

# There is strength in community



Who We Are & What We Do

The Cedars Cancer Foundation was founded in 1966 and has evolved from a hospital-based fund supporting the Royal Victoria Hospital to an independently registered charity in 2008. Motivated by the complex needs of cancer patients and their families, Cedars is determined to grow bigger and stronger year over year. To that end, its teams of professionals and volunteers work tirelessly to raise the funds required to support exceptional patient care, research, education, and support services for cancer patients. The Foundation distributes its revenues to the McGill University Health Centre (MUHC), including the Cedars Cancer Centre, Sarah’s Floor/Hematology-Oncology Division of the Montreal Children’s Hospital, and the Cancer Research Program of the Research Institute of the MUHC. The Foundation is also a founding partner of the Rossy Cancer Network.

All proceeds support:

- Patient Care –prevention, diagnosis and treatment, post treatment, supportive care and palliative care –for the youngest pediatric patients to adolescents and adults
- State-of-the-art Equipment and Technologies
- Supportive and Palliative Care Programs and Services
- Awareness and Advocacy Programs
- Research -fundamental, clinical and evaluative/outcomes
- Education and Professional Training

Our Vision

End the pain and suffering that cancer causes.

Our Mission

Improve the health and well-being of paediatric, young adult and adult cancer patients, and their families, throughout and beyond treatment, by leading philanthropic initiatives that support excellence and innovations in clinical care, research, education and supportive care services.



How We Accomplish Our Goals

At the Cedars Cancer Foundation, we count ourselves blessed many times over.

Not only are we supported by a generous, caring and often visionary community of donors and sponsors, but we are also supported by hundreds of volunteers who give their time throughout the year to help Cedars ease the pain and suffering that cancer causes patients and their families.

Let us remind you that your gifts to the Cedars Cancer Foundation are truly precious.

They support compassionate patient care across the lifespan, innovative research, inspiring education and a full spectrum of essential supportive and palliative care services.

Whether it’s one dollar or one million dollars, each gift counts.

We could not accomplish our mission without you.



## There is strength in community

As we publish this report, some 152 Quebecers of various ages will have been diagnosed on this day with cancer. Tomorrow, another 152 people will receive the same news, and this situation will recur the day after, and the day after that, and the next... Each of these Quebecers represents a life story, and as a mission-based foundation dedicated to easing the pain and suffering that cancer causes, we have been inspired by thousands of life stories full of courage, love, perseverance, and generosity.

Each one gives purpose to our board of directors, leadership, office staff, and volunteers. Our greatest challenge is not a lack of goodwill, but rather competing demands. Steadily for over fifty years, Cedars has been growing and this year we recognized that building a bigger community had to be a priority for the coming year.

Therefore, in 2018-2019, we increased our efforts to build stronger connections with our patients and their loved ones so as to better anticipate and support their needs.

We used every occasion, including the inaugural gala benefiting the Cedars Cancer Centre, to foster new strategic partnerships, with corporations and likeminded foundations, and enduring donor relationships in order to multiply all forms of gifts.

Following the launch of our 50th anniversary capital campaign, we also turned a critical eye on ourselves and asked whether donors know and understand what Cedars is all about. The answer led us to initiate a branding exercise late in the fiscal year that is ongoing.

Finally, we continued to work hand in hand with healthcare professionals and scientists through the McGill University Health Centre (MUHC), Research Institute of the MUHC, Rossy Cancer Network and other foundations supporting these institutions to encourage innovation in patient care, research and education.

We are satisfied with our results for this year, but we are terribly aware that there is much to be accomplished. Building a bigger community will make us all stronger.


To all who contributed to our mission in 2018-2019, please accept our heartfelt gratitude. Thank you for continuing to support Québec cancer patients and their families.



Tony Aksa  
Chair, Board of Directors



Bruce Shadeed  
Co-Chair, Board of Directors



Jeff Shamie  
President and CEO



Left to right:  
Tony Aksa, Bruce Shadeed and Jeff Shamie

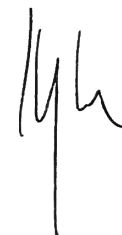
## At the leading edge

It is our privilege to recognize the Cedars Cancer Foundation's 2018-2019 results and acknowledge that without constant and generous community support, it would be very difficult, if not impossible, to be at the leading edge of cancer care, research and education.

Why is this so important? At present, over 20,000 cancer patients are counting on the expertise of 14 tumour-site groups for complete and integrative therapies and services, including precision medicine, state-of-the-art technologies and access to clinical trials. The multidisciplinary teams of the McGill University Health Centre are motivated by a deep sense of responsibility to these patients. We believe patients deserve access to specialized and ultra-specialized services that will give them the best outcomes and quality of life; they deserve a team that's at the leading edge.

