

2024 Annual Report



CANADIAN CANCER
SURVIVOR NETWORK

**we can see the end
of cancer from here**

A message from our CEO: *Jackie Manthorne*

2024 was a productive year for the Canadian Cancer Survivor Network.

In January, we launched the Canadian Prostate Cancer Guide website to bring individuals diagnosed with prostate cancer, their caregivers, and their families the most up-to-date information about diagnosis, treatment, support, well-being, and more all in one place.

On February 2nd, we hosted politicians and members of the cancer community for our World Cancer Day reception, where I welcomed MPP Chandra Pasma, member of the Provincial Parliament for Ottawa West-Nepean, and Laine Johnson, College Ward City Councillor and invited them to speak on this year's theme: Close the Care Gap!

This year we celebrated the 10th anniversary of our webinar series, which offers 20 webinars a year on four diverse topics: how new drugs are approved in Canada, advocacy and self advocacy, updates on the treatment of specific cancers, and information on COVID-19, including how COVID-19 disrupted cancer care in Canada (see our reports, including Thrown Under the Bus, at survivornet.ca/act/cancer-cant-wait)

We held several CCSN All-party Cancer Caucuses (APCC), which give patients and patient groups the opportunity to address provincial legislatures and also hosted a Right2Survive legislative reception in Edmonton on November 19th, during which we stressed the importance of lung cancer screening. This reception was attended by CCSN, lung cancer advocates in Alberta, and several politicians including the Minister of Health Adriana LaGrange.

I am pleased that following CCSN's Ontario All-party Cancer Caucus in 2023, when a retired chief and president of the Canadian Fallen Fighters Foundation spoke, that the Government of Ontario passed legislation to ensure that wildland firefighters have the same WSIB coverage for cancers, heart injuries, and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) that other firefighters do.

On National Cancer Survivors Day, CCSN staff, members of CCSN's Board of Directors and cancer patients, survivors, and caregivers visited Ottawa City Hall on June 4th for a ceremony during which Ottawa Mayor Mark Sutcliffe presented us with a proclamation recognizing National Cancer Survivors Day.

Elections in Canada: CCSN works with cancer patients, caregivers, survivors and other cancer/health organizations to pose questions of political parties during federal and provincial election campaigns. This year CCSN disseminated questions during elections in British Columbia, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Saskatchewan. Responses can be found on our website, survivornet.ca.

And finally, 2024 was not a good year for me personally as I lost my wife of 52 years. Mona's obituary can be found on this report's next page.

MONA FORREST

In Loving Memory

Mona Forrest, Co-Founder of CCSN, passed away on September 21st, 2024.

She was one of eight people who created our organization in 2012, where she was Operations Manager until she was no longer able to work. She is loved and missed by Jackie Manthorne, her spouse of 52 years, and many children and extended family.

Mona has been recognized with awards from the United Way, the Montreal Citizenship Council, the Women Who Make a Difference Award, the People who Make a Difference Award, and the federal government Citation for Citizenship.

Her full obituary can be read at survivornet.ca/mona-sharron-forrest/



CONNECT



Our Mission

To promote health by conducting educational activities for cancer patients, caregivers, and survivors on the physical and financial impacts, and other relevant topics, associated with managing cancer.

To promote health by providing individuals living with and survivors of cancer, and their caregivers, with access to related counselling, information, or support group programs.

To advance education by organizing and participating in conferences and speaking engagements to the public on topics related to cancer.

To advance education by conducting research on cancer patients' and survivors' physical, emotional, and financial well-being and disseminating the results of the research to the public.

To undertake activities ancillary and incidental to the attainment of the above charitable purposes.

Our Vision

The Canadian Cancer Survivor Network will work to ensure that:

Patients and survivors will easily access tools to understand decision making processes for positive change on issues critical to optimal patient care.

Patients and survivors will be supported to make a difference through working with others to take action on those issues.

Patients and survivors will obtain current knowledge about cancer treatment, options, and outcomes and be able to work together to end disparities in patient care and treatment.

A network of patients, survivors, friends, families, community partners and sponsors will work together taking action to promote the very best standard of care, support, follow up and quality of life for patients and survivors.



