

Annual Progress Report

2022-2023



2022-2023

Year 2 Report
Roadmap to Cancer Control for Manitoba

CancerCare Manitoba

Vision

A world free of cancer.

Mission

To reduce and, where possible, eliminate the burden of cancer on the people of Manitoba through exemplary programs of prevention, diagnosis, treatment, rehabilitation, continuing care, research and education.

Values

Respect for People
Integrity
Stewardship
Excellence

Health Equity

CancerCare Manitoba's pledge is to provide evidence-based, high quality and equitable care for all people in our richly diverse province. Ethnicity, culture, socioeconomic status, age, identity and gender are respected and factored into cancer planning. We also acknowledge the challenges of racism and cultural safety in society – challenges which must be compassionately understood in order to provide equitable care. Our enduring commitment to health equity enables the best cancer outcomes and improves the patient experience for all.

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Commitment

CancerCare Manitoba is committed to a culture of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in the delivery of care, and all of the organization's operations, including research and education.

Indigenous People

Indigenous People have a special status and deserve a special commitment from CancerCare Manitoba in accordance with the Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People.

Letter of Transmittal and Accountability

Dear Minister,

We have the honour to present the annual report for CancerCare Manitoba (CCMB), for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2023.

This annual report was prepared under the Board's direction, in accordance with The Health System Governance and Accountability Act and directions provided by the Minister. All material including economic and fiscal implications known as of September 30, 2023 have been considered in preparing the annual report.

The Board has approved this report.

Respectfully Submitted on Behalf of CancerCare Manitoba,

Mr. Jeffrey Chipman

Chair of the Board of Directors
CancerCare Manitoba

Dr. Sri Navaratnam, MBBS, PhD, FRCPC

President and Chief Executive Officer
CancerCare Manitoba

Indigenous Land Acknowledgment

CancerCare Manitoba provides health services across Manitoba on the traditional land of the Anishinaabeg, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota and Dene peoples. We acknowledge that Manitoba is also located on the Homeland of the Red River Métis and northern Manitoba includes lands that were and are the ancestral lands of the Inuit.

CancerCare Manitoba acknowledges that colonial practices and policies have impacted the health and well-being of generations of First Nations, Métis and Inuit who continue to experience inequities and obstacles in accessing healthcare, including cancer services along the cancer continuum.

At CancerCare Manitoba, we respect the spirit and intent of the Treaties and Treaty Making and remain committed to working in partnership with First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples in the spirit of trust, reconciliation and collaboration while also improving cancer control and outcomes for all Manitobans.

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About Us / Board Governance

2022-2023

CancerCare Manitoba (CCMB) is the provincial Cancer Authority as legislated under The Health System Governance and Accountability Act. CCMB is responsible for setting strategic priorities and long-term planning for cancer and blood disorders for the province, as well as providing cancer services to Manitobans with cancer. The cancer services provided by CCMB encompass cancer prevention and early detection, multidisciplinary cancer treatment and supportive care. CCMB works closely with its partners in all health regions to provide cancer services closer to home.

CCMB is also responsible for the development of provincial cancer standards as well as radiation protection throughout the province. The Research Institute at CCMB investigates all aspects of cancer and blood disorders, including research to improve the cancer patient experience. CCMB is closely affiliated with the University of Manitoba as a research and education partner.

CancerCare Manitoba participates at provincial tables and task forces as a collaborative partner for the betterment of the overall health system and in order to ensure provincial alignment and partnership with the Manitoba Clinical and Preventive Services Plan (CPSP).

CancerCare Manitoba is also aligned, within its activities and strategic priorities, progress tracking and achievements, with the province's seven key strategic areas as outlined in our Annual Operating Plan (AOP).

Through the Priorities and Objectives of the [Roadmap to Cancer Control for Manitoba](#), CancerCare Manitoba fulfills its responsibilities as outlined in the Health System Governance and Accountability Act.

The CCMB Board of Directors is responsible for the oversight of the strategic vision and planning at CCMB.

The CCMB Board membership of the corporation consists of:

1. The chairperson of the advisory medical board appointed under section 6 of the CancerCare Manitoba Act;
2. One person appointed by the Board of Governors, University of Manitoba;
3. Six persons, each from a separate geographical area of Manitoba, appointed by the Minister; and
4. Three persons appointed by the corporation subject to the approval of the Lieutenant Governor in Council.

Our Locations



McDermot & Urgent Cancer Care Site

675 McDermot Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba
Phone: 204-787-2197
Toll-Free: 1-866-561-1026



Western Manitoba Cancer Centre

300 McTavish Avenue East
Brandon, Manitoba
Phone: 204-578-2222



St. Boniface Site

O Block - 409 Taché Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba
Phone: 204-237-2559



Victoria General Hospital Site

2340 Pembina Highway
Winnipeg, Manitoba
Phone: 204-477-3328



Grace Hospital Site

300 Booth Drive
Winnipeg, Manitoba
Phone: 204-837-0246



Prevention and Screening Programs

5 - 25 Sherbrook Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba
Toll-Free: 1-855-952-4325
screening@cancercare.mb.ca

Leadership Message

From the President and CEO, CancerCare Manitoba



As President and CEO at CancerCare Manitoba, it is a privilege and an honour for me to lead our organization, our amazing staff and our clinical and research teams. We are committed to providing the best evidence-based, high-quality cancer care to Manitobans with cancer, and to impacting cancer control in our province, as well as nationally and globally.

We are very pleased to present our annual progress to the community we serve through this report. This is the second year of reporting on the [Roadmap to Cancer Control for Manitoba](#); our activities highlighted within the report show progress made within each of the six priorities of the Roadmap. Throughout my tenure, although there may have been a shift in focus in our strategic directions and priorities, our goal of reducing the cancer burden in our province and improving the lives of Manitobans with cancer has remained steadfast. It is encouraging to see that we have made progress over time.

Several high points for 2022/2023 include:

- Improving the patient experience through the Hope and Healing Program
We are very pleased with the development of our Hope and Healing Program which brings together all the supportive programs for patients and their families to address the emotional and psychological impact that a cancer diagnosis can bring. Research and experience tell us that clinical treatment is more effective and recovery is more complete when there is hope - when a patient's outlook improves. Our **Centres of Hope** will provide these hope and healing programs.
- Cancer care closer to home
A joint government and CancerCare Manitoba Foundation funding announcement in Brandon for increased cancer services in the Prairie Mountain Health Region as well as the establishment of a **Centre for Hope at the Western Manitoba Cancer Centre**. This new Centre will ensure patients and their families receive the emotional and physical support they require throughout the cancer journey through the Hope and Healing Program
- Evidence-based, high-quality cancer services
The government funding announcement for **CAR-T therapy** in our province. I congratulate our team here at CCMB who carried out the preliminary work necessary to ensure our readiness to implement this treatment and to produce CAR-T products in our province.
- Cancer prevention and screening
The transition to the **Fecal Immunochemical Test (FIT) for colorectal screening** through our ColonCheck program brings an anticipated increase in participation in colorectal screening.

We are working with partners on the preparatory work required to implement lung cancer screening through the LungCheck program. This new program will be offered to individuals at increased risk of lung cancer. Congratulations to our Prevention & Screening team who work diligently with partners to ensure a smooth implementation of both screening tests to the public.

- Research and Innovation are foundational to the services we provide

The transformational gift announcement of \$27 million from the Paul Albrechtsen Foundation, primarily for research, will impact cancer research in our province for years to come. This largest philanthropic gift to healthcare in the history of Manitoba will elevate our Research Institute to world-class stature where discovery is nurtured and supported, for the benefit of patients. We are overwhelmed with gratitude for this extraordinary gift and how it will impact research in cancer and blood disorders.

The Health System Governance and Accountability Act, legislated in July 2022, designates CancerCare Manitoba as the provincial cancer authority. One of our responsibilities is the development and implementation of **provincial cancer standards** to ensure cancer services, care and treatment, including cancer surgery, meet the same standards for all Manitobans with cancer, regardless of who they are or where they live in our province. We have made good progress in developing these standards over the past year.

Today, we are well positioned as a comprehensive cancer centre to impact cancer control in our province. The recent investment in our

organization from the Paul Albrechtsen Foundation is testament to our dedication and compassion, and the impact of our organization as a whole. As close partners with the Canadian Association of Provincial Cancer Agencies (CAPCA), the Canadian Partnership Against Cancer (CPAC) and the Canadian Cancer Research Association (CCRA), we can leverage our strengths and elevate our role in impacting cancer control nationally and globally.

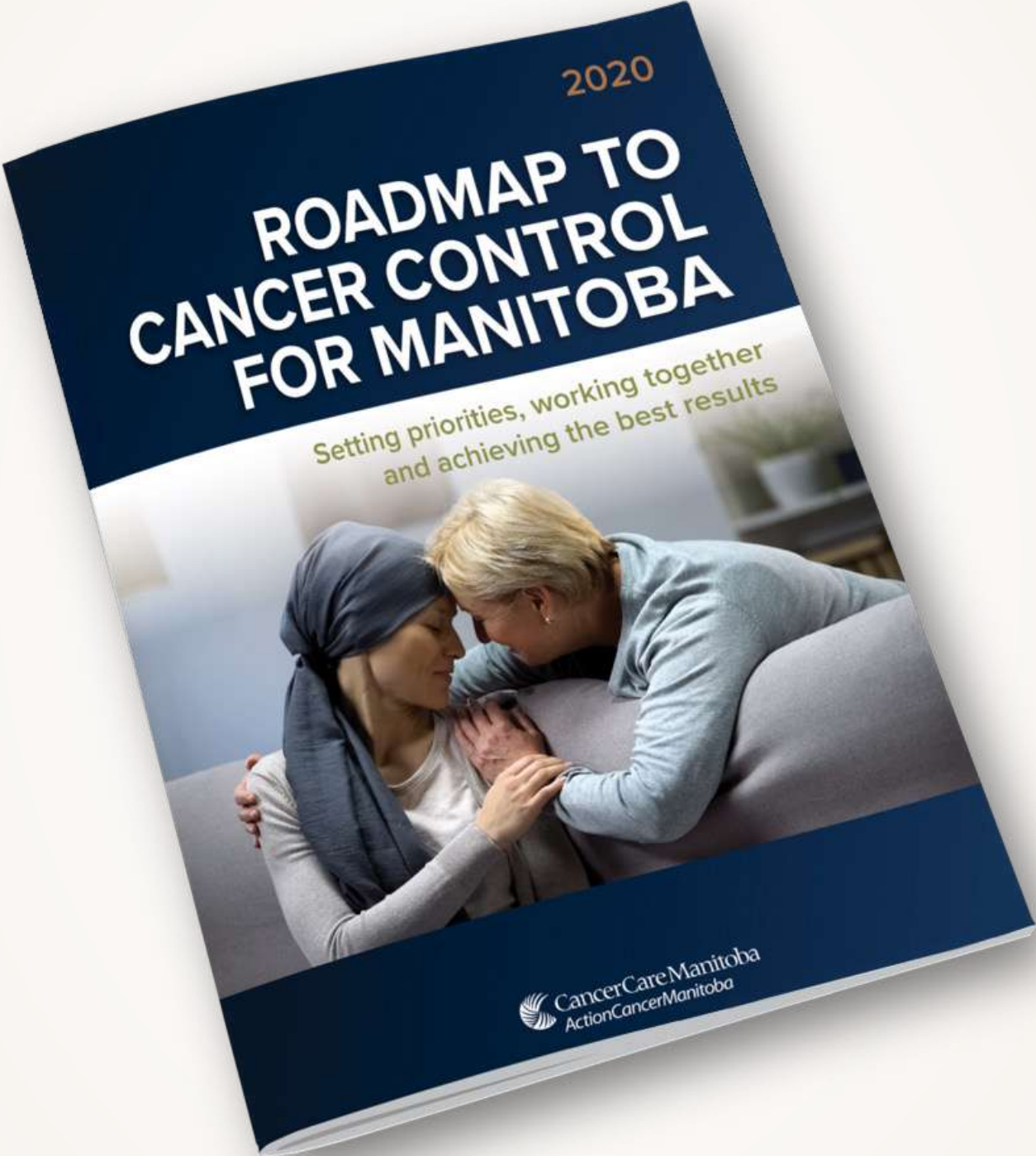
Achieving cancer control cannot be done alone or by one organization. Each of us can do our part, individually and collectively. The work we do is only possible through the strong support and close collaborations we have with our partners in health, research and government. I am continually grateful for the commitment and support of our amazing CCMB staff, the CancerCare Manitoba Foundation, our donors, our volunteers, our patients and their families. Together, we can be grateful for the progress we have made in cancer control and in the lives of Manitobans with cancer.