Being at the leading edge requires more research into the unique causes of each type, grade and stage of cancer; more screening and detection tools; faster uptake of innovative technologies; and experts in genomics, proteomics, artificial intelligence, nanotechnologies, computational medicine and other specialty fields. It also takes more collaboration to speed up the translation of discoveries into life-saving therapies, drugs and vaccines, and to train students, residents and fellows.

All of this comes at an enormous cost, which is why Cedars' success is essential and extremely appreciated. We thank Cedars for recognizing and celebrating the Cedars Cancer Centre's oncology teams this past year with the inaugural gala and hope that the community grows even stronger in the coming years.



Armen Aprikian, MD, FRCS (C)  
Medical Director, Cedars Cancer Centre  
Chief, Cancer Care Mission of the MUHC



Christine Bouchard, RN, B.Sc.(N) MSc. (Adm.)  
Co-Director, Cedars Cancer Centre  
Nursing Director, MUHC Cancer Care Mission



Dr. Armen Aprikian



Christine Bouchard

MUHC Cancer Care Mission

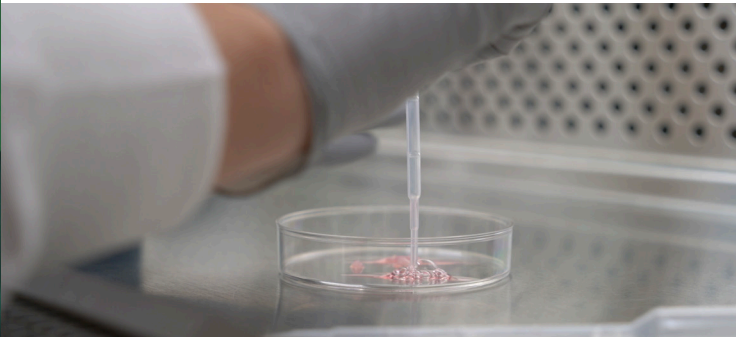
With the opening of the Cedars Cancer Centre in 2015, a new era of comprehensive patient-centred care was launched in Montreal at the McGill University Health Centre’s Glen site. Integrating almost all cancer care under one roof, the clinic structure is based on multidisciplinary patient care.

The Cedars Cancer Centre is an extremely busy hub for cancer care at the MUHC and for patients across the Rossy Cancer Network and RUISSS McGill. It is home to an Oncology Day Centre with 50 spacious treatment stations with window views, oncology pharmacy and test centre, urgent care centre, Palliative Care Day Hospital, dedicated oncology medical imaging department, radiation-oncology department with 8 linear accelerator bunkers and two brachytherapy suites, a tranquility garden, as well as on-site resource centre and social workers to offer health information and support.

This high volume of specialized and ultra-specialized care environment receives approximately 175,000 visits annually. Nearly 800 patients per day in medical oncology, hematologic oncology, radiation oncology, as well as palliative and supportive care. With cutting-edge technologies, professionals continue to be pioneers in cancer diagnosis, treatments, drugs, and vaccines.

Cancer Care Mission Executive

Armen Aprikian	Medical Director
Christine Bouchard	Co-Director
Carolyn Freeman	Quality Office
Thierry Alcindor	Medical Oncology, Director
Tarek Hijal	Radiation Oncology, Director
Denis Cournoyer	Hematology-Oncology, Co-Director
Manuel Borod	Supportive and Palliative Care, Director
Robert Turcotte	Surgical Oncology, Director
David Mitchell	Pediatric Hematology-Oncology, Director
Deborah Fleming	Allied Health, Department Head, Nutrition
André Bonnici	Chief Pharmacist
Christine Legler	Ambulatory Care, Co-Director
Marika Swidzinski	Hematology, Oncology and Palliative Care Units, Nurse Manager
Gino Curadeau	Ambulatory Clinic, Nurse Manager
Lise Joly	Radiation Oncology, Nurse Manager
William Parker	Medical Physics, Chief
Jan Seuntjens	Medical Physics, Director
Brenda MacGibbon	Patient Representative
Nathaniel Bouganim	Oncology Inpatient Ward
Gizelle Popradi	Hematology-Oncology Inpatient Ward
Lina Maglieri	Executive Assistant



RI-MUHC Cancer Research Program

The Cancer Research Program (CRP) of the Research Institute of the MUHC benefits from state-of-the-art facilities to conduct basic research at the Centre for Translational Biology, clinical cancer research at the Centre for Innovative Medicine, and evaluative cancer research at the Centre for Outcomes Research and Evaluation. Activities are supported by several enhanced technology platforms, including immunophenotyping, histopathology, biobank, proteomics, microscopy, molecular imaging, small animal imaging labs, as well as surgical innovation and drug discovery platforms.

