

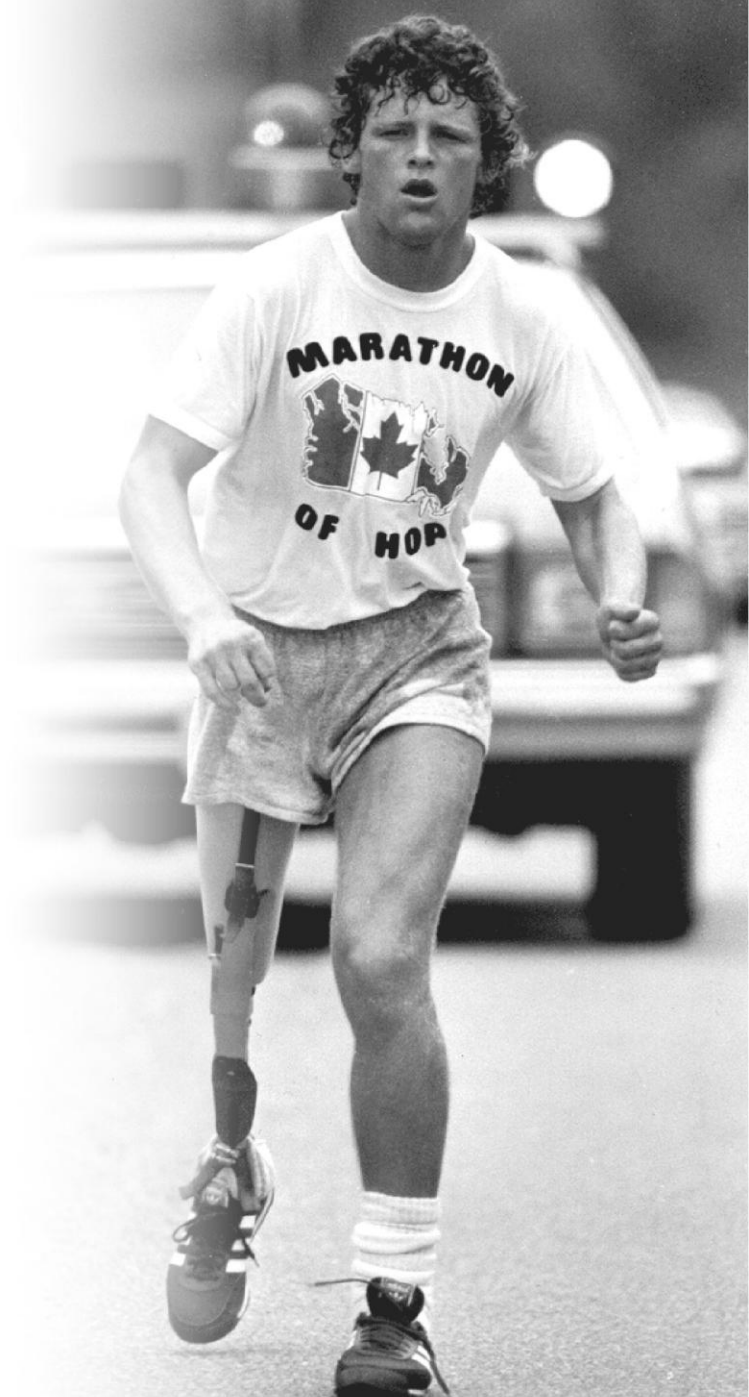
MARATHON OF HOPE CANCER CENTRES NETWORK: PATIENT WORKING GROUP



MARATHON
OF HOPE
CANCER CENTRES
NETWORK



RÉSEAU DES CENTRES
D'ONCOLOGIE DU
MARATHON
DE L'ESPOIR



A PATIENT-CENTRIC APPROACH

Introducing the Patient Working Group

- **Vision:** As the ultimate recipients of precision oncology, cancer patients should play a central role in determining how we implement it across Canada
- With more than 30 dedicated patients, survivors, and caregivers from nine provinces, the **Patient Working Group** is engaged at all levels of the Network and taking leadership roles in building collaborations, creating educational opportunities, and defining Network priorities



"By bringing together cancer patients and survivors from across Canada to actively participate with scientists and clinicians, this group is formulating how precision oncology is being developed in Canada and using their experience to help shape what a patient's journey with precision medicine may look like"

Drs. Nicole Beauchemin and Nathalie Lamarche-Vane,
Inaugural PWG co-chairs



PATIENT-DRIVEN RESEARCH

The Patient Voices in Research Initiative

A major output of the Patient Working Group over its first year-and-a-half has been the creation of the Patient Voices in Research Initiative.

- A first-of-its-kind research program fully designed and adjudicated by cancer patients
- Funds 10 research projects across the country that address gaps and disparities in care, access and treatment identified by people impacted by cancer
- Funding envelope: \$1.8M



“The Marathon of Hope Cancer Centres Network is already doing a great job at funding innovative hard science, but people who experience cancer know better than anyone else what works and that current gaps in access to cancer research go beyond the hard science of treatments. Having a mechanism for patients to identify, prioritize and fund projects that begin closing gaps in these areas is a unique way to engage patients and it is why I think the Patient Voices in Research Initiative is so brilliant.”

Natalie Kwadrans

Stage IV breast cancer patient, Calgary, AB

Funded projects

- Patient Reported Outcomes of People Experiencing Lung Cancer (PROPEL);
- Co-designing an intervention to support people living with and beyond a metastatic cancer diagnosis;
- PATient-driven Cancer Trials (PACT): The development of a patient-centred clinical trial design framework for precision oncology
- Exploring the perspectives of stakeholders for homologous recombination deficient (HRD) biomarker testing to guide precision medicine for advanced ovarian cancer treatment;
- Physical activity as a novel management approach in Myeloproliferative Neoplasms: the MPN-FIT Study
- Patient-focused evAluation Of dispaRities AMong pArticipants enrolled onto Precision Oncology studies
- Disparities in access to precision oncology drugs across Canada;
- The challenge to offer a second hematopoietic stem cell transplantation to children and young adults with relapsed hematological malignancies: Using a qualitative approach to explore health care professional, parental and patient decision-making variables
- Setting up a personalized learning path for patients with neuroendocrine tumours
- Towards Equity in Precision Oncology: Co-designing Interventions to Address Disparities;

PATIENTS AS PARTNERS

Integrating patients across the Network

- Patient Working Group members also:
 - Are members of other Network working groups, helping to ensure that Network activities respond to patient needs and priorities and advance equitable research and care
 - Participate in Network conferences and events (e.g. as speakers and co-chairs)
 - Act as ambassadors of the Network (e.g. with government audiences)
 - Develop educational materials related to precision oncology
 - And much more!

"I hope that the Patient Working Group stands as an example to other patients that we can be involved in the future of cancer care, and that we can control a part of our uncontrollable diagnoses. I also hope that the Patient Working Group showcases to researchers and governing bodies that patient involvement in research is not only useful, but essential to creating patient-centred care for better health outcomes."

Summer Konechny
Patient Working Group member