Please take advantage of the information provided in this annual report and learn about our progress and achievements towards cancer control, which benefit Manitobans with cancer.

Together we will continue to build a world-class organization and be the pride of Manitoba. As well, we will set the stage for the years to come. I am passionate about maintaining our commitment to excellence, to being the best possible comprehensive cancer centre and I hope you will share in that passion. As we work towards CCMB's Vision of 'A world free of cancer', our goal continues to be that no Manitoban's life is cut short by cancer, and a life with cancer is a life well-lived.

Dr. Sri Navaratnam, MBBS, PhD, FRCPC

President and Chief Executive Officer
CancerCare Manitoba



Roadmap at a Glance

Priorities and Objectives



Priority 1

Promote cancer prevention and screening

Objectives:

1. Increase the number of non-smokers in Manitoba
2. Promote proven practices to reduce cancer risk in Manitoba
3. Increase uptake of cancer screening by Manitobans
4. Adopt best practices for cancer screening in Manitoba



Priority 2

Deliver timely access to quality cancer care closer to home

Objectives:

1. Enable early stage diagnosis and timely diagnosis of cancer
2. Increase engagement of primary care providers and navigators throughout the cancer control continuum including palliative care
3. Develop a coordinated and integrated provincial model for inpatient cancer services



Priority 3

Provide evidence-based, high-quality cancer services

Objectives:

1. Enhance access to precision medicine
2. Optimize multidisciplinary care through high-performing cancer disease site groups
3. Increase compliance with cancer surgical standards throughout Manitoba
4. Increase concordance with systemic treatment standards throughout Manitoba



Priority 4

Improve patient experience throughout the cancer continuum

Objectives:

1. Provide increased level of emotional support for patients
2. Improve patient engagement and access to information
3. Support patients in navigating the cancer system



Priority 5

Ensure sustainability of cancer services

Objectives:

1. Implement innovative models of cancer care
2. Integrate digital solutions to improve information flow among healthcare providers
3. Ensure appropriate workforce and infrastructure planning to meet future needs



Priority 6

Improve First Nations, Métis, and Inuit cancer control and outcomes

Objectives:

1. Ensure culturally-responsive equitable cancer care
2. Provide safe and quality cancer care in their own communities
3. Support Peoples-specific, self-determined cancer care

Priority 1

Promote cancer prevention and screening



Significant Milestones of 2022-2023



Implemented Fecal Immunochemical Test (FIT) for colorectal cancer screening.



Obtained approval and funding to implement lung cancer screening in Manitoba.



Completed an HPV self-sampling project that included 35,000 participants.



Collected race and ethnicity data to identify health outcomes and disparities.



Promoted cancer prevention messaging to reduce Manitobans' risk of cancer.

Lung Cancer Screening

Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer death in Manitoba. To reduce lung cancer deaths, the disease must be detected at an earlier stage. CancerCare Manitoba, along with health system partners, is planning for the implementation of a provincial, fully organized lung cancer screening program. LungCheck will be available to people at increased risk of lung cancer and will be delivered according to best evidence and guidelines.

- Issued a request for proposals in partnership with Shared Health to address the substantial IT requirements.
- Identified resource needs, including staff and equipment requirements.
- Drafted quality assurance requirements and an evaluation and monitoring plan.

Accomplishments:

- Obtained provincial approval and funding to launch LungCheck.
- Obtained consensus from a multidisciplinary expert advisory group on patient pathways, guidelines, and protocols.
- Created draft educational material for the public and healthcare providers.

Colorectal Screening

In the past year, significant work has been completed to centralize colorectal screening under CancerCare Manitoba. This new approach aims to provide equitable and standardized care. An integral part of this initiative is the introduction of the new test, FIT (Fecal Immunochemical Test), introduced in 2022-2023, which is more effective in detecting colorectal cancer and pre-cancerous adenomas. The centralized implementation of FIT is expected to reduce the incidence and mortality of colorectal cancer in Manitoba.

Key accomplishments during this past year include

1. Final preparations to implement the FIT with test analysis taking place at a single laboratory.
2. Standardization of test access and distribution plans, including the establishment of screening eligibility and ineligibility criteria.

3. Building consensus among healthcare experts regarding testing protocols and patient pathways.
4. Development of new referral pathways for abnormal screening test results.
5. Implementation of significant information technology changes across all relevant systems.
6. Creation of educational materials for healthcare providers and the general public.

Additional ColonCheck activities:

- Completed an endoscopy waitlist project, which reduced the COVID waitlist backlog by providing FIT to eligible patients.
- Completed a re-invitation project, which provided 14,500 ColonCheck kits to unscreened people age 58-62 years.

Mammography/Mobile Unit

BreastCheck activities:

- Celebrated the 27th year of organized breast cancer screening in Manitoba.
- Requested additional funding for screening mammograms to lessen the impact of COVID-19 reductions.
- Trialed double-reading of abnormal mammograms to reduce unnecessary referrals to diagnostic testing and improve client experience.



Guidance on Alcohol and Health

Canada's Guidance on Alcohol and Health: Final Report was released in January 2023 that included detailed information concerning drinking alcohol and cancer risk. The report recommends that individuals consider reducing their alcohol consumption in order to reduce the risk of harm from alcohol. CCMB supports these guidelines. Our messaging is consistent with the

new guidance "*avoid alcohol*" as one of the ways of reducing cancer risk.

For more information, visit cancercare.mb.ca/screening/cancer-prevention/avoid-alcohol.

Prevention Messaging

New cancer prevention content was launched in February 2022. Since then, numerous public awareness campaigns were promoted and several educational resources were developed.

Market research is underway to determine effective messaging related to three cancer risk factors:

- smoking,
- alcohol, and
- not getting vaccinated.

EAT HEALTHY

Eat plenty of fruits and vegetables, whole grains, beans and lentils. Limit fast foods, highly processed foods, sugar-sweetened drinks and red meat.

Eating healthy reduces the risk of:

- cancer
- type 2 diabetes
- obesity
- heart disease

We can prevent around **1,300 cancer cases** in 2038 if all Manitobans eat healthy, starting today.

- Make time to enjoy healthy meals with family or friends
- Be mindful while eating and avoid distractions, such as screen time
- Use food labels to learn nutrition facts and ingredients of a food product

prevention@cancercare.mb.ca
1-855-952-4325

CancerCare Manitoba
ActionCancerManitoba

Brought to you by
CancerCare Manitoba
FOUNDATION
All funds raised stay in Manitoba

PracticePrevention.ca

HPV causes cancer in 100 Manitobans each year.

Get vaccinated against HPV to prevent different kinds of cancer, including cervical cancer.

VACCINE & SCREEN
to prevent cervical cancer.
PracticePrevention.ca

CancerCare Manitoba
ActionCancerManitoba

CancerCare Manitoba
FOUNDATION
All funds raised stay in Manitoba

Reduce exposure to radon!

Live smoke free!

Why not practice cancer prevention?

This is one of the prevention infographics that was created to communicate cancer prevention modifiable risk factors including: eat healthy, maintain a healthy weight, sit less, and be physically active.

Priority 2

Deliver timely access to quality cancer care closer to home



Bringing Cancer Care Closer to Home:

Dr. Brady Anderson's Westman Homecoming



Accessibility and the quality of medical services play a crucial role in a patient's well-being, and this is especially true for individuals battling illnesses such as cancer. CancerCare Manitoba (CCMB) continues to focus on delivering timely access to quality cancer care closer to patients' homes.

On September 19, 2022, CCMB was pleased to welcome Dr. Brady Anderson in his new role as Medical Oncologist at the Western Manitoba Cancer Centre in Brandon, Manitoba.

Originally from Reston, Manitoba, Dr. Anderson graduated from the University of Manitoba with a BSc (Med) and MD. He completed training in core internal medicine and subspecialty training in Medical Oncology. He is a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada in Medical Oncology and completed an Oncology fellowship in Systemic Therapy with a focus on pain and symptom management in advanced cancer under the tutelage of Dr. Paul Daeninck and Dr. Joel Gingerich.

As a physician with a rural background, Dr. Anderson brings a unique perspective on

practicing in the rural Westman area. While there are challenges, such as accessing specialized physician support, the practice environment is very collegial and supportive. What he has found more rewarding than expected is the amount of gratitude expressed by patients and their family members for receiving most, if not all, of their care locally. They share how this has consistently made a difficult part of their lives easier to cope with. His shared rural background with many of his patients creates a sense of familiarity and trust. Common acquaintances, shared experiences, and a mutual understanding of the rural way of life establish a unique bond that transcends the typical doctor-patient relationship.

He thoroughly enjoys the return to a more rural lifestyle as well, being able to enjoy nature on his acreage outside of town while still being able to be at work within 15 minutes.

Dr. Anderson anticipates growth for CancerCare Manitoba in Westman. The expansion of the current medical oncology clinics may be viewed as the beginning of a new chapter in oncology care in Manitoba. His goals go beyond addressing the existing demand; he envisions establishing a precedent for effective rural oncology care that will inspire future generations of medical practitioners to serve in similar settings. Dr. Anderson hopes that academic medicine and high-quality patient care can coexist in rural landscapes.

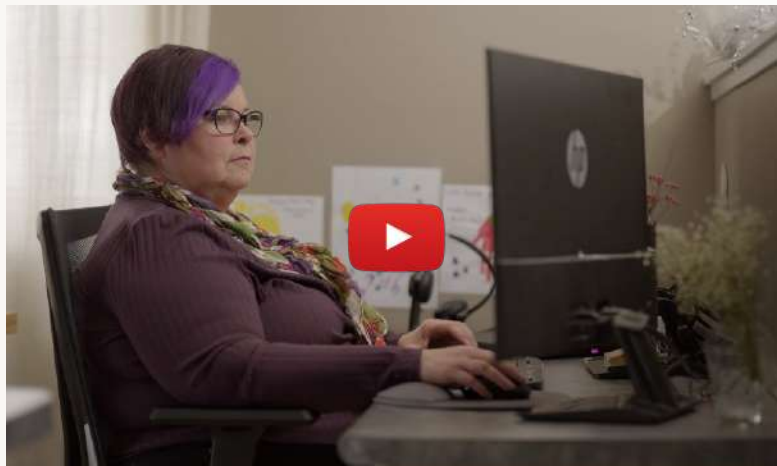
Dr. Anderson's dedication to making cancer care more accessible and compassionate in rural areas underscores the importance of bringing advanced medical services to communities that need them the most.

Navigator Patient Story

Supporting Patients Navigating the Cancer System

CancerCare Manitoba's (CCMB) Cancer Navigation Services helps patients navigate the cancer system and close the communication gap between patients and care providers. Nurse Navigators are working across the province and their support is available to all Manitobans.

When Michele needed support, Cancer Navigation Services was there to help.



"I was diagnosed with ovarian cancer back in 2015," said Michele. "It all came about because I got a new doctor and she sent me for a test. It was so overwhelming. I kind of just tucked it away at the back of my mind. I really didn't want to deal with it. I just didn't know what was in store for me."

Michele's doctor advised her that the Cancer Navigation Services program was available to help.

The program is a valuable support system for CCMB patients and their families. "Navigators are available to provide information and support, from the time you are suspected of cancer and throughout the cancer journey," said Dr. Sri

Navaratnam, President and CEO, CancerCare Manitoba. "We know when you are given the diagnosis of cancer, or even suspected of cancer, it's really difficult to cope."

Nurse Navigator Alexis Naguit and the program team provide a wide range of support and education, such as helping patients understand test results and procedures.

"I also help with practical issues like getting to appointments and transportation," said Naguit. "I collaborate with their family doctors or their specialists. I am someone the patient can turn to in terms of questions or concerns regarding their cancer diagnosis or their symptoms."

Michele says she appreciates the support she received through the program at CCMB.

"I know myself from my experience, I know from others, when it comes to cancer, I am so grateful that I live right here in Manitoba."

Watch a video to learn more about Cancer Navigation Services <https://tinyurl.com/cancer-navigator>.