CONNECT

About Us

Board of Directors

Richard Vroom

Treasurer

Alexandre Chevette

Assistant Treasurer

Nancy Clifford

Member

Claude Richer

Member

Lauren Koshurba

Member

Jackie Manthorne

President & CEO, *ExOfficio*

Trina Raser

LegalCounsel - Breaseau Seller LLP

Ella Forbes-Chilibeck

HR Advisor

Our Team

Jackie Manthorne

President & CEO

Lindsay Timm

Community Engagement Manager

Trevor Smith-Millar

Communications Manager

Jennifer Spence

Office Manager

Muna Derie

Web Communications

Clara St  phenne

Translator

Stacey Ludlow

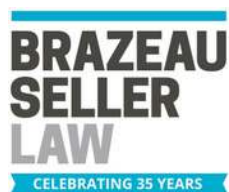
Social Media & Events Coordinator

CONNECT



About Us

Our Funders





CONNECT

About Us

Our Partner Groups

After Breast Cancer
AYA CAN
Alberta The Health Coalition of
Alberta
Alberta Lymphedema
Association
Alliance for Safe Biologic
Medicines (SafeBiologics)
Anal Cancer – A Bum Rap:
Anal Cancer Support Group
Better Pharmacare Coalition
Biosimilars Working Group

Bladder Cancer Canada
Brain Tumour Foundation of
Canada
Breast Cancer Action Ottawa
Breast Cancer Support
Services
Canadian Cardiac Oncology
Network
Canadian CML Network
Canadian Lung Cancer
Advocacy Breathe Hope
Canadian Lymphedema
Framework
Canadian MPN Network
Canadian Psychosocial
Oncology Partners (Canadian
Association of Psychosocial
Oncology)
Canadian Virtual Hospice
Cancer Knowledge Network

CanCertainty
Carcinoid Canadian
Neuroendocrine Tumour
Society-Canada (CNETS
Canada)
Coalition Priorite Cancer au
Quebec
Colorectal Cancer Resource &
Action Network (CCRAN)
Consumer Advocare Network
Institute for Optimizing Health
Outcomes
Debbie's Dream Foundation:
Curing Stomach Cancer
Dense Breasts Canada
Fertile Future
Georgian Bay Cancer Support
Centre
Gilda's Club - Greater Toronto
GTA Ovarian Cancer Peer
Support Network (OVCA Peers)
Hair Donations Ottawa
Life-Saving Therapies Network
Lung Cancer Canada
Lymphedema Association of
Ontario
Make-A-Wish Eastern Ontario
Foundation of Canada
Melanoma Network of Canada
Mesothelioma+ Asbestos
Awareness Centre
Mesothelioma.com Cancer

Alliance The Mesothelioma
Center at Asbestos.com
Mesothelioma Group
Mesothelioma Vets Nanny
Angel Network Nankind
National Ovarian Cancer
Coalition Ontario Health
Coalition Ontario Parents
Advocating for Children with
Cancer (OPACC) Ottawa
Integrative Cancer Centre The
Centre for Health Innovation
(The CHI) Ottawa Regional
Cancer Foundation Maplesoft-
Jones Centre Pancreatic
Cancer Canada (CC) Philippine
Breast Cancer Network Prevent
Cancer Now Prostate Cancer
Canada Network Support
Ottawa (PCCN) (PCSO) PYNK:
Young Women With Breast
Cancer Save Your Skin
Foundation Team Shan
Testicular Cancer Canada
Young Adult Cancer Canada
(YACC)

CONNECT



Introducing:



The Canadian Prostate Cancer Guide

CCSN was pleased to launch the Canadian Prostate Cancer Guide in 2024.

The aggregator website has brought individuals diagnosed with prostate cancer, their caregivers, and their families the most up-to-date information about diagnosis, treatment, support, well-being, and more all in one place. The Canadian Prostate Cancer Guide website can be thought of as a type of library that CCSN will be working hard to populate with the best resources to provide individuals with the information that they may need throughout their journey.