The Cedars Cancer Foundation congratulates the following CRP investigators on their accomplishments and awards in 2018-2019:

**Phil Gold** (a long-time former member of the RI-MUHC):

- Delivered the Address to medical graduating class at Queen’s University and received a D.Sc. (honoris causa)
- Received the Einstein Legacy Award from the Canadian Friends of Hebrew University
- Was promoted to Grand Officier of the Ordre national du Québec
- Received an honorary doctorate from the University of British Columbia

The late **Laurie Hendren, John Kildea** and **Tarek Hijal**:

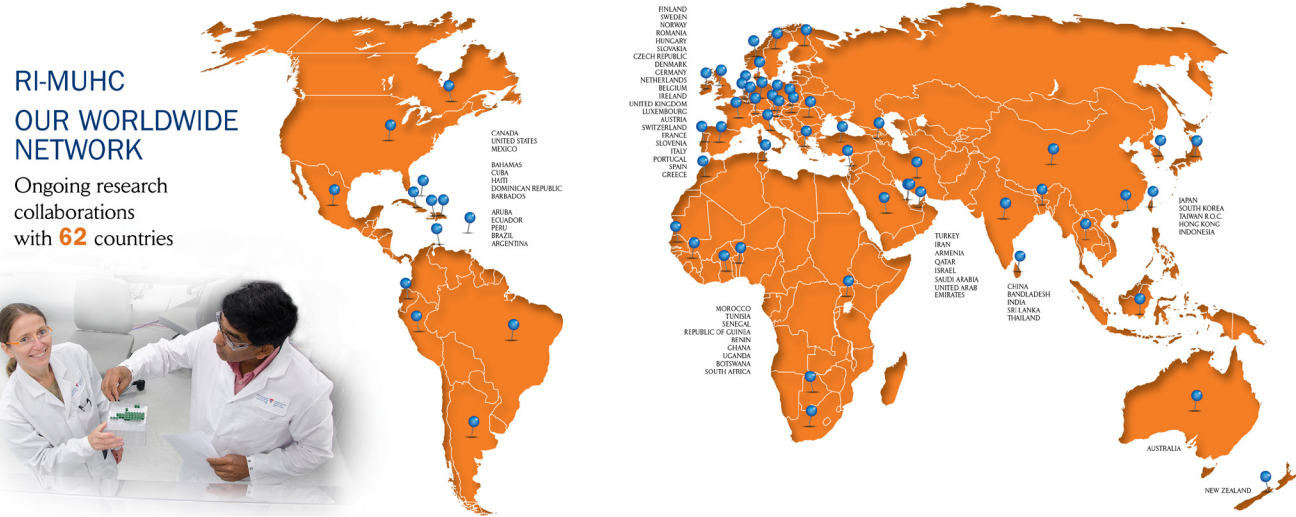
- Developed Opal, a smartphone application that empowers patients
- Received the 2019 Dahl-Nygaard prize from the Association Internationale pour les Technologies Objets
- Received *Coup de coeur des ministres* award from the Réseau de la Santé et des Services sociaux du Québec

**Carolyn Freeman** and post-doc **Martin Vallières** (and Issam El Naqa, University of Michigan):

- Received a citations prize from *Physics in Medicine & Biology*

**Lucy Gilbert, Kris Jardon** and MUHC colleague **Xing Zeng**:

- Recognized with 2018 Discovery of the Year People’s Choice Award, *Québec Science* magazine for PapSEEK, a new test for endometrial and ovarian cancers.



## Sarah's Floor & Pediatric Hematology-Oncology

Sarah's Floor is a 12-room inpatient unit and Day Centre, named in honour of Sarah Cook, an Ewing's Sarcoma survivor who created Sarah's Fund at Cedars with her parents Lorena and Norman Cook.

Since its inception, Sarah's Fund at Cedars has raised over \$12 million. Sarah's Floor is the hub of the MUHC's Division of Pediatric Hematology-Oncology where teams provide complex care, including chemotherapy and adjuvant monoclonal antibody drugs, transfusions of blood products, and assessment and treatment of symptoms such as pain, nausea and vomiting, infection and psychological distress.

Sarah's Floor and the Day Centre are serene and home-like settings, complete with library, television and game room, and other family services. Patients and their families benefit from the humanitarian services that aid those in need of financial assistance. Young cancer patients and their families also profit from pet and music therapy, comfort kits that are generously donated by Jellyfish Kids and 'The Bell' Fund, Dr. Clown therapy and nursing education. All these services help improve the patients' healing process and make their stay on Sarah's Floor a little more comfortable.

Thankfully, donors to Sarah's Fund for Cedars help immensely with this burden and help put smiles on the faces of over 7,000 of our youngest cancer patients.