Social Media Navigator Posts - Regionally Focused

Southern Health - Santé Sud



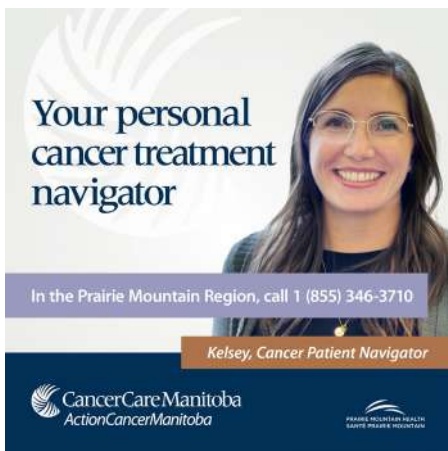
Winnipeg Regional Health Authority



Northern Regional Health Authority



Prairie Mountain Health



Winnipeg Regional Health Authority

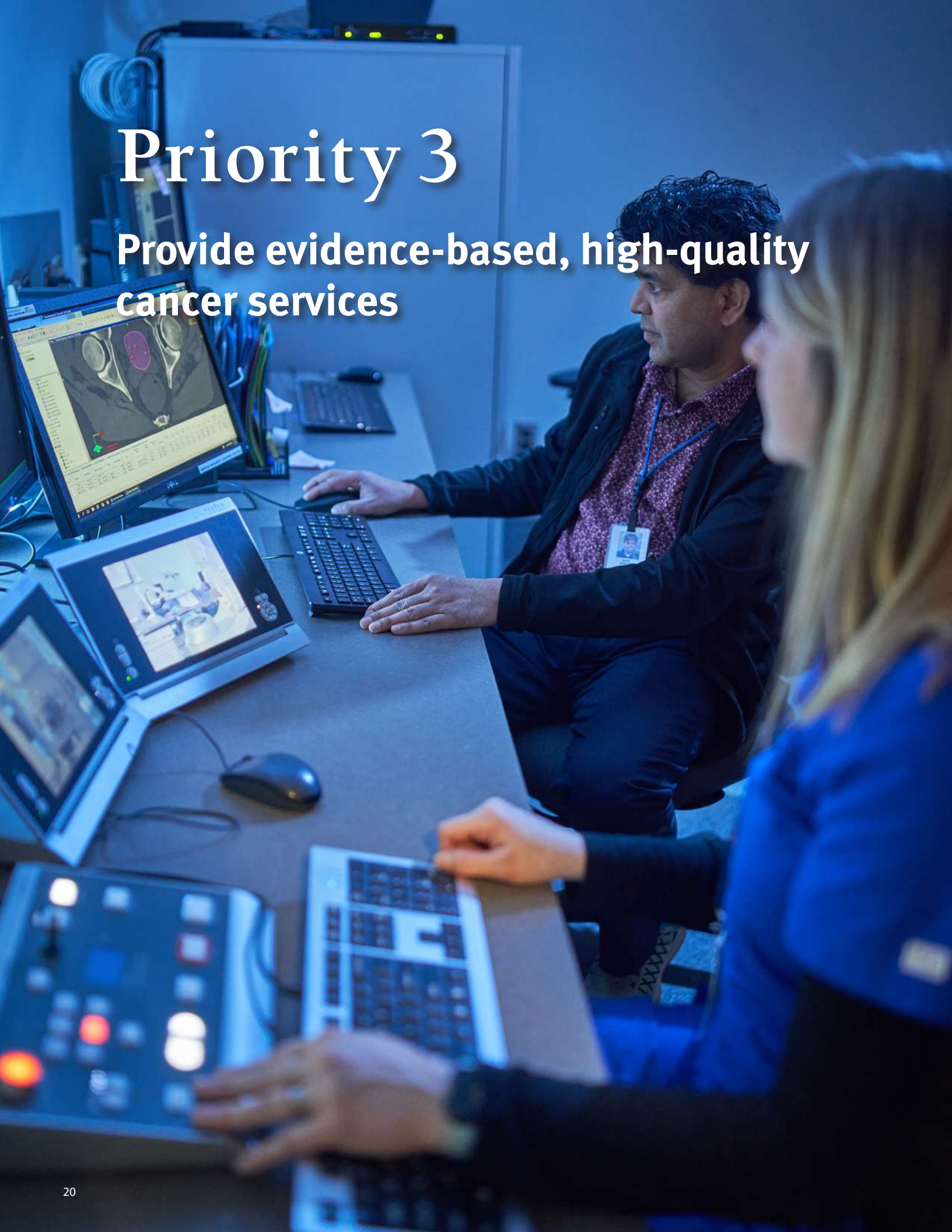


Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority



Priority 3

Provide evidence-based, high-quality cancer services



Cancer Surgery Provincial Standards

The Cancer Surgery Quality in Manitoba 2022 report is the second report examining the quality of cancer surgery in Manitoba. The goal of the report is to continuously monitor and improve cancer surgical quality to ensure that Manitobans receive the best surgical care possible.

The report focuses on surgeries conducted for the treatment of breast, colorectal, lung, ovarian, and prostate cancers diagnosed between January 1, 2015 and December 31, 2020.

Key Findings

- The average number of individuals diagnosed with breast cancer increased from 912 in 2010-2014 to 997 in 2015-2019.
- Laparoscopic colon surgery rates increased from 27.3% in 2015 to 45.0% in 2020.
- Video-Assisted Thoracoscopic Surgery in NSCLC patients increased from 59.0% in 2015 to 75.7% in 2020.
- The median number of days between biopsy and surgery decreased from 185 in 2017 to 113 in 2020 for prostate cancer patients.



Provincial Systemic Therapy Program

CCMB recognized the need for standards in systemic treatment in the province due to the prevailing complexities of various treatment regimens, evolving pharmacy regulations and the emergence of new cancer treatments. CancerCare Manitoba realigned services to address this need and launched the Systemic Therapy Program in May 2022. The Systemic Therapy Program (STP) is responsible for developing and evaluating concordance to standards of systemic treatments for Manitobans with cancer throughout the province.

This approach places patients at the centre of the model and aligns with evidence-based best practices in safely delivering systemic cancer treatments closer to home.

The STP integrates drug acquisition, drug preparation and administration of systemic treatment to patients, as well as oversees and monitors systemic therapy standards throughout the province. This integrated process ultimately benefits and ensures the safety of the patient.

The STP unites the disciplines - nurses, pharmacy, and physicians - responsible for delivering systemic

therapy to patients under one coordinated CCMB Systemic Therapy Program for the entire province. These changes are focused on building a stronger patient-centred care model that will be better positioned to address the challenges faced both now and in the future.

The STP evaluated the rate of drug related infusion reactions and subsequently provided staff education, implemented a weekly allergy clinic for patients to be referred to, and implemented a province wide hypersensitivity standing order protocol to safely manage patients who do have drug related infusion reactions. Standardized skin testing protocols in addition to desensitization protocols have been developed with clinical immunology to ensure a standard and consistent approach.

The STP has developed the oncology library safety parameters for the new, provincial, large volume infusion pump, as well as provided staff education to support the new pump at all sites that administer oncology systemic therapy.

L to R: Kristi Hofer, Tracey Schlamb, Dr. Vallerie Gordon, Marc Geirnaert





Marc Geirnaert

Director of the Provincial Oncology Drug Program
Systemic Therapy, CancerCare Manitoba

New cancer drugs hold great promise but often require complex treatment protocols

The last number of years have seen a proliferation of new innovative cancer drug therapies being tested in clinical trials at CCMB, nationally, and around the world. Some of these therapies have since become available for clinical use while many more are showing promise in current trials.

Innovations in drug technology often necessitate new ways of processing information, administering trials, and delivering clinical services. Increasingly, multidisciplinary teams are required to operate trials. One example of this is CAR-T therapy, a type of cancer immunotherapy that uses the patient's immune cells, called T cells, that are genetically altered in a lab to enable them to locate and destroy cancer cells. CAR-T treatment requires hospital admission, patient monitoring for side effects by nurses, oncologist assessments, and pharmacists to prepare necessary drugs. Put simply, it takes a community to run a clinical trial.

CCMB's Clinical Trials Unit also works with external partners. For example, Radiopharmaceuticals, a group of drugs containing radioactive isotopes, can only be administered in nuclear medicine departments, which CCMB does not have. Our team liaises with nuclear medicine physicians and other experts. In turn, these consultations lead to the development of new protocols that shape future clinical trials.

There are several advantages for Manitobans resulting from CCMB participating in clinical trials of novel therapies. Most importantly, cancer patients may have access to beneficial treatments not widely available. Because trials are administered by clinical teams, participating nurses and oncologists become familiar with the new therapies and potential side effects. When the trial drug is eventually approved and funded for clinical use, this familiarity can immediately benefit patients. CCMB's involvement in these new methods and technologies helps to recruit and retain top oncologists and investigators looking to stay at the forefront of cancer treatment.

Marc Geirnaert, Director, Provincial Oncology Drug Program comments, "New therapies are making a difference in patient's lives. It's important to remember all of these therapies started with people enrolling in trials".

A group of four people (three women and one man) are sitting in a circle in a room with bookshelves. They are engaged in a conversation. The room has a stone wall, bookshelves filled with books, and a framed picture of a landscape. In the center of the group is a large, round, orange table with a small vase containing dried grasses on it. The people are sitting on blue and beige armchairs.

Priority 4

Improve patient experience throughout the cancer continuum

"It has been so affirming and uplifting to hear people's experiences and strategies for walking my cancer journey." - Cancer Support Group Participant

Hope and Healing

Program Highlights



L to R: Cheryl Dizon-Reynante and Lorena Gerl

Amidst the challenges faced during the 2022-2023 fiscal year (April - March), due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Hope and Healing Program continued to shine as an inspiration of support for cancer patients and their families.

The Patient & Family Resource Centre faced a temporary closure until late fall 2022 due to COVID-19 restrictions. Despite this setback, the centre rebounded to provide essential resources and assistance.

The Breast and Gynae Cancer Patient and Family Educators had over 1200 visits, reaffirming that this support is essential for individuals dealing with breast and gynecological cancer.

Close to 10,000 visits were recorded for Psychosocial Oncology services, encompassing initial consultations, ongoing sessions, and group meetings.

Over 2,500 visits for nutritional services underscored the importance of these services as part of comprehensive cancer care.

Cancer information webinars played a pivotal role in bridging the information gap, attracting 505 participants from across Manitoba. Topics ranged from exercise and nutrition to addressing the fear of recurrence and managing anxiety.

The Hope and Healing Program is being expanded as a coordinated provincial program that will allow for the integration of clinical and supportive care for patients with all types of cancers, from the onset of diagnosis to survivorship and end-of-life. This Program addresses the physical comfort, educational, informational, emotional, spiritual and practical needs of patients with cancer and their families, focusing on the patient experience and using a health equity, person-centred approach.

The expanded Hope and Healing Program will provide programs and services virtually and in-person via Centres for Hope across the province.

MyCare Patient App

Dedicated to Enhancing the Patient Experience



MyCare, our patient-centric app, was launched on April 1, 2022, and has been making significant strides in line with our patient-centred philosophy and commitment to value-based care. Currently, CCMB has approximately 5,000 active patients across Manitoba benefiting from the app.

Building on this success, CCMB implemented Phase II in early 2023, addressing the demand for an “e-schedule” feature which now allows patients to receive and view upcoming appointments directly through the MyCare app. Additionally, during this phase, CCMB improved the “e-library” by including a ‘Welcome to CancerCare Manitoba,’ message along with a standardized CCMB patient resource package. CCMB also established a process for departments/programs to request commonly used paper resources to be added to the e-library for electronic distribution within the app.

The Key features now available on the MyCare app include:

Communication with Care Team: MyCare facilitates seamless communication between patients and their care teams. Patients can easily

send messages to their care providers, enhancing the flow of vital information and support. The symptom reporting function allows patients to conveniently report their symptoms at any time, and our dedicated care team responds promptly during business hours, providing timely support. By utilizing this feature, patients can directly communicate their thoughts or questions, eliminating the need to leave messages and await callbacks. The care team leverages electronic communication to respond, and if necessary, further interactions occur through the app or via phone, based on the severity of the situation.

Access to Appointments: Through MyCare, patients have convenient access to their upcoming appointments, helping them stay informed about their treatment schedule and plan their visits accordingly. Moreover, they receive timely notifications for any new or changed appointments, along with 7-day and 2-day reminders for existing appointments, ensuring improved patient attendance.

Timely Information and Education: Patients receive important messages, CancerCare Manitoba announcements (e.g., webinars, conferences), and educational resources directly from their care team. The app's library houses valuable educational materials for easy reference and learning.

Interactive Questionnaires: MyCare enables patients to respond to questionnaires in between visits, allowing for continuous assessment and monitoring of their well-being, which contributes to evidence-based care.