The creation of this website was supported by an exceptional Advisory Committee. Members of this Committee are: Al Carl, the Chair of Prostate Cancer Support Ottawa; Arminee Kazanjian, Professor, School of Population and Public Health, Faculty of Medicine, The University of British Columbia (UBC); Brad Sterling, the President of PROSTAID Calgary Society; Jeff Greig, co-leader of the North Shore Prostate Cancer Support Group in North Vancouver, BC; John Roth, the past co-chair of Prostate Cancer Support Toronto; Leanne Kopp, Executive Director at Island Prostate Centre, and Sue Sohnle, of The Prostate Cancer Support Edmonton Women's group. More information can be found on each member in our About section of the website.

The Canadian Prostate Cancer Guide is also supported by a generous group of funders: Amgen, AstraZeneca, Bayer, Janssen, and Novartis. CCSN is grateful for the continued support we receive from these companies.

This bilingual website can be visited at prostatecancerguide.ca



CONNECT

People



687

Live Webinar
Participants



17,858

Followers on
Social Media



FOUR

All-Party
Cancer Caucuses



3,428

Recorded
Webinar Viewers



140k

Website
Visits



ONE

Leger Survey:
Cancer
Caregivers



LEARN

Webinars



CCSN's Webinar Series continues its mission to connect patients, survivors, caregivers and the wider cancer community with the latest information in self-advocacy, health technology assessment, individual cancers, COVID-19, and general information important to cancer care and survivorship. The series welcomed back regular presenters like Dr. Rob Rutledge, Don Husereau and Dr. Jennifer Jones, and introduced new speakers like Kim Meeking, Erin Ranger, Dr. Mohammed Baydoun and more.

Can/will the USA "Pillage" the Supply of Prescription Drugs for Canadians, by John Adams, Chair of Best Medicines Coalition

Pancreatic Cancer: an Overview, by Erin Ranger, Patient Support Manager and Healthcare Manager with Craig's Cause Pancreatic Cancer Society

Canada's Drug Listing Timelines: Opportunities for Improvement, by Chad Leaver, Director of the Health Knowledge area at the Conference Board of Canada, and Sophiya Garasia, Researcher at the Conference Board of Canada

Challenges and Potential Solutions for Improving Health Technology Assessment (HTA), by Don Husereau, University of Ottawa

The Science of Emotions: How to Improve your Health and Relationships Through Emotional Intelligence, by Dr. Rob Rutledge and Dr. Gabriela Ilie, CancerPEP

The Link Between Alcohol and Cancer, by Ciana Van Dusen, Advocacy Manager of Prevention and Early Detection at the Canadian Cancer Society

Empowering Through Education, by Theresa Blondin, Director, Volunteers & Programs at Bladder Cancer Canada

Cancer Rehabilitation: What is it, who can benefit, and how available is it, by Dr. Jennifer Jones, Director of the Cancer Rehabilitation and Survivorship Program at the University Health Network

Harnessing the power of T-Cells: What can patients expect from the new era of CAR-T and bispecific T-cell engagers?, by Don Husereau, University of Ottawa



LEARN

Webinars



Improving Care for Sexual and Gender Diverse Communities Affected by Cancer, by Kim Meeking, Co-Lead of Queering Cancer

Youth Vaping and Lung Cancer Risks: What do we know, what don't we know and how concerned should we be?, by the Lung Health Foundation (LHF) Vice President of Programs Jess Rogers, with LHF Patient Partner Heather Hogan, and Dr. Ruud Veldhuizen, Associate Professor in Medicine and Physiology & Pharmacology at Western University

Managing Your Symptoms: How to Improve Your Quality of Life During Cancer, by Dr. Hannah Nette, Director of Clinical Services at InspireHealth

COVID-19 and Cancer: The psychosocial impact, by Dr. Mohammed Baydoun, Assistant Professor of Nursing at the University of Regina

Research ethics review in Canada, by Susan Marlin, President and CEO of Clinical Trials Ontario

A Prostate Cancer Survivor's Guide to Impotence and Incontinence, by Meghan Lui and Calvin Wong, both of Prostate Cancer Supportive Care, and Don Helgeson, Patient Advocate

A Prostate Cancer Survivor's Guide to Impotence and Incontinence, by Meghan Lui and Calvin Wong, both of Prostate Cancer Supportive Care, and Don Helgeson, Patient Advocate

Trauma and Violence-Informed Care Approaches to Smoking Cessation and Access to Lung Cancer Screening, by Zeenat Ladak, Research Coordinator at Cancer Care Equity Labs

CCSN Would like to thank all presenters of the 2024 webinar series. All webinars can be found at survivornet.ca/learn/ccsn-webinar-series

ACT



All-Party Cancer Caucus

It's Been a Record Year!



2024 saw CCSN host four All-Party Cancer Caucuses (APCC), the most we have held in a single year.

On October 28th, the group introduced itself to Manitoba MLAs for the province's first ever APCC. With Ovarian Cancer Canada (OCC) and Dense Breasts Canada, CCSN presented on topics like ovarian cancer research and breast cancer screening guidelines. Manitoba's Health Minister, Uzoma Asagwara, spoke at the meeting as well, committing to research and stressing the importance of disseminating cancer information.



On April 24th and October 23rd, CCSN held APCC at Queen's Park with OCC and the Colorectal Cancer Resource and Action Network (CCRAN), as well as Dr. Karen Yeates of Queen's University, Stephanie Phan from the University Health Network (UHN), and several patient advocates. These presenters discussed cancer rehabilitation, human papillomavirus (HPV) testing for cervical cancer, and ovarian cancer research and biomarker testing. Both caucuses were well attended by politicians from across the political spectrum.



CCSN held its second Saskatchewan APCC on March 12th. Dr. Karen Yeates and CCRAN presented on colorectal cancer screening and HPV testing, along with Mr. Trong-Minh Tran as a patient advocate. The event was well attended by both major parties of the Saskatchewan Government and CCSN was able to meet with the health minister and opposition health critic.



ACT

Elections

The 2024 Provincial Elections

Canada saw four provinces go to the polls in 2024, and CCSN offered all candidates the opportunity to address cancer care issues their constituents are currently facing.

British Columbia, New Brunswick, Saskatchewan and Nova Scotia all held elections in the later half of 2024. CCSN emailed all candidates from all parties to get their responses to questions related to screening, survivorship and treatment. We received several responses from all parties, including official responses from those that would go on to form the government.

Questions included:

- If elected, how will your government provide the explicit inclusion of essential cancer care in future waves of COVID-19 and in all crisis and pandemic planning in the future?
- If elected, how will your government promote equitable and accessible care by increasing the number of local hospitals and community clinics that offer supplemental breast screening to women with Category C or D density?
- Will your government include citizens with high levels of radon in your lung cancer screening program?
- Will your government set up/expand a lung cancer screening program that will cover all health districts?
- What steps will your government take to uphold initiatives to advance precision oncology, more specifically, expanding patient access to biomarkers and testing capabilities?
- What action will your government take to implement practical improvements to current oncology care pathways so patients can access genetic tests, results and a searchable database of clinical trials available to them in a timely manner?
- What measures will your government take to accelerate the education of precision oncology to medical experts and patients?
- Colorectal cancer rates are rising rapidly in people under the age of 50, who are currently ineligible for screening in Canada. If elected, will you and your party expand the screening eligibility criteria to align with current internationally recognized recommendations and guidelines?
- If elected, will your government commit to increase public funding of new, life-changing medicines in British Columbia so medical treatment in British Columbia is equitable to all other provinces in Canada?

All election campaign questions can be found at survivornet.ca/act/ccsn-election-campaigns/



ACT

Health Technology Assessment (HTA)

Working With Partners to Bring Treatment to Patients

In collaboration with Lung Cancer Canada, Lung Health Foundation, Colorectal Cancer Resource & Action Network, and HPV Global Action, CCSN has worked to bring cancer drugs and treatment to patients through Health Technology Assessment (HTA). This year, CCSN was involved in 14 submissions to Canada's Drug Agency (CDA), aiming to make sure that affordable treatment was available for cancer patients across the country.

Non-small cell lung cancer

- Amivantamab (Rybrevant) + chemotherapy (carboplatin & pemetrexed) - Reimburse with clinical criteria and/or conditions
- Pembrolizumab (Keytruda) - Reimburse with clinical criteria and/or conditions
- Durvalumab (Imfinzi) - Reimburse with clinical criteria and/or conditions
- Pembrolizumab (Keytruda) - Reimburse with clinical criteria and/or conditions
- Durvalumab, Tremelimumab (Imfinzi, Imjudo) + chemotherapy - Reimburse with clinical criteria and/or conditions
- Lazertinib (Lazcluze) + Amivantamab (Rybrevant) - Reimburse with clinical criteria and/or conditions
- Amivantamab (Rybrevant) + chemotherapy (carboplatin & pemetrexed) - Reimburse with clinical criteria and/or conditions
- NGM438 + Pembrolizumab

Limited Stage Small Cell Lung Cancer

- Durvalumab (Imfinzi) ± Tremelimumab after concurrent chemoradiation - Reimburse with clinical criteria and/or conditions

Small Cell Lung Cancer

- Tarlatamab - Reimburse with clinical criteria and/or conditions

Endometrial Cancer

- Dostarlimab - Reimburse with clinical criteria and/or conditions
- Durvalumab - Withdrawn
- Pembrolizumab + chemo - Reimburse with clinical criteria and/or conditions

Tumor-Agnostic

- Pembrolizumab - Reimburse with clinical criteria and/or conditions

Cancer Action Plans

Advocating for the patient voice in the future of cancer care

In 2023, CCSN held a workshop in conjunction with the Nova Scotia Health Innovation Hub. The goal of the meeting was to find ways to amplify the voices of cancer survivors in shaping the future of cancer care. Throughout 2024, CCSN has promoted the core findings of that meeting, and one key takeaway: That for the best cancer outcomes, provinces need strong cancer action plans.

Through an advertising campaign, including an opt-ed written by Jackie Manthorne, and the release of the report later that year, CCSN is putting its support behind provincial action plans that have clear roadmaps, adequate funding, key performance indicators and governance structures. The report also called for increasing cancer screening, delivering accessible care closer to home, engaging communities and fostering consistent and transparent communication.

CCSN will continue to raise this issue in 2025, as strong cancer action plans are the way forward to improving patient care in Canada.

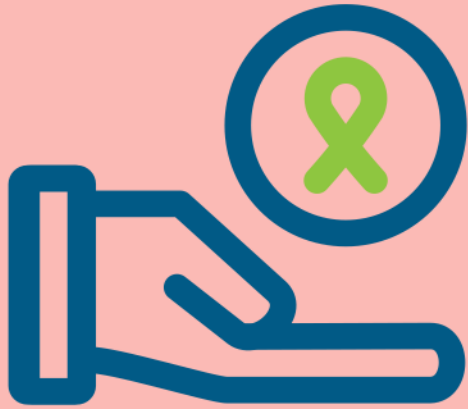
**THE BEST CANCER
OUTCOMES START WITH
STRONG
ACTION
PLANS**

CANADIAN CANCER
SURVIVOR NETWORK



RÉSEAU CANADIEN DES
SURVIVANTS DU CANCER

ACT



ACT



Firefighting and Cancer

The Impact of Wildfires and Firefighting on Front Line Workers

On April 29th, the Ontario Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development announced that wildland firefighters and investigators will have the same Workplace Safety coverage that municipal firefighters do. This includes, among other things, coverage for cancer and an expansion of the number of cancers covered under the legislation.

These developments came months after David Sheen, retired fire chief and president of the Canadian Fallen Firefighters Foundation, spoke to MPPs at Queen's Park during our All-party Cancer Caucus on October 24th, 2023. In his speech, expansion of coverage for wildland firefighters was one of his requests.

As wildfires become an ever growing threat to Canadian health and life, we will continue to work with our partners and governments to ensure that those who work to keep those wildfires at bay are properly taken care of.



CANADIAN CANCER
SURVIVOR NETWORK



RÉSEAU CANADIEN DES
SURVIVANTS DU CANCER



Connect



Learn



Act



survivornet_ca



survivornetca



canadiansurvivornet



survivornetca.bsky.social



survivornet.ca

613-898-1871 • info@survivornet.ca

1750 Courtwood Crescent, Suite #210, Ottawa ON K2C 2B5

Charitable registration number: 83454 0882 RR0001