Sarah's Fund for Cedars has also made a commitment of \$1 million over five years to the Montreal Children's Hospital Terry Fox Precision Oncology for Young People (PROFYLE). Leading Montreal Children's Hospital researcher Dr. Nada Jabado is taking part in this major national research program, that aims to transform the care of children and young adult patients who are currently living with a refractory, relapsed, or metastatic cancer. PROFYLE will help to identify treatment by using next-generation molecular tools and cancer model systems, to identify disease and patient specific biomarkers that are tractable targets for therapy.



“Thank you for sharing my belief that children and adolescents with cancer deserve the very best.”

- Sarah Cook



## Rossy Cancer Network

In 2012, thanks to an exceptional philanthropic act of generosity from the Rossy Family Foundation and funding commitments from foundations, the Rossy Cancer Network (RCN) was formed through a partnership of McGill University, the McGill University Health Centre, Jewish General Hospital and St. Mary's Hospital Center.

The RCN measures and reports on performance, encourages quality improvement initiatives, connects healthcare professionals, and funds research and education.

In 2018, for example, the RCN completed a special report on the Patient Experience, which represents the culmination of five years of data and over 3,000 responses to the standardized Ambulatory Oncology Patient Satisfaction Survey. In 2019, its priorities have included improving access to specialized care, harmonized tumour boards, common clinical trials, coordinated trajectories of care, and care close to home.

The Cedars Cancer Foundation, through its ongoing commitment and fundraising initiatives, is proud to support the Rossy Cancer Network's efforts to improve the outcomes of cancer patients, as well as the patient experience.



# There are times in life when the meetings of minds and hearts produce something remarkable.

In 2014, Laurie Hendren, a breast cancer patient at the MUHC, was set to begin radiation therapy at the Cedars Cancer Centre. While Prof. Hendren’s surgeon had told Dr. Tarek Hijal, — a radiation oncologist at the MUHC, a researcher in the Cancer Research Program at the RI-MUHC and an associate professor of oncology at McGill University — ,he was about to meet someone special, he could not have anticipated what was to follow. As Dr. John Kildea, — a medical physicist at the MUHC, investigator at the RI-MUHC and assistant professor of oncology at McGill — , highlights: *“the patient treated the system”*. Laurie had her own data and wanted to understand her diagnosis and treatment, something in today’s day and age that seems an ordinary expectation from a patient. However, Laurie was far from ordinary. She had an extraordinary gift for computer science, and for succinctly establishing two problems with the healthcare system: the pain of waiting and the lack of data provided to patients. From these issues, the special bond that formed amongst Dr Hijal, Dr. Kildea and Prof. Hendren, and the tireless efforts of a development team, the Opal patient portal was born. The Cedars Cancer Foundation invested proudly in the project, supplying initial funding so that the team could get started and \$205,000 in 2018-2019.

## Opal is a patient portal that lets you:

### Manage **Your** hospital visits

- See all upcoming and past appointments in one place.
- Check in for your appointments when you arrive at the hospital and receive an alert on your phone when your medical practitioner is ready to see you.
- Notifications ensure that you are always up to date with your medical information.

### Monitor **Your** medical information

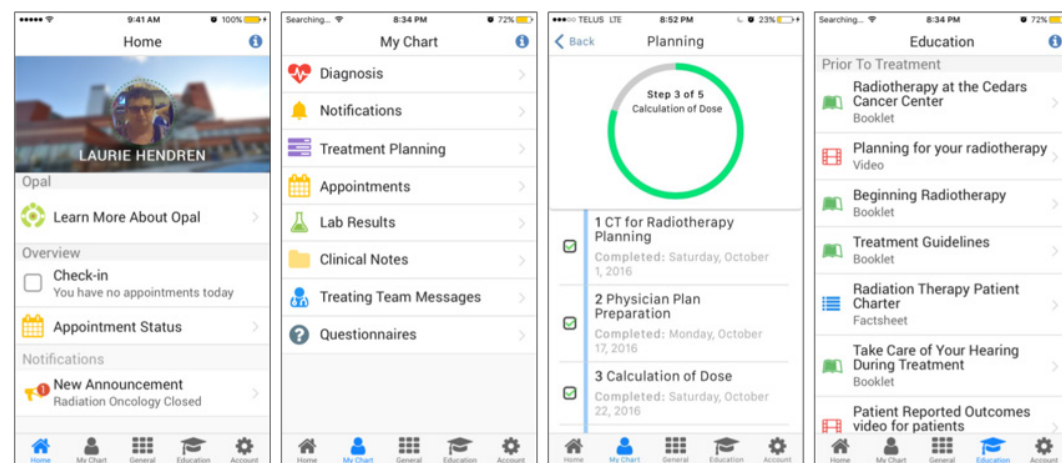
- View your appointment schedule. Check in and receive a notification to be called in for your appointment without waiting in the waiting room.
- View lab results, see how they change over time and learn what they mean.
- View clinical notes and print or share them with family members or other medical professionals.
- Receive notifications when there is new information in your chart and when your treating team sends you a message.