Personal Online Diary: With MyCare, patients can maintain a personal online diary, offering them a secure space to record their thoughts, feelings, and experiences related to their health journey. The successful implementation of

MyCare represents a significant step forward in our continuous efforts to enhance the patient experience and foster patient engagement throughout their cancer journey.

We remain committed to adapting and refining MyCare to meet the evolving needs of our patients and clinical care teams, as we firmly believe that patient empowerment and access to real-time information are fundamental to providing exceptional care and improving

outcomes. One example of responding to patient and staff feedback is that CCMB will add a dedicated Patient Support person(s) to assist patients directly with technical questions/issues regarding the app. This will leave the care team to address symptom cases and other medical questions. We will continue to prioritize the ongoing development and integration of MyCare as a standard practice of care, ensuring that patients receive the support and resources they need throughout their cancer journey.



Patient Feedback

“Helps people who don’t speak English, good communication.”

“Convenient easy to use and always available”

“Ease of use and great for keeping track of the many many appointments.”

“It is always current and the staff are responsive when I ask a question.”

CancerCare Manitoba's Inaugural Patient and Family Conference

November 25 to 26, 2022, CancerCare Manitoba achieved a significant milestone by hosting its first-ever patient and family conference, conducted virtually. This event brought together over 200 participants, excluding presenters, organizers, and staff. Approximately 220 individuals engaged in at least one session throughout the conference.

The conference had a total of 11 informative sessions; apart from the keynote address, the sessions the participants found the most helpful were:

1. "Pain Management for people living with Cancer: Pills, Plants and other possibilities"
2. "Patient panel, My Experience with Cancer"
3. "Eating well During and After Treatment"
4. "Understanding and Coping with the Fear of Cancer Recurrence"

The precision oncology session had the highest ratings and feedback from attendees.

A significant majority, just over 90%, of participants were from Manitoba, with 62% from Winnipeg and 30% from outside of Winnipeg. The conference attracted international attendees, with representation from the United States, India, and Paraguay. Additionally, 11 attendees joined

from other Canadian provinces, including six participants from Vancouver, BC.

The conference featured ten interactive booths for attendees to explore. The following booths were the most popular:

1. CCMB Breast and Gynecological Cancer Centre for Hope
2. CCMB Cancer Navigation Services
3. CCMB Counseling for Patients and Their Families

When asked about potential themes for future conferences, the participants highlighted three main areas:

1. Anxiety and Coping with Cancer/Fear of Recurrence
2. Nutrition and Dietary Guidance, including Protein and Calorie Intake
3. Mental and Emotional Health, along with Therapeutic Approaches

The MyCare patient app played a pivotal role in disseminating information about the conference, reaching a significant portion of the audience.

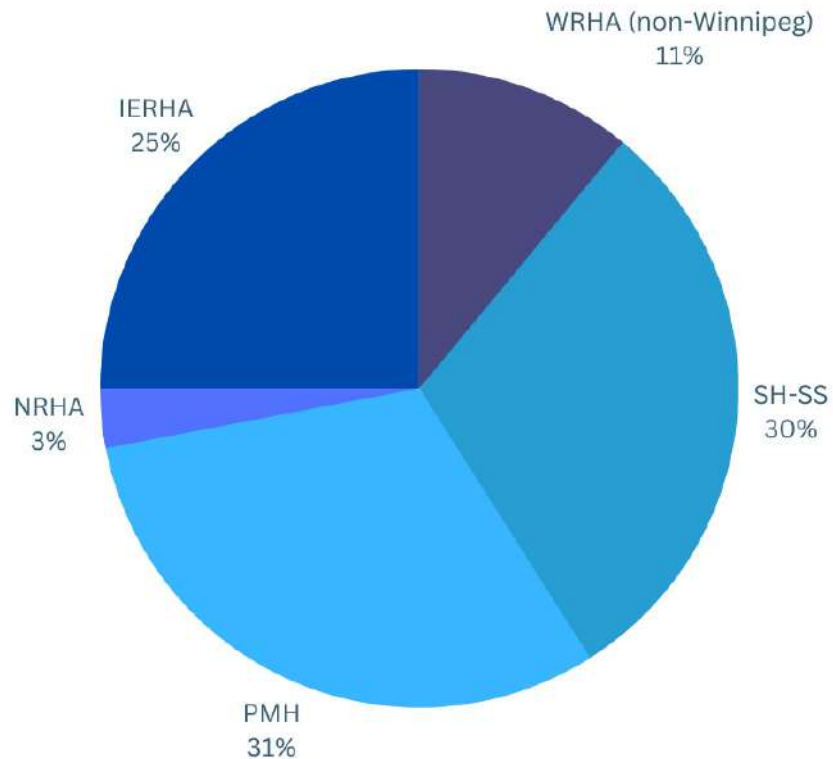


Catherine Wreford

Guest Speaker

Cancer warrior, performer, motivational speaker, stretch expert, winner of The Amazing Race Canada.

The following pie chart illustrates the distribution of Manitoba attendees from outside of Winnipeg.



94% of respondents would recommend this conference to a loved one with cancer and their friends and families.

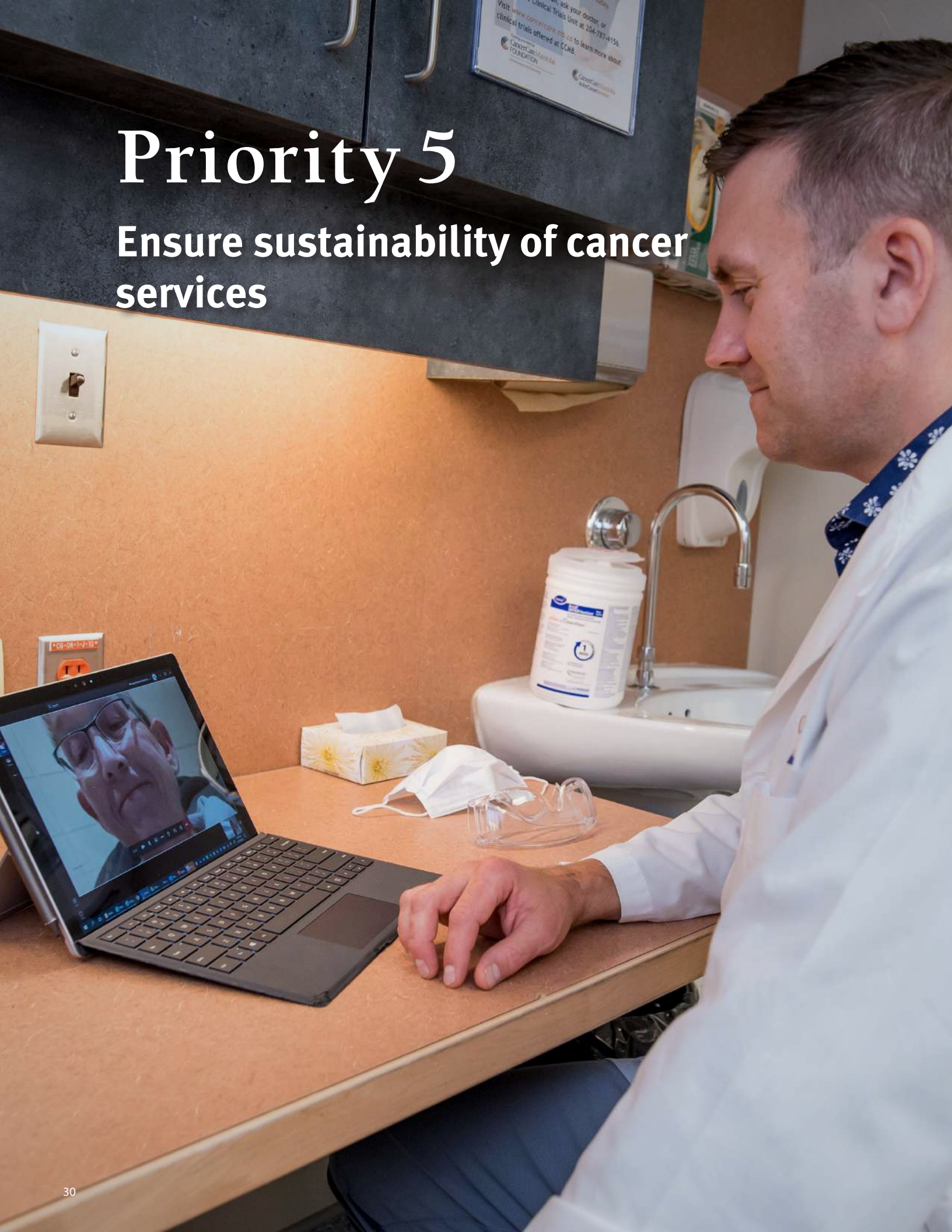
Participant feedback:

"I think holding a conference like this for patients, families, friends, loved ones, and professionals was fantastic. I look forward to future conferences like this as I learned a lot and felt supported. I also really related to the personal stories shared by the survivors so I'd really appreciate having more survivors participate in conferences like this going forward."

"That is the first time that I am participating in the conference. That is an incredible event, I am so glad that I have such an opportunity to receive so much useful information and great support from CancerCare Manitoba. I appreciate so much what you are doing for cancer patients. Thank you so much."

Priority 5

Ensure sustainability of cancer services



Infrastructure Expansion

CCMB is involved in several capital projects with government as part of Health Transformation. These include a portfolio of projects known as the Immediate Needs and Stabilization, which will strengthen and stabilize cancer services to 2025. The challenges of building capacity and providing additional space will be addressed and accomplished through either renovation within existing facilities, expanding the footprint with new construction, or a combination of the two. A summary of these projects include:

Project 1 – CCMB McDermot Immediate Needs and Stabilization renovations including a Centre for Hope. In 2022 a new clinic area was completed on level 0 of the McDermot Building. In 2023, new physician offices are being constructed on level 2 to accommodate construction of a new Clinic area on level 3. The level 2 construction project is scheduled for completion in late summer 2023, while the new clinic spaces on level 3 are projected to enter construction in fall 2023.

Project 2 – CancerCare Manitoba Research Institute Expansion – Major renovation and rebuilding of the research laboratories on floors 5-7 of the McDermot site is currently in design phase, with construction projected for early 2024. This project is funded through the CancerCare Manitoba Foundation.

Project 3 – CCMB Victoria General Hospital (Buhler Cancer Centre) – Renovation of clinical areas to support additional clinic capacity will be completed in late summer 2023.

Project 4 – CCMB Grace Hospital Renovation – Renovation of clinical areas to support additional clinic capacity is in design phase. Construction is scheduled to start in early 2024.

Project 5 – Western Manitoba Cancer Center Expansion - Expansion of the building will increase clinical capacity, accommodate the installation of a new linear accelerator, and create a home for the new Centre for Hope.

Project 6 – CCMB NAPRA Pharmacy - Renovations to the pharmacy to bring the facility up to new NAPRA Standards (provincial scope), are in design phase

Project 7 – Health Sciences Centre/University of Manitoba Bannatyne Campus Master Planning - CCMB is part of this planning process led by Shared Health, which has demonstrated the long term vision for HSC Bannatyne Campus. The planning process emphasizes opportunities for growth and expansion, including for CancerCare Manitoba.

Note: The Centre for Hope projects are funded through CancerCare Manitoba Foundation.

Celebrating the upcoming expansion of Western Manitoba Cancer Centre in Brandon Manitoba



Digital Solutions to Improve Information Flow for Better Patient Care

Transition to Nuance Dragon Medical One

As part of the provincial initiative to replace technical systems used in healthcare facilities with more modern systems, CancerCare Manitoba (CCMB) replaced its existing dictation and transcription software with the Nuance Dragon Medical One Voice Recognition system. The new system reduces the risk of disruption to clinical

dictation and transcription activities by allowing medical professionals to dictate their notes directly into the patient record. Over a period of six months, users trained on the new system and were fully transitioned by the start of February 2023.

Cancer Informatics Platform

CancerCare Manitoba and the Paul Albrechtsen Research Institute have developed a comprehensive cancer informatics platform to support population-based and clinical cancer research. The platform integrates existing research datasets and resources into a centralized data warehouse to optimize its ability to support research and address important clinical, scientific and health system questions. The new platform also supports the development of digital surveys, providing patients with the option to submit electronic responses to the Ambulatory Oncology Patient Satisfaction Survey (AOPSS).

Members of the Cancer Clinical Information Management Department



Innovative Models of Care

Clinical Innovation Group

In January 2023, the Clinical Innovation Group (CIG) was established with a dedicated focus on driving and nurturing sustainable innovation. The primary goal of the CIG is to cultivate, formulate, and execute creative ideas and solutions in close collaboration with CCMB teams across all levels that aim to enhance patient outcomes and safety, elevate the patient experience, and optimize operational efficiency.

This approach is designed to effectively address challenges, capitalize on opportunities, and maintain a leading edge within the ever-evolving healthcare landscape. They support and empower staff at all levels to become agents of positive change, fostering a culture of continuous improvement and innovation throughout CCMB.

Clinical Innovation Group L to R: Malia Cruz, Kathy Kyryluk, Ilana Trahtenberg, Ken Borce, Missing: Barbara Kitzen



Priority 6

**Improve First Nations, Métis, and Inuit
cancer control and outcomes**



Community Profiles Website

Website to Enhance Healthcare Professionals' Understanding of Indigenous Community Resources

CancerCare Manitoba, in collaboration with First Nation, Métis, and Inuit partners, developed a groundbreaking website to assist healthcare professionals in creating safer and more comprehensive care plans for patients returning to their communities. The Indigenous Community Profiles website serves as a valuable resource, offering geographical and travel information, as well as details on healthcare and community resources in Indigenous communities.

The Indigenous Community Profiles project reinforces CCMB's commitment to promoting culturally appropriate care closer to home and ensuring equitable access to cancer services.

CancerCare Manitoba serves Indigenous patients across Manitoba and the Kivalliq region of Nunavut. CCMB worked with First Nation, Métis and Inuit partners to design and gather community information for the website profiles.

CCMB is proud to recognize our partners who contributed to the Community Profiles, including the Southern Chiefs Organization, Manitoba Métis Federation, Four Arrows Regional Health Authority, and the Government of Nunavut. CCMB thanks the Canadian Partnership Against Cancer for its generous support as the project funder.

The new website contains Community Profiles for First Nations and Métis communities in Manitoba and Inuit communities in Sanikiluaq and the Kivalliq region of Nunavut. Each community profile includes important community characteristics and resources available in a community, as well as geographical information about where the community is located. This resource will help healthcare providers develop safer and more realistic care plans for patients once they return to their communities. CancerCare Manitoba has worked with First Nations, Métis and Inuit partners to gather community information for the profiles.

The website will be officially launched in the Fall of 2023.



Culturally-responsive Equitable Cancer Care

Jordan's Principle Coordinator Supports First Nations Children at CCMB

Jordan's Principle is a child-first principle to ensure First Nations children get the services they need when they need them.

As a result of the strong relationship between CCMB and Southern Chiefs Organization (SCO), a dedicated Jordan's Principle Coordinator is now available to provide vital assistance to First Nations children receiving cancer treatment and care at the Children's Hospital. This position is financially supported by SCO.

Prevention & Screening

In collaboration with Prevention & Screening and KIM (Health Branch of MKO) **self-sample HPV testing was arranged in several First Nations communities.** Guided by KIM staff, HPV self-sampling was offered to three communities in the north: Shamattawa, Bunibonibee, and York Factory. These communities determined the way the kits would be made available to eligible community members (self-determined care). Two strategies were used for distribution: kits were mailed out directly to eligible community members in one of the communities, and in the other two the nurses distributed them. This work was made possible in part with the support of the Canadian Partnership Against Cancer.

Community Connectors

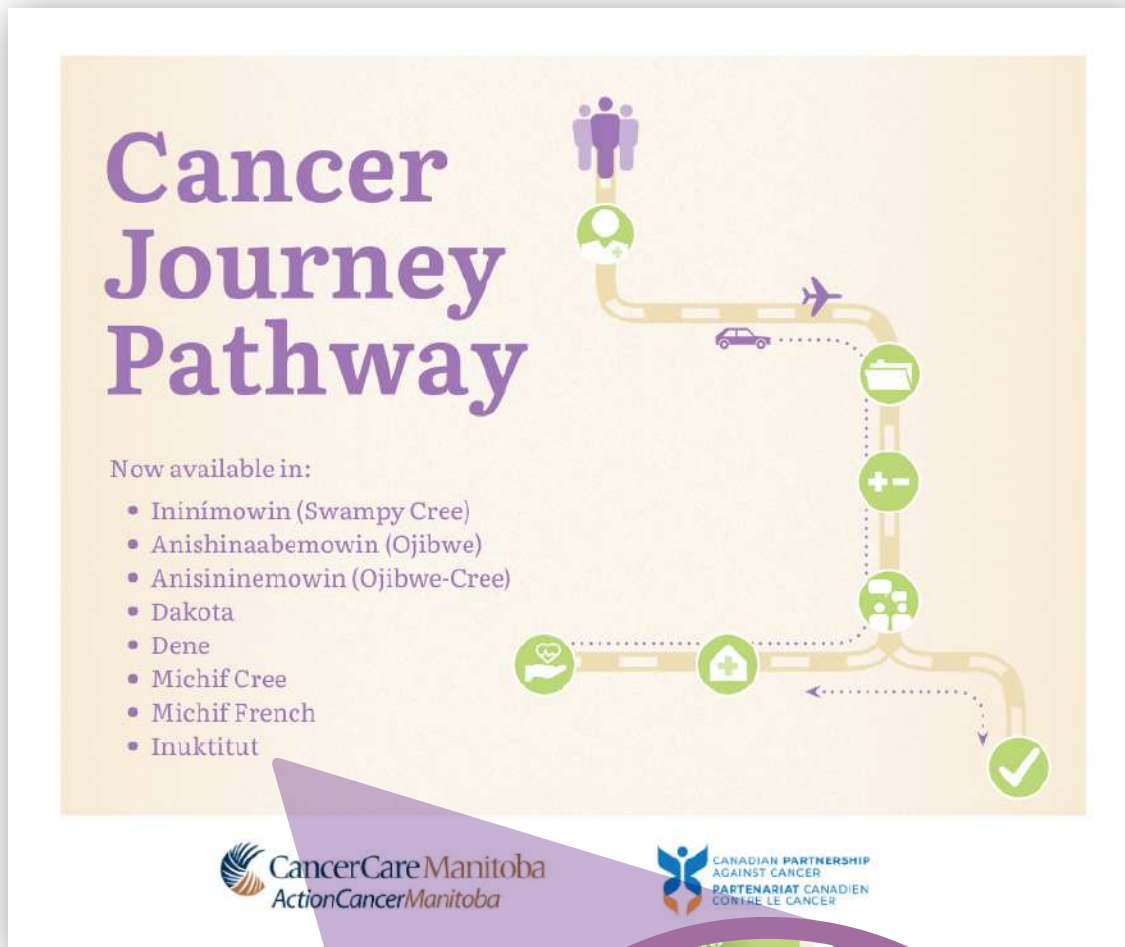
In person engagement with Indigenous Community Connectors

The role of a Community Connector is to act as a bridge between the needs of a person/patient and the resources that are available for them.

In March 2023, CCMB hosted an in-person gathering with community connectors and community engagement liaisons to celebrate our work together in enhancing cancer control and outcomes for First Nations, Métis and Inuit. Additionally, it provided an opportunity to educate participants about cancer and the resources offered by CancerCare Manitoba for patients and their families.

Although the event marked the end of the CPAC project that funded these two initiatives, Community Connectors and Community Profiles, the Community Connectors expressed their willingness to continue supporting community members and connecting them to CCMB resources and services.

Cancer Journey Pathway - This infographic serves the purpose of illustrating the stages of a cancer journey for patients, providing timeline information regarding when individuals may anticipate progressing to the next step. This resource has been adapted and translated to make it more accessible for indigenous patients. *Note: This project was funded by the Canadian Partnership Against Cancer.*



Challenges and Opportunities

CHALLENGES

Increasing cancer incidence and demand for cancer services

We continue to see a steady increase in the number of cancer diagnoses due in part to Manitoba's aging population and the higher incidence of cancer in the elderly, as well as individuals living longer with cancer due to advances in treatment. More Manitobans will require cancer services in the coming decades and the demand on the overall healthcare system will increase.

Post-COVID recovery

In Manitoba, and nationally and globally, we continue to face the burden of human resource challenges along with our health partners. This became increasingly evident and was further impacted by the pandemic, primarily in the area of front-line clinical staff and physicians.

Ongoing health human resources challenges

Our staff and physicians are our most valuable and critical resource. CancerCare Manitoba, along with our health partners, is experiencing higher than normal vacancies primarily in front-line positions. This is impacting our ability to sustain cancer services. To mitigate risk, we are fortifying our recruitment and retention efforts with a focus on nurses, pharmacists, radiation therapists, physicians, and other allied health positions.

Specialized training

It is a difficult task to recruit into positions requiring specialized training, specifically physicians, nurses, radiation therapists, medical physicists, and mammography technicians due to shortages of trained professionals nationally and globally. Recruitment is prolonged and often involves national and international searches. Specialist training in our province and elsewhere, along with robust retention and succession strategies are key to ensuring the sustainability of cancer services into the future.

Treatment advances bring complexities

New technologies, novel therapies and new cancer drugs and drug combinations continue to be introduced into the treatment of cancer. These promising and exciting advances improve patient care and outcomes. However, they also bring some challenges including more complex treatments, ongoing education to ensure the safe implementation of new treatments and drugs, increased costs and additional resources. It is a fine balance between continuing to provide current treatments and implementing new treatments in a safe and timely manner. Our strong teams work together to introduce and adapt to new processes in a timely manner for the safe delivery of state-of-the-art treatments to patients.

Financial challenges in our healthcare environment

The current environment of fiscal constraints and limited resources adds to the challenges of sustaining the delivery of high-quality evidence-based cancer care to Manitobans. CancerCare Manitoba seeks efficiencies and cost-effectiveness in its daily operations and implements new and innovative models of care that are more efficient. This year we are very fortunate to introduce three new advances to patients: CAR-T therapy treatments for specific cancers, the transition to the FIT test for colorectal screening, and the introduction of lung cancer screening expected in the near future.

FUTURE DIRECTION

Investing in our staff: Investing in the future

Supporting our existing staff is an ongoing priority. We are strengthening our efforts to engage with and support our staff and volunteers in the workplace through a variety of mechanisms, such as educational sessions, staff town halls, and celebrating staff achievements. We continue our commitment to a culture of Equity, Diversity

and Inclusion in the workplace for staff and patients through ongoing learning opportunities and involvement in the provincial health system Disrupting Racism initiative for all staff. Our goal is to foster a workplace where everyone feels a sense of belonging.

Provincial Cancer Standards

As the provincial cancer authority, CancerCare Manitoba is responsible for the development and implementation of provincial cancer standards to ensure a standard of care and treatment, including cancer surgery, that is consistent across the province for all Manitobans regardless of where they live or who they are. We are developing these standards and working in conjunction with our provincial partners to standardize cancer services for cancer patients provincially and nationally.

Building the Hope and Healing Program

For many years, CancerCare Manitoba has provided supportive programs to patients and their families to assist them on their cancer journey. These programs focus on emotional support, peer and group support, cancer rehabilitation, and programs offering physical enhancements such as head coverings or other adaptative supports needed to adjust to the physical changes a cancer diagnosis can bring. CCMB's Hope and Healing Program brings together all of these programs through Centres for Hope located within CCMB facilities. These Centres are a safe place where patients can find hope and healing through the programs offered.

Currently, there is a Centre for Hope at the McDermot site and we were very excited to announce a new Centre for Hope outside of Winnipeg which will be built at the Western Manitoba Cancer Centre in Brandon, made possible through the generous donation from the Paul Albrechtsen Foundation. Our long-term vision is the creation of additional Centres for Hope in and outside of Winnipeg, to ensure these vital programs are widely available to Manitobans throughout our province.

Investment in Research

The recent investment of \$27 million in research from the Paul Albrechtsen Foundation will impact cancer research for years to come. This transformational gift has made it possible to:

- Rebuild our research laboratories on 3 floors at the McDermot site of CCMB through upgrades and renovation;
- Bring in new Single Cell Technology – five individual pieces of technology work together and allow for different analyses of cell reaction and interaction in a tumour. This type of data allows physicians to personalize treatment to the individual. This suite of equipment is unique in Canada!
- Increase capacity for Genomics – genomic sequencing will advance personalized medicine for Manitobans. Next Generation Sequencing, as a research and clinical platform, advances the genomic understanding of cancer, making it possible to develop and select personalized treatments specifically targeting the unique biology of a patient's disease.

We are extremely grateful for this very generous gift which elevates our research and allows us to reach new heights. The research programs within our Research Institute will expand and promote innovation.

Engagement with Patients, Families and Communities

CCMB remains committed to patient- and community-centred care to bring the best outcomes to Manitobans with cancer. Through our engagement with patients, families, health partners, communities and groups, including our Indigenous and newcomer partners and communities, we learn about the unique needs of individuals and the communities they belong to and are better able to respond to these needs and inform the care that we provide.

CCMB values its engagement with Patient and Family Advisors who provide the patient perspective to inform our planning and further improve our ability to provide patient-centred care and an enhanced patient experience.

Recognizing the unique needs of individuals and acknowledging the challenges of racism and cultural safety assists us in providing equitable care and optimal health outcomes. The best care for Manitobans involves treating and caring for the whole person rather than the disease. For these reasons, engagement in all of its forms is critically important to the care we provide.

Long-Term Capital Plan

During 2022/2023, CancerCare Manitoba made further progress on a multi-year capital project designed to address its immediate needs, as well as strengthen and stabilize cancer services into the future. This capital project, known as Immediate Needs and Stabilization, is a multi-phase project intended to increase clinical capacity at the CCMB Winnipeg sites located at McDermot, Victoria General Hospital (VGH) and Grace Hospital.

Several major milestones have been achieved in this multi-phase project, including completion of McDermot level 0 clinical expansion (August 2022); progress towards completion of renovations to a leased site at 825 Sherbrook Street which will accommodate decanting of some non-clinical programs from McDermot (est. August 2023); and completion of McDermot level 2 physician offices (August 2023). The completion of these recent projects provides the opportunity to begin construction of a new Clinic 5 at McDermot (projected to start September 2023). In addition, a clinical expansion at VGH was completed in August 2023. Design work for the next phase of Immediate Needs projects at McDermot, as well as at Grace Hospital, continues to advance. Future phases of the Immediate Needs and Stabilization Project will proceed into design and construction during 2023-2024.

While the Immediate Needs and Stabilization project has been undertaken to provide capacity to meet projected care demands, the need for a new building remains an important aspect of long-term capital planning to address the growing capacity need for the provision of cancer services in Manitoba, projected beyond 2025.

CCMB is also working in partnership with Shared Health and the Transformation Management Office on a variety of capital projects that impact CCMB spaces outside the perimeter of Winnipeg. Notably, a major expansion of clinical and radiation therapy services, as well as a new Centre for Hope, is currently under construction at the Western Manitoba Cancer Centre in Brandon (projected completion for Nov 2024), while construction work for new hospitals is underway at the Portage la Prairie, Neepawa, and Dauphin Regional Health Centres. A project to renovate/expand the Boundary Trails Regional Hospital and CCMB site (including provision for a new Centre for Hope) is in the design phase.

CCMB is also working with our health partners to upgrade pharmacy operations to meet current standards set by the National Association of Pharmacy Regulatory Authorities (NAPRA).

All of these projects will enhance clinical care capacity for patients within local communities, bringing quality care closer to home. CCMB also strives to both improve the patient experience while meeting the forecasted increase in clinical demand.



Risk Management Strategy

CancerCare Manitoba has robust policies and procedures governing the development and reporting of risks within an Integrated Risk Management System. A designated corporate risk team led by the Chief of Corporate Services and Finance monitors and evaluates risks within that framework and reports annually on its performance through executive leadership and to the CCMB Board.

This established Enterprise Risk Management methodology enables CCMB to recognize and enact plans to prevent or deal with risk events, resulting in added protection of the public interest and maintenance of public trust. Risk management at CCMB involves internal engagement, communication, and external stakeholder involvement to identify and mitigate risks.

CCMB utilizes the Healthcare Insurance Reciprocal of Canada (HIROC) system to report, evaluate and classify risks. The HIROC system assesses risk by combining estimates of (i) the impact and (ii) the likelihood of a particular risk, which are multiplied to get the final risk assessment, which provides valuable insights into CCMB's risk landscape.

Department of Medical Oncology and Hematology (DMOH)



Dr. Leonard Minuk

Department Head, CancerCare Manitoba,
Medical Oncology and Hematology (DMOH)
Section Head, Hematology & Oncology,
Max Rady College of Medicine

DMOH is the largest medical department at CCMB, consisting of 23 medical oncologists, 20 hematologists, and ten administrative support staff. CCMB provides access to cutting-edge treatments and services through outpatient facilities at various locations, including Health Sciences Centre (HSC), St. Boniface Hospital (SBH), Victoria General Hospital (VGH), Grace Hospital, and the Western Manitoba Cancer Centre in Brandon (WMCC). Additionally, they offer inpatient consultative services in hematology, apheresis, and medical oncology at HSC and SBH, along with managing the inpatient Leukemia and Blood & Marrow Transplant ward at HSC.

Over the years, patient care in cancer and blood disorders has significantly improved but has become increasingly complex and challenging. As the department head, one of Dr. Leonard Minuk's main responsibilities is planning the necessary physician complement to oversee treatments while ensuring safe and efficient delivery within the overall system.

Dr. Minuk envisions CCMB expanding its services further with a continued focus on delivering quality care closer to home. CCMB

has successfully established services in various locations through its Community Oncology Program, and the recent addition of a medical oncologist in Brandon, Dr. Brady Anderson, is a significant milestone.

The department aims to incorporate many new and innovative therapies in the near future. CCMB is on the verge of introducing CAR-T (chimeric antigen receptor T cell) therapy in Manitoba, a groundbreaking immunotherapy technique with immense potential to transform cancer treatment outcomes. This type of immunotherapy is currently used to treat hematologic malignancies such as non-Hodgkin's lymphoma and acute lymphoblastic leukemia, but there are CAR-T products in development for other types of cancer in the future that present immense potential for transforming cancer treatment outcomes.

Research is the backbone of CCMB and DMOH. Engaging in a wide range of studies, the physicians contribute to local, national, and international scientific discoveries. Physicians in the group are the recipients of local, national, and international peer-reviewed grant funding, are successful in publishing their research in high-impact medical journals and are invited to present these findings at international academic

meetings. All of the department's physicians regularly attend academic meetings and use this science-informed knowledge to introduce leading-edge treatments in Manitoba, ensuring patients receive the best possible care. When asked, Dr. Minuk said, "The balance between providing compassionate care to patients and dealing with the emotional toll that comes with treating cancer daily is something that all physicians struggle with. As compassionate people, it is difficult to witness pain, suffering, or tragedy and not let it consume you. It is critical to focus on our successes and recognize that success can take many forms. Traditional successes, like putting someone's cancer into remission, are easy to recognize. Other types of success can be just as important, being an empathetic ear to a patient's struggle, relieving pain and symptoms, and providing comprehensive counseling about treatment, prognosis and expectations. In my experience, our patients often express a great deal of gratitude toward us, and this gratitude goes a long way toward filling our buckets."

Before taking on a leadership role, Dr. Minuk would often see ways the system could improve if their workplace were more efficiently organized. While deriving great satisfaction from patient care, he came to the realization that his impact was limited to the individuals directly in front of him. This awareness and desire to improve the system motivated him to embrace a position in medical leadership alongside his primary responsibilities of direct patient care. Dr. Minuk and the department's dedication have steered the way toward delivering exceptional care to patients battling cancer and blood disorders. Through compassionate care and an unyielding commitment to research and advancement, they are transforming cancer care in Manitoba. Their vision for the future holds great promise, inspiring hope and optimism for a brighter and healthier tomorrow.



Dr. Roopesh Kansara

Hematologist, CancerCare Manitoba
Assistant Professor & Program Director,
Adult Hematology Subspecialty Program,
Max Rady College of Medicine

Dr. Roopesh Kansara is a hematologist and cancer medicine specialist with CancerCare Manitoba.

Dr. Kansara trained extensively at the University of Manitoba (Medicine, Internal Medicine and Hematology) followed by further training at the British Columbia Cancer Centre to specialize in lymphoproliferative disorders.

Dr. Kansara has a passion for understanding and combating hematologic malignancies through cutting-edge therapies that constantly evolve. He finds a profound sense of job satisfaction when he navigates the cancer pathway, administers the treatment and gets his patients into remission and hopefully cured. He understands the critical role that scientific discoveries and advancements play in patient care and emphasizes that the incorporation of such breakthroughs into clinical practice is based on their impact on patient outcomes, especially improved survival rates observed in clinical trials.

Dr. Kansara brings an understanding about supporting loved ones through cancer. When he began his career in cancer medicine, he witnessed his parent go through an aggressive cancer journey. At that time, he had a dual role to fulfill; he needed to be strong for himself and also for his parent and family, who looked to him for knowledge, expertise and support. During this period, he experienced first-hand what cancer patients go through in their daily lives. This has enabled him to become a better physician,

fostering compassionate care and offering a listening ear to his patients, supporting them however possible. He recognizes that a positive outlook is essential when providing cancer care. Recently, he delivered an excellent presentation on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) during CCMB's Equity Week. He shared his perspective on equity and how it means providing equal opportunities to everyone, regardless of gender, ethnicity, ability, or sexual orientation. Emphasizing the significance of diversity, he explained it is essential to have a variety of perspectives for representation and progress. Inclusion, according to Dr. Kansara, involves embracing everyone, including those who might otherwise be marginalized, and fostering a culture of belonging within institutions and organizations. For him, the triad of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion is fundamental to the functionality, prosperity, and innovation of any institution or organization.

He can say with pride that he made the right career choice as he looks forward to going to work every day.

Research at CancerCare Manitoba

Past, Present, and Future

In the preceding year, CancerCare Manitoba (CCMB) published “Research at CancerCare Manitoba,” a comprehensive overview of our distinctive journey through cancer research in Manitoba. This publication provides an overview of our historical and current scientific contributions, as well as illuminates the fertile ground our present environment provides for further expansion of our research legacy.

As the mandated provincial cancer authority, CCMB not only develops the strategic plan for cancer care across the province but also cancer research. Throughout nine decades, our unwavering dedication has fueled scientific exploration, resulting in enhanced patient well-being.



[Research at CancerCare Manitoba 2022](#)

Securing our Future - Recruitment of CancerCare Manitoba Scientists



Dr. Cédric Tremblay

Recruited from the Australian Centre for Blood Diseases (ACBD)/Monash University, Dr. Cédric Tremblay joined CancerCare Manitoba's Research Institute on September 1, 2022, as a Scientist and Assistant Professor in the Department of Immunology at the University of Manitoba.

Dr. Tremblay describes his latest research published in Blood Journal on YouTube: <https://tinyurl.com/Blood-Journal>



Dr. Joel Pearson

Recruited from the Lunenfeld-Tanenbaum Research Institute at Mount Sinai Hospital in Toronto, Dr. Joel Pearson joined CancerCare Manitoba's Research Institute on September 1, 2022, as a Scientist and Assistant Professor in the Department of Pharmacology and Therapeutics at the University of Manitoba.

Dr. Pearson completed his B.Sc. in Chemical Biology at Thompson Rivers University and his Ph.D. from the University of Alberta where his work focused on the understanding of the molecular basis of the childhood lymphoma, ALK + ALCL.



Dr. Yale Michaels

Coming from the University of British Columbia, Dr. Michaels joined CancerCare Manitoba's Research Institute in 2023, as a Scientist and Assistant Professor at the University of Manitoba.

He began his scientific career in Manitoba as a high school research volunteer with Professors Gunnar Valdimarsson, David Eisenstat, and Geoff Hicks.

He went on to obtain a bachelor's degree in molecular and cellular biology from Harvard University where he conducted research in Professor Jack Szostak's lab. He undertook a Ph.D. in Medical Science at Oxford University's Weatherall Institute of Molecular Medicine. As a Ph.D. student, Yale established a new technology for precisely controlling gene expression levels in mammalian cells.



Dr. Emily Rimmer

Hematologist, CancerCare Manitoba
 Scientist, Paul Albrechtsen Research Institute CancerCare Manitoba
 Assistant Professor, Max Rady College of Medicine

Integrating Research with Clinical Care

Dr. Emily Rimmer has been fascinated by the specialty of hematology since early on in medical school; she loved the combination of laboratory and clinical medicine and the challenge of integrating a patient's symptoms and laboratory investigations to make a diagnosis and provide treatment recommendations. She feels it is a privilege to guide patients through a cancer journey.

Dr. Rimmer's career choice of pursuing research with clinical care is fueled by several motivating factors. First, as a dedicated scientist and lifelong learner, she possesses an unwavering passion for exploring and understanding the intricacies of how things function. This innate curiosity extends to her desire to enhance treatments and broaden our comprehension of diseases. Secondly, as a physician, she finds inspiration in patients who seek a deeper insight into their conditions and express a genuine interest in staying abreast of the latest treatment options. She aspires to actively contribute to the ongoing process of discovering and rigorously testing novel treatments, ultimately benefiting patients in the future. From early in her career, she discerned that advancing the field of medicine necessitates an emphasis on research. Research, in essence, provides a structured avenue for learning from and alongside patients, with the ultimate goal of refining the care provided to future generations of patients.

Currently, Dr. Rimmer is a co-principal investigator with Dr. Ryan Zarychanski of a Canada-wide pilot trial evaluating the use of Therapeutic Plasma Exchange in patients admitted to an intensive care unit with septic shock (PLEXSIS trial). In early 2023, their research team was awarded a 3-year operating grant from the Canadian Institute for Health Research to conduct this pilot trial.

Septic shock, a life-threatening infection, ranks among the leading causes of admission to intensive care units across Manitoba and Canada, often resulting in fatalities. Cancer patients, given their immunosuppressed states due to underlying diseases and chemotherapy, face an elevated risk of infections and septic shock. Beyond antibiotics and supportive care, few interventions exist to improve survival rates, highlighting the pressing need for novel treatments.

Therapeutic plasma exchange is a commonly used procedure that, if used in septic shock, could potentially save lives by removing harmful substances and replacing missing blood components serving to restore balance. Plasma exchange appears to demonstrate positive benefits in several published foundational studies.

The pilot study aims to enroll 80 patients at ten sites throughout Canada. The data provided by the pilot study will inform the design and conduct of an international multi-center randomized controlled trial that will inform best practices in the area of plasma exchange in septic shock. This innovative research program will set the standard for apheresis practice with the potential to improve patient care and survival in a disease with high mortality. With these studies, the team hopes to be able to predict which patients are most likely to benefit from plasma exchange so they can tailor treatments to the right patient at the right time.

Dr. Rimmer envisions a future in which CancerCare Manitoba expands its capacity for clinical trials across the province and the entire country. Her hope is for every patient to access the latest and most innovative treatments available. Ultimately, she aims to seamlessly integrate research and clinical practice, making participation in clinical trials the new standard of care.

Events and Staff Engagement



Oncology Nursing Day April 5, 2022

April 5 marked the 20th anniversary for Annual Oncology Nursing Day.

Oncology Nurses across Manitoba were recognized for the invaluable contributions they make every day.



Administrative Professionals Day April 27, 2022

Administrative Professionals Day is observed yearly, is an opportunity to celebrate, congratulate and say thank you to the administrative staff at CCMB in every department, program and CCMB site.



Primetown June 2-4, 2022

Primetown is a cancer summit for young adults and those who care for them. Participants attend workshops and social events. It is designed to empower, educate and support those impacted by cancer.



Challenge for Life August 4-14, 2022

Challenge for Life is an opportunity to improve your own health, and reduce your personal risk of cancer, while raising money and awareness for all cancers affecting Manitobans.



Staff Appreciation Picnic August 10, 2022

A Staff Appreciation Picnic event was held at all of our sites and was a great way to show our support for all CCMB staff.



Truth and Reconciliation Day September 30, 2022

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation is a reminder of Canada's past and an opportunity for CCMB staff to reflect and honour survivors.



Staff Holiday Breakfast December 6 & 7, 2022

A pancake breakfast was hosted for all staff as a way to express thanks and appreciation for a year of hard work and continued dedication to patients.



Festive Sweater Fridays December 9, 16, 23 & 30, 2022

Staff were encouraged to wear a holiday sweater with jeans every Friday in December as a fun way to embrace the holidays.



I'm Still Here: An Art Exhibit January 19 & 20, 2023

Art pieces were displayed as part of a research study in which participants were interviewed to better understand their process of creating art and the impact of this on their understanding and experience with cancer.



World Cancer Day February 4, 2023

World Cancer Day takes place every year on February 4 and is recognized as the day when the world unites in the global fight against cancer.



Pharmacy Appreciation Month March 2023

Celebrating our staff in Pharmacy and the Provincial Oncology Drug Program for their excellent service and commitment to Manitobans with cancer.

French Language Services

As part of the Government of Manitoba's French Language Services Policy, CancerCare Manitoba (CCMB) has been designated as a provider of French Language Services.

Over the course of 2022-2023, CCMB undertook initiatives to serve our French language community.

CCMB reported on the progress of the French Language Services Plan for the period April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023 in its Annual Report on French Language Services. The following is an overview of CCMB's accomplishments in relation to implementation of French Language Services requirements:

- All new CCMB staff completed Active Offer training. In 2022-2023, the total number of CCMB staff who have completed the training increased by 10 per cent from 631 to 696 staff members.
- In partnership with the Francophone Affairs Secretariat, CCMB was pleased to offer French language training development opportunities to staff provided by Université de Saint- Boniface and l'Alliance française du Manitoba. Fourteen courses were completed by CCMB staff members during the year including beginner and advanced level courses.
- Working to grow bilingual capacity within CCMB by including the ability to speak French as an asset on all job postings.
- Maintained the bilingual Screening and Prevention program website and translated materials into French.

- Screening staff participated in FLS Policy training.
- CCMB continued to update signage with bilingual language at various sites.
- CCMB actively participated in FLS Coordinators Provincial Network Meetings.

STATISTICS ON DESIGNATED BILINGUAL POSITIONS 2022-2023

Number of Designated Bilingual Positions: 1
 Number of Designated Bilingual Positions Filled with Bilingual Incumbents: 0
 Number of Designated Bilingual Positions Filled with Non-Bilingual Incumbents: 0

Accreditation

CancerCare Manitoba participates in Accreditation Canada's Qmentum Accreditation Program. The Qmentum Program is a four-year cycle of assessment and improvement which helps organizations assess all aspects of their operations – from board and leadership, care and services, to infrastructure. Assessment evaluates performance against national standards of excellence. These standards examine all aspects of care, including patient safety, ethics, staff training, and how CCMB connects with partners in the community. Accreditation Canada is an independent non-governmental organization that operates globally as an affiliate of the Health Standards Organization.

CCMB's last two accreditation surveys occurred in 2015 and 2019, with Exemplary Standing received on both occasions. This is the highest level of performance achievable. CCMB is evaluated against seven national sets

of standards and 22 required organizational practices that include 964 criteria to pass when assessed by the surveyor team during the onsite survey.

Participating in accreditation demonstrates to patients, staff, partners, and the community CCMB's commitment to quality health care. It brings confidence and assurances to Manitobans that they will receive the province's best evidence-based, safe and high-quality cancer care.

CCMB has aligned with the Provincial Quality and Patient Safety and Accreditation (QPSA) Framework and is preparing for the next on-site survey on November 20-24, 2023.



CancerCare Manitoba

Statement of Financial Position

As at March 31, 2023, with comparative information for 2022

	2023	2022
Financial assets:		
Cash	\$ 905,040	\$ 10,483,098
Restricted cash	5,240,427	5,065,630
Accounts receivable	29,037,412	21,832,584
Due from Manitoba Health	6,842,709	7,772,218
Investments	27,873,647	28,131,710
Vacation entitlements receivable	1,713,746	1,713,746
Retirement entitlement obligation receivable	1,350,050	1,350,050
	72,963,031	76,349,036
Financial liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	40,316,969	32,622,674
Employee future benefits	10,718,200	10,501,880
Unearned revenue	1,317,504	2,061,265
Lines of credit payable	3,780,263	3,775,599
Loans payable	21,224,400	23,257,314
Due to Manitoba Health	11,095,362	17,217,310
	88,452,698	89,436,042
Net debt	(15,489,667)	(13,087,006)
Non-financial assets:		
Tangible capital assets	46,239,133	45,940,414
Inventory	6,571,097	6,299,033
Prepaid expenses	1,484,483	640,398
	54,294,713	52,879,845
Net assets	\$ 38,805,046	\$ 39,792,839
Net assets is comprised of:		
Accumulated surplus	\$ 39,727,327	\$ 39,941,428
Accumulated remeasurement losses	(922,281)	(148,589)
	\$ 38,805,046	\$ 39,792,839

These condensed financial statements do not contain all of the disclosures required by Canadian public sector accounting standards. Readers are cautioned that these statements may not be appropriate for their purposes.

CancerCare Manitoba

Statement of Operations and Accumulated Surplus

Year ended March 31, 2023, with comparative information for 2022

	2023 Budget	2023	2022
Revenue:			
Manitoba Health	\$ 82,405,434	\$ 80,457,874	\$ 82,808,681
Provincial Oncology Drug Program	59,000,000	61,339,519	50,882,459
Oral cancer drug dispensing	33,000,000	30,962,155	25,959,211
Medical remuneration	22,598,151	19,166,146	19,056,201
Government of Canada	58,000	40,313	64,607
Other revenue	3,357,500	6,103,652	5,939,951
Investment income	666,600	1,138,433	795,762
External grants	13,067,900	18,932,479	13,814,247
Total revenue	214,153,585	218,140,571	199,321,119
Expenses:			
Acute Care:			
Clinics and patient services	30,283,480	30,359,346	36,800,052
Systemic oncology program	19,635,102	21,878,324	20,940,713
Radiation oncology program	14,051,495	14,131,789	13,201,609
Screening programs	6,427,221	6,180,291	5,733,546
Other clinical programs	6,115,560	5,764,065	5,599,561
Corporate services	14,979,411	15,721,847	13,585,591
Provincial Oncology Drug Program	59,000,000	61,339,833	50,882,459
Oral cancer drug dispensing	33,437,605	31,483,100	26,477,093
Medical remuneration	22,598,151	19,166,146	19,056,201
Research expense	13,134,500	16,084,266	13,814,943
Total expenses	219,662,525	222,109,007	206,091,768
Deficit for the year before government transfers related to capital	(5,508,940)	(3,968,436)	(6,770,649)
Government transfers related to capital	4,068,940	3,754,335	5,049,957
Annual deficit	(1,440,000)	(214,101)	(1,720,692)
Accumulated surplus, beginning of year		39,941,428	41,662,120
Accumulated surplus, end of year		\$ 39,727,327	\$ 39,941,428
Accumulated surplus is comprised of:			
Invested in tangible capital assets		\$ 19,193,376	\$ 20,490,367
Surplus accumulated from general operations		7,723,215	9,548,516
Surplus accumulated from research operations		12,810,736	9,902,545
		39,727,327	39,941,428

Public Sector Compensation Disclosure

In compliance with The Public Sector Compensation Disclosure Act of Manitoba, interested parties may obtain copies of the CancerCare Manitoba public sector compensation disclosure (which has been prepared for the purpose and certified by its auditor to be correct) and contains the amount of compensation it

pays or provides in the corresponding fiscal year for each of its officers and employees whose compensation is \$75,000.00 or more. This information is available on the [CancerCare Manitoba website](#).

Administrative Cost Reporting

Administrative Costs

The Canadian Institute of Health Information (CIHI) defines a standard set of guidelines for the classification and coding of financial and statistical information for use by all Canadian health service organizations. CancerCare Manitoba adheres to these coding guidelines.

Administrative costs as defined by CIHI, include:

Corporate functions including: Acute, Long Term Care and Community Administration; General Administration and Executive Costs; Board of Trustees; Planning and Development; Community Health Assessment; Risk Management; Internal Audit; Finance and Accounting; Communications; Telecommunications; and Mail Service.

Patient Care-Related costs including: Patient Relations; Quality Assurance; Accreditation; Utilization Management; and Infection Control.

Human Resources & Recruitment costs including: Personnel Records; Recruitment and Retention (general, physicians, nurses and staff); Labour Relations; Employee Compensation and Benefits Management; Employee Health and Assistance Programs; Occupational Health and Safety.

Provincial Health System Administrative Costs and Percentages

2022/23

REGION	Corporate	Patient-Care Related	Human Resources & Recruitment	Total Administration
Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority	3.12%	0.77%	1.83%	5.72%
Northern Regional Health Authority	3.51%	0.99%	1.20%	5.70%
Prairie Mountain Health	2.71%	0.37%	0.77%	3.85%
Southern Health Santé-Sud	2.96%	0.26%	1.16%	4.38%
CancerCare Manitoba	2.05%	0.61%	0.60%	3.26%
Winnipeg Regional Health Authority	2.60%	0.50%	0.80%	3.90%
Shared Health	5.41%	1.15%	1.78%	8.34%
Provincial - Percent	3.37%	0.67%	1.12%	5.16%
Provincial - Totals	\$ 197,361,150	\$ 38,799,561	\$ 65,324,313	\$ 300,485,024

2021/22

REGION	Corporate	Patient-Care Related	Human Resources & Recruitment	Total Administration
Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority	2.92%	0.63%	1.93%	5.48%
Northern Regional Health Authority	3.48%	0.93%	1.12%	5.53%
Prairie Mountain Health	2.32%	0.16%	0.99%	3.47%
Southern Health Santé-Sud	2.60%	0.25%	0.84%	3.69%
CancerCare Manitoba	1.70%	0.47%	0.70%	2.87%
Winnipeg Regional Health Authority	2.69%	0.55%	1.14%	4.38%
Shared Health	3.48%	0.44%	0.45%	4.37%
Provincial - Percent	2.88%	0.47%	0.93%	4.28%
Provincial - Totals	\$ 175,559,392	\$ 28,641,532	\$ 56,439,789	\$ 260,640,713



Health System Transformation

Manitoba's Health System Transformation includes initiatives that improve patient access and the quality of care experienced by Manitobans while establishing a health system that is both equitable and sustainable. As transformation projects and initiatives are planned and implemented, opportunities to re-invest administrative efficiencies in patient care are sought out and prioritized.

Across Manitoba, within all Service Delivery Organizations with the exception of Winnipeg Regional Health Authority, administrative costs increased as a percentage of total operating costs.

The Public Interest Disclosure

Whistleblower Protection

***The Public Interest Disclosure (Whistleblower Protection) Act* came into effect in April 2007. This law gives employees a clear process for disclosing concerns about significant and serious matters (wrongdoing) in the Manitoba Public Service, and strengthens protection from reprisal. The Act builds on protection already in place under other statutes, as well as collective bargaining rights, policies, practices, and processes in the Manitoba Public Service.**

Wrongdoing under the Act may be: Contravention of federal or provincial legislation; an act or omission that endangers public safety, public health or the environment; gross mismanagement; or, knowingly directing or counseling a person to commit a wrongdoing. The Act is not intended to deal with routine operational or administrative matters.

All disclosures receive careful and thorough review to determine if action is required under the Act, and must be reported in the SDO annual report in accordance with Section 18 of the Act.

The following is a summary of disclosures received by CancerCare Manitoba for the fiscal year 2022-23:

- As per subsection 18 (2a): The number of disclosures received, and the number acted on and not acted on: 0
- As per subsection 18 (2b): The number of investigations commenced as a result of a disclosure: 0
- As per subsection 18 (2c): In the case of an investigation that results in a finding of wrongdoing, a description of the wrongdoing and any recommendations or corrective actions taken in relation to the wrongdoing, or the reasons why no corrective action was taken: 0

CancerCare Manitoba Foundation

Message from the President and CEO, CCMF



CancerCare Manitoba Foundation (CCMF) is proud to be the only organization exclusively fundraising to support the important work and strategic priorities of CancerCare Manitoba. It is through the continued

generous support of thousands of donors that CCMF is able to provide millions of dollars in funding each year to advance research, clinical trials and a plethora of important patient and family support programs.

Each year our organization is privileged to share the stories of Manitobans who have experienced the difficult journey with cancer. These people are resilient and inspirational and serve as an important reminder that we can never take our tomorrows for granted. These stories remind us that the funds raised truly do have an impact. One story we shared this year was David's. David has been living with prostate cancer since 2009. While his journey has included a variety of different treatments, it was his recent involvement in a clinical trial that has given him more years with his wife, children and young grandchildren when there were no remaining treatment options available. It's thanks to the ongoing support from donors that CancerCare Manitoba's patients are able to access life-saving clinical trials. Trials that provide some of the latest treatment options that wouldn't otherwise be available.

This year the Foundation was excited to support three new scientists who were recruited to the Paul Albrechtsen Research Institute CancerCare Manitoba. We know that one of the essential components to advancing local cancer research is to have the best and brightest doctors and scientists working right here in Manitoba. This will, without a doubt, lead to more discoveries and the latest developments in personalized medicine, ensuring that each Manitoban diagnosed with cancer has access to the very best possible treatment.

While we continue to make great strides towards our shared vision of a world free from cancer, there is still much work to be done. More funds to be raised, more support programs to be developed, new treatments and discoveries and most importantly, more tomorrows with loved ones. Together in partnership with CancerCare Manitoba, the Foundation is committed to ensuring Manitoba remains at the forefront of cancer research and patient care.

Patti Smith

President and Chief Executive Officer
CancerCare Manitoba Foundation



All funds raised stay in Manitoba.

Signature and Community Events

The Foundation holds several signature and community events each year to fulfill its fundraising and awareness commitment to the community. The Foundation could not continue its support of CancerCare Manitoba's research and patient care programs without the help of our community and donors.

Some highlights from the past year include:



Gold Plated Evening

A Gold-Plated Evening is a premier Foundation event featuring dinner and live entertainment. Supporters came together to support advancements in prevention, early detection, research and patient care in support of men with cancer.



Guardian Angel 2022

31st Annual Guardian Angel for Women's Cancer was held on October 30, 2022. Guardian Angels and supporters create an atmosphere to enrich the lives of Manitoba women affected by cancer. The funds raised support research, clinical trials and physical and emotional care.



Challenge for Life

The 15th Annual Challenge for Life was held in August 2022. Over 500 participants from nearly 70 communities and many volunteers raised over a million dollars again! Thank you for helping change lives of Manitobans facing a cancer diagnosis now, or in the days, weeks, months and years to come.



Ride Inside for Pediatric Cancers

Ride Inside is a stationary bike celebration and all funds raised make a difference for kids with cancer.



Lemonade Stands for Hope

Every July, Manitobans are encouraged to rally their community to raise funds for crucial research, patient care, and support services by hosting a lemonade stand. All funds raised stay in Manitoba and help cancer patients and their families.

Activities and Decisions of the Board

The Board received the following documents, reports and recommendations for information and/or approval:

- Annual Risk Management Report
- Annual Operating Plan
- Annual Construction Report
- Annual Building Security Report
- Annual Progress Report
- Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FIPPA) Annual Report
- Personal Health Information Act (PHIA) Annual Report
- Audited Financial Statements for the fiscal year April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023
- Workplace Safety and Health Annual Report
- Annual Board Self-Assessment
- Monthly Financial Statements
- Approved minutes of Board Committee meetings
- Preliminary Budget for 2023/2024
- Monthly President's Report
- Annual Auditor for CCMB for the fiscal year ending March 2023
- Regular updates on Bill 10 (Health System Governance)
- Privileges for new physicians at CCMB

The Board received presentations on:

- *MyCare* Noona
- Systemic Therapy Program – Operations
- Radiation Oncology Program
- “I’m Still Here – A Research-based Art Exhibit Grounded in the Patient Experience Coming to CancerCare Manitoba January 19-20, 2023”
- The Countdown to Accreditation
- Introduction to Patient Story
- Patient Story

CancerCare Manitoba Annual Public Forum

- Held in person on November 3, 2022, in Brandon, Manitoba with a virtual link
- Open to all patients, families, staff, the public and other stakeholders of CCMB
- Presentations included welcome greetings from Health Minister Audrey Gordon and Mr. Brian Schoonbaert, CEO of Prairie Mountain Health; short presentations from Dr. B. Anderson and Dr. G. Sivananthan, Oncologists working at the Western Manitoba Cancer Centre in Brandon; a report from Dr. S. Navaratnam, President and CEO of CancerCare Manitoba; and a Board report from Mr. J. Chipman, Chair of the CancerCare Manitoba Board
- There was a question and answer period with good engagement from participants

Major Consultations

The Board Chair continued to participate in the provincial Health System Transformation meetings and met with the Minister of Health and Deputy Minister of Health.

The Board Chair continued with discussions and development of Board governance and structure as per The Health System Governance and Accountability Act.

The Board assures implementation of the health plan, appropriate allocation of funds, and maintenance of an effective system of control and legislative compliance through the following:

- The CCMB Board and the Finance and Audit Committee of the Board are involved in the development of the Annual Operating Plan (AOP)
- The Board and Committees of the Board develop annual work plans to ensure they are overseeing their respective responsibilities efficiently and cost-effectively
- The Board received required reports from the President, Management, Department Heads, and Board Committees
- The Finance & Audit Committee thoughtfully and expertly reviewed the annual budget for approval by the Board and for submission to the Department of Health. The Committee reviews the monthly financial statements which are approved by the Board
- The Board Chair and President and CEO meet on a regular basis

Process of Evaluation of Board Performance:

- The Board members complete an annual self-assessment that is measured against the results of previous years
- Accreditation has a component that evaluates Board performance and governance
- When recruiting to the Board, the Nominations and Governance Committee considers the skills required to fill a position. Individuals complete a skills matrix that identifies their strengths
- When a Board member's term is expiring, their performance is evaluated by the Nominations and Governance Committee before recommendation for appointment of a second term

CCMB Board Members



Mr. Jeffrey
Chipman



Mr. David
Mortimer



Mr. Vince
Warden



Ms. Janet
Belanger



Ms. Patti
Bell



Dr. Karen
Juce



Ms. Roberta
Pronteau



Dr. Brent
Schacter



Ms. Mary Beth
Taylor



Dr. Eberhard
Renner



Mr. Kevin
McNeill

Board and Committee

Membership at April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023

CancerCare Manitoba Board Members

Mr. Jeffrey Chipman*	EX-OFFICIO
CHAIR	Dr. Sri Navaratnam*
Mr. David Mortimer	PRESIDENT AND CEO,
VICE-CHAIR	CCMB
Mr. Vince Warden	CCMB GUESTS
TREASURER	
Ms. Janet Belanger	Dr. Donald Houston
Ms. Patti Bell	MEDICAL STAFF
Dr. Karen Juce	ASSOCIATION, CCMB
Ms. Roberta Pronteau	Ms. Patti Smith
Dr. Brent Schacter	PRESIDENT AND CEO
Ms. Mary Beth Taylor	CANCERCARE MANITOBA
Dr. Eberhard Renner	FOUNDATION
Mr. Kevin McNeill	ACKNOWLEDGMENTS
	CancerCare Manitoba wishes to thank the following individual for their dedication and commitment to CancerCare Manitoba and Manitobans during their term of service on the Board of Directors:
	Ms. Darlene Grantham

Board Committees

Advisory Medical Board	Quality and Patient
Dr. Brent Schacter	Safety Committee
CHAIR	Mr. David Mortimer
Finance & Audit	CHAIR
Committee	Ms. Janet Belanger
Mr. Vince Warden	Dr. Karen Juce
CHAIR	Mr. Kevin McNeill
Ms. Patti Bell	» Community
» Community	Representatives
Representatives	Ms. Anna Maria Magnifico
Mr. George Merasty	Community Connections
Dr. Arnold Naimark	Committee
Mr. Darren Rainke	Ms. Mary Beth Taylor
Mr. Greg Tallon	CHAIR
Facilities Planning and	Ms. Janet Belanger
Development Committee	Ms. Roberta Pronteau
Mr. Kevin McNeill	» Community
CHAIR	Representatives
Dr. Brent Schacter	Mr. Robert Campbell
» Community	Ms. Pam King
Representatives	Judge Rocky Pollack
Mr. Darren Eddie	Ms. Marilyn Singer
Mr. Michael Evans	» Partner Representatives
Ms. Yaso Mathu	Ms. Laura Curtis, CCMF
Dr. Arnold Naimark	» Research Committee
» Partner Representatives	Ms. Janet Belanger
Ms. Patti Smith, CCMF	CHAIR
	Ms. Patti Bell
	» University of Manitoba
	Representatives
	Dr. Mario Pinto
	» Chair of the Scientific
	Advisory Board (ex-officio)
	Dr. H. Unruh
	» Partner Representatives
	Ms. Leigh Meagher,
	Board Chair, CCMF
	Ms. Patti Smith, CCMF
	» Community
	Representative
	Mr. Donald MacDonald

*DENOTES THE CHAIR AND PRESIDENT AND CEO ARE MEMBERS OF EACH COMMITTEE BY VIRTUE OF THEIR POSITIONS

Organizational Structure

As of March 2023



** DIRECT ACCESS TO PRESIDENT AND CEO WHEN OPERATIONALLY REQUIRED.

Questions?

Email us at CCMBCPAffair@cancercare.mb.ca

www.cancercare.mb.ca



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