, new initiatives or life-saving treatments — into tangible advancements that improve lives every day.



Brenda Hubley (left) and Dr. Dean Ruether

Donors to the Alberta Cancer Foundation lead with transformative questions: "How can we help?" and "How can we change the trajectory of cancer care?" Their generosity manifests in many ways, yet the

"We will continue to ask the hard questions, pursue big and small ideas, and push the boundaries of "what if?"

—Brenda Hubley

impact is always profound — shaping the lives of patients, their families and the teams who care for them.

This support goes beyond funding; it creates spaces — physical, mental, and collaborative — for cancer care professionals and researchers to explore new ideas. Innovation requires

more than imagination; it demands time, effort and resources to move "what if" into reality. From these questions emerge groundbreaking treatments, improved processes and a better experience for patients and care teams alike.

Our commitment to creating a seamless patient experience — from diagnosis through treatment, survivorship and end-of-life care — extends far beyond a cancer centre. By strengthening connections with

primary care providers, surgical teams, labs and diagnostic services, palliative care and home care, we continue to further improve every aspect of a patient's journey.

What's next? A great deal. Timelier access to care and an expansion of treatment options closer to home as regional and community cancer centres grow. Clinical trials for all eligible patients, ensuring no Albertan is left without hope. Opportunities for every patient to contribute to research, bringing discoveries from idea to practice — no matter where they live.

As our generous donors help pave the way for innovation, Alberta is rapidly establishing itself as the nation's top destination for cancer researchers, clinicians and healthcare professionals. We continue to emerge as a leader in clinical trials, unlocking new possibilities and providing renewed hope for patients who have exhausted traditional treatment options.

Programs like the Cancer Patient Navigation Program help patients navigate the complexities of the healthcare system, while the Patient Financial Assistance Program eases the financial burden of cancer, offering much-needed relief during difficult times.

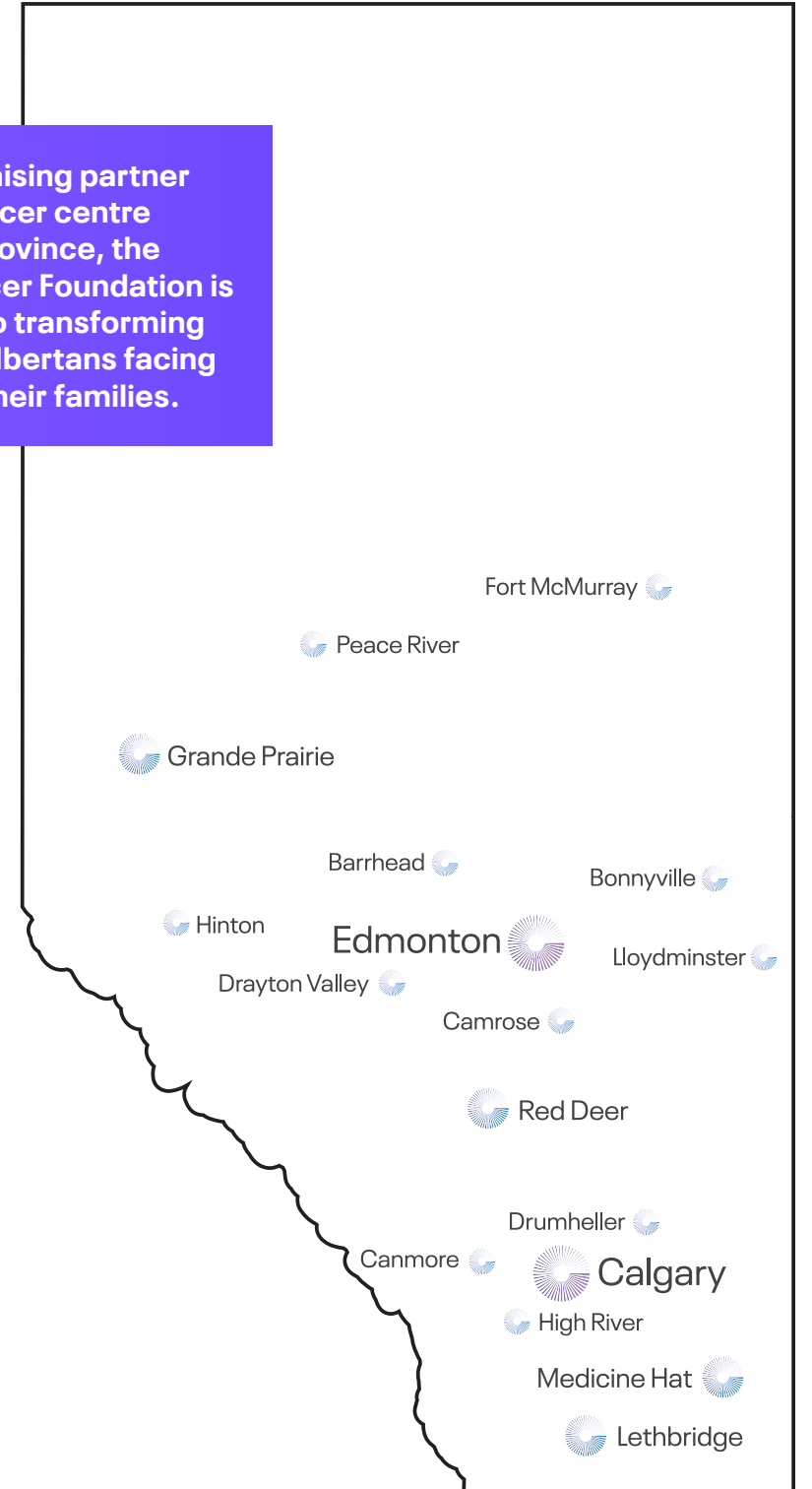
Make no mistake: our teams will continue to ask the hard questions, embrace bold ideas and push boundaries. Together with the support of our donors, we are not just advancing cancer care — we are transforming it.

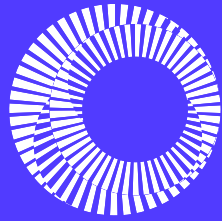
Because here in Alberta, we redefine the possible.

Brenda Hubley
Chief Program Officer,
Cancer Care Alberta

Dr. Dean Ruether
Senior Medical Director,
Cancer Care Alberta

As the fundraising partner for every cancer centre across the province, the Alberta Cancer Foundation is committed to transforming the lives of Albertans facing cancer and their families.





**ALBERTA
CANCER
FOUNDATION**

More hope.