### Learn about **Your** medical condition and treatment

- Opal provides educational material tailored to your diagnosis and treatment delivered when you need it.
  - Multimedia (access booklets, factsheets and videos from your treating team)
  - Integrated (lab results and documents tagged with explanatory educational material)
  - Personal (tailored to your diagnosis and phase of treatment)
  - Hospital information (parking information, maps and general hospital information)

### Engage in **Your** care

- Play an active role in your care.
- Answer your treating team’s questions.
- Record your own symptoms or side effects at any time and share them with your treating team during your next visit. By recording your experiences you help your treating team better understand how your condition and your treatment are affecting you.



## In Memoriam

Laurie Hendren  
December 13,1958 -May 27, 2019



It is with great sadness that the Opal team shares the news that Laurie Hendren, our dear friend and co-lead on the Opal project, passed away on Monday May 27th, 2019 following a brief deterioration in her illness.



Laurie was a powerful woman who had great intellect, a profound sense of fairness, and remarkable clarity of mind. She was a professor of computer science at McGill, renowned for her excellence in research and teaching. Her research centered around compilers and computer programming languages. She received numerous awards for her academic achievements and was an elected fellow of the Royal Society of Canada. Recently, she was named the 2019 recipient of the Dahl-Nygaard prize, one of the most prestigious awards in computer science. Her research was her passion and she loved to teach and share her knowledge with her students.

From the beginning, Laurie wanted to help. Following conversations about the computational needs of radiation oncology, Tarek introduced Laurie to John. The three hit it off and agreed to work together. The almost five years since have been a fun and rewarding adventure in patient involvement in research and care and in the development of the Opal patient portal. Laurie was uncompromising in her insistence that patients should have access to their medical data. She pointed out the numerous benefits this can bring to both patient and clinician. She was instrumental in the development of all aspects of Opal, including its design, the technical details, and advocacy within the MUHC and across the province. Although still in pilot release, Opal is now being used by almost 500 patients at the Cedars Cancer Centre. Opal has received a number of awards, including a **Prix de cancérologie**, an honourable mention from the Washington-based Institute for Patient and Family Centered Care and the **Merck Patients’ First award**. The Opal team proudly attended the Québec Ministry of Health and Social Services’ 2019 Prix d’excellence ceremony at which Opal was recognized with the **Coup de coeur des ministres** award ceremony. Laurie’s wish was that Opal would be available to all patients in Quebec so that all patients who desire it can access their data and play an informed role in their medical care. The Opal team is working closely with the MUHC and the MSSS to make this a reality.

It was often pointed out that Laurie was not an ordinary patient. While certainly true in many ways, Laurie would take exception to this as there is no such thing as an ordinary patient—every patient is unique and every patient should have the right to play an informed role in their own care. But Laurie was an extraordinary person. She was also a great friend to all the members of the Opal team and she will be dearly missed.

Laurie is survived by her husband Prakash Panangaden, her daughter Jane Panangaden, mother June Hendren and brother Paul Hendren to whom the Opal team express their sincere condolences.

To this, the Cedars Cancer Foundation adds that Laurie had a larger-than-life presence during her time on Earth, and her legacy will live on in the people whose lives she touched directly and in the patients whose lives the work she accomplished in collaboration with the Opal team will empower. We are honoured to continue to provide financial support to the Opal development team, as well as all initiatives that support patient empowerment.

Please support the Opal development team’s ongoing work by donating to the Laurie J. Hendren Opal Fund at Cedars.

## Patient Care

Thanks to the generosity of people from all walks of life, continuous improvements in patient care are made possible. This is vital because advances are occurring rapidly, and Canadians deserve timely access to expert multidisciplinary teams, leading-edge treatments, therapies, equipment and clinical trials.

**Marie-Claude Lambert's story is a shining example of how teamwork and a healing environment can make all the difference.**



Imagine that you're an architect whose firm boasts many award-winning urban projects. You are passionate about your work: the challenges, the marriage of aesthetics, functionality and safety, but also the precision and the humanism.

You're used to doing the talking. However, one day, it is you who must listen. This is not an abstract story; it belongs to Marie-Claude Lambert who, like many cancer patients, had to put her life somewhat on hold while she underwent a series of exhausting treatments for ductal breast cancer.

Despite this, Marie-Claude considers herself fortunate: *"The rapidity with which I had an ultrasound, a MRI, a biopsy, and then chemotherapy, surgery, and radiation therapy surprised me. I truly felt taken in hand by the clinical team from day one. Everything was explained down to the minute detail, which was very important. However, I must*

*also mention the professionals and volunteers from Cedars CanSupport who gravitated around me; their warmth, encouragement and assistance were exceptional."*

Approximately every 10 minutes, a Quebecer is diagnosed with cancer while someone succumbs to the disease roughly every 24 minutes. These statistics are shocking and, while progress with treatment and overall survival rates have improved, there is nevertheless a crying need for funding that will support better quality of life and outcomes in cancer, in addition to the facilities that are like a second home to those receiving cancer care.



*"As an architect, it is easy for me to say I admire how the light fills the Cedars Cancer Centre, but as a cancer patient, I am taken to another level of experience. I appreciate how that luminosity makes me feel every time I have to be there. It's about creating a space for healing and I am grateful for having been referred to Cedars at the MUHC."*

- Marie-Claude Lambert

## Research

Scientists in the Cancer Research Program of the RI-MUHC delve into a plethora of cancer-related areas, including: distress, well-being, genetics, tumour expression, pathogenesis, metastases, gene microarrays, molecular biology, medical physics, epidemiology, etc.

In fiscal year 2018-2019, Cedars distributed 83 per cent of its revenues to support the MUHC, including its researchers. As the research grant environment is highly competitive, Cedars is constantly reaching out to corporations and other community pillars to fund bold, transformative research. In addition, the Cedars Cancer Foundation provided up to \$20,000 of financial support per healthcare professional so that he/she could pursue a fellowship.

### 2018-2019 Fellows

Dr. Swneke Bailey:

*Research into the genomics of peritoneal metastases from esophageal metastases*

Dr. Antoine Chalopin:

*The Kate McGarrigle Sarcoma Fellowship for the 2018-2019 academic year in support of your Sarcoma Fellowship at McGill and your research under Dr. Garzia*

Dr. Jonathan Cools-Latrigue:

*Research initiatives in Thoracic Oncology*

Dr. Paul Daniel:

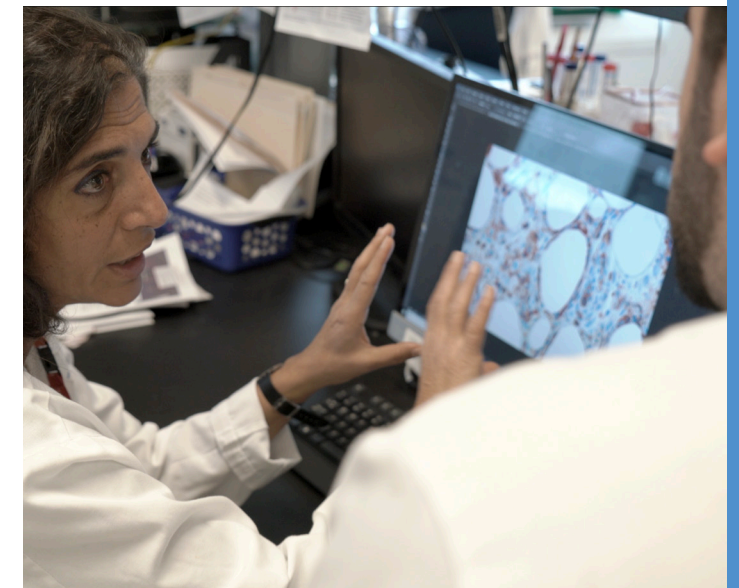
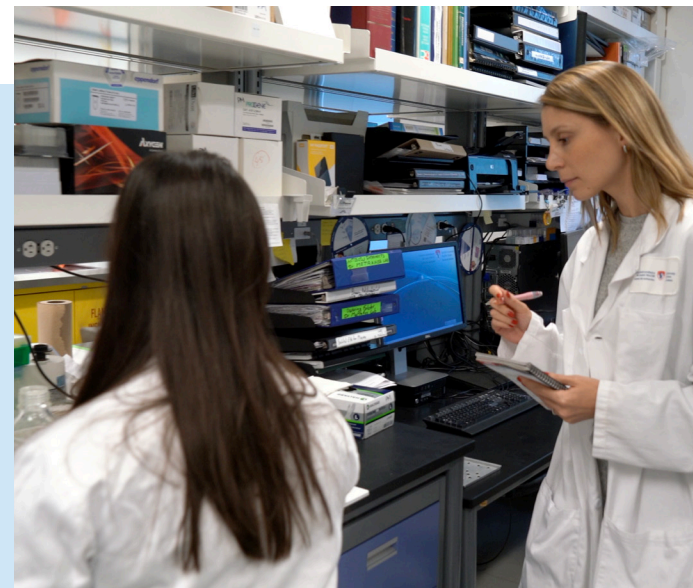
*Research initiatives in glioblastoma, TMZ and radiation*

Dr. Enrico Minnella:

*Work into understanding the cellular mechanisms responsible for the beneficial effects of "Prehabilitation" in cancer patients*

Dr. Sonia Skamene:

*Quality improvement initiatives in Radiation Oncology*

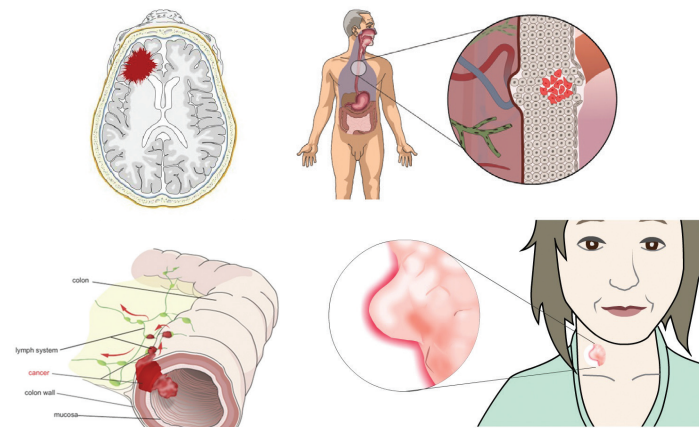


## Education

From visiting professors enlightening bright minds with new knowledge and/or sharpening skills, to lectures and online patient education modules, Cedars is a firm believer that education paves the way to excellence while also helping students, healthcare professionals, patients and family members not only understand cancer better, but also make better decisions.



Under the stewardship of Dr. David Fleiszer and Dr. Nancy Posel, clinical content experts, healthcare professionals and patients have collaborated to produce oncology guides for cancers of the brain, colon, esophagus, lung, prostate, thyroid, breast, endometrium, head and neck, ovaries, skin, as well as for radiotherapy, chemotherapy, pain control, fertility and equipment. As updates are necessary when advances or new knowledge surface, sustained funding is required. The Cedars Cancer Foundation thanks the community for giving generously in support of oncology guides. Using pictures, images, and animations, the guides clarify and individualize the complexities of diagnoses, treatment and patient care trajectories.



## Supportive & Palliative Care

At the heart of supportive and palliative care is the word care. Patients diagnosed with treatable or advanced cancer face many challenges. As a result, we offer numerous services and programs to patients, as well as to their loved ones, as a means to guide, support, ease pain, and manage other symptoms of the disease or its treatment.

Cedars is proud to have supported in 2018-2019 the MUHC's interdisciplinary teams of healthcare professionals and volunteers go above and beyond to ensure that the physical, psychological, educational and spiritual needs of patients and their loved ones are met at every stage, from disease diagnosis and treatment to healing and end of life.

Services include:

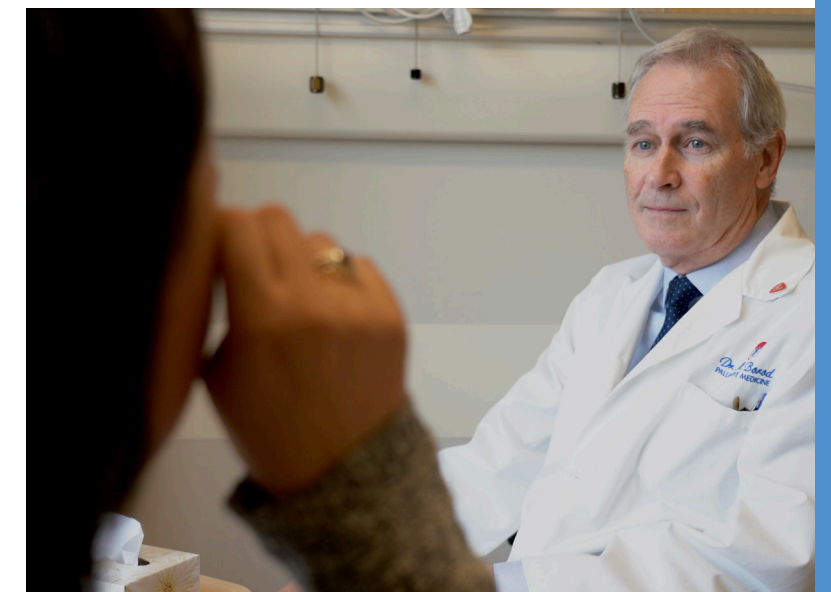
- Psychosocial Oncology
- Award-winning Cancer Pain Clinic
- Medical Cannabis Program
- Integrative Oncology Program
- Pre-habilitative and Perioperative Clinic
- Rehabilitation Program (CAREPRO) and Cachexia Clinic
- Eastern Canada's only Lymphedema Clinic
- Cedars CanSupport programs and services
- Palliative Care Services
- Management of the physical and emotional needs of cancer survivors

## Cedars Oncology Supportive Care Centre

The Cedars Oncology Supportive Care Centre is being developed adjacent to the Cedars Cancer Centre at the Glen site. It will consolidate and improve existing programs and services in one location and will continue to offer a comprehensive approach to care that goes beyond surgery, chemotherapy, radiation therapy and new treatments. It will provide for patients who are either living with cancer as a chronic disease or have received treatment and/or are disease free. The physical, psychological, emotional and spiritual aspects of healing will all be addressed. This Centre will also be a much-needed hub of research. Fundraising is under way.



"The care, kindness and professional care shown to my husband Phil Chiarella during his final battle with prostate cancer and to myself and my family were unbelievable," says Lindsay Chiarella.



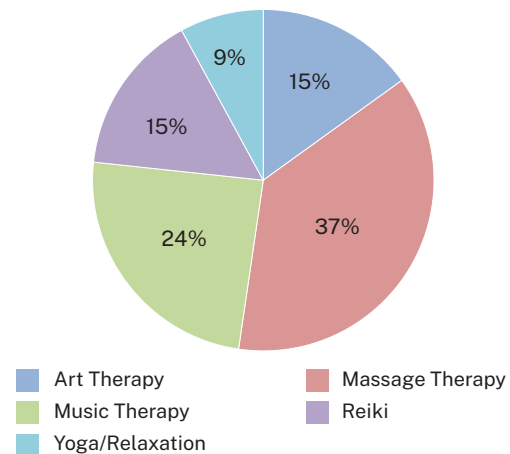
## Cedars CanSupport

Cedars CanSupport is a program at the McGill University Health Centre under the Cancer Care Mission's Supportive and Palliative Care Division. In collaboration with the healthcare team, a dedicated group of professionals and volunteers provide complementary emotional support, educational services, therapies, practical resources and humanitarian aid. Our services are for patients in active or post treatment; those living with advanced cancer and/or receiving end-of-life care; for their family and friends and/or bereaved loved ones.

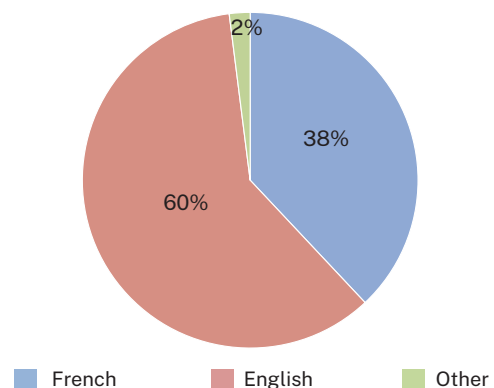
In 2018-2019, 4,655 patients benefited from practical services and 2,475 individuals from educational services. Over 1,200 patients participated in special workshops, such as post-breast-surgery yoga, while over 1,100 in activities such as art, music and massage therapy, mindfulness, and gentle yoga. Over 8,000 patients and family members used the Cedars CanSupport resource centre, which houses a concentration of helpful guides and educational materials. Finally, over \$142,000 in humanitarian aid were distributed to over 700 patients, who were unable to manage the financial burden brought on by cancer, for food, rent, medication, transportation, and utilities.

**Cedars CanSupport relies entirely on donor contributions to fund its programs and services.**

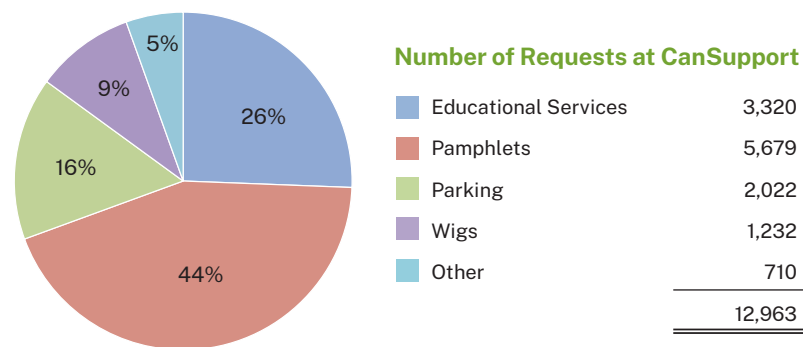
Complementary Therapies Provided



Languages Serviced



Number of Requests at CanSupport



Educational Services	3,320
Pamphlets	5,679
Parking	2,022
Wigs	1,232
Other	710
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,963</b>



## 13th Edition of the FL Fuller Landau Dragon Boat Race & Festival

**Over 1,000 participants and over \$440,000 collected!**

The paddlers' village buzzed with enthusiasm, as teams took part in two qualifying races before lunch and a final race in the afternoon. However, winning on the water wasn't the only goal, as each boat strove to outdo each other's fundraising totals. Top teams collected over \$62,000 for Cedars CanSupport. The Camp Nominingue Alumni Dragons reclaimed the winning title from the Dusty Paddles in an exciting final race by 8/100th of a second.

Founded in 2006, the Dragon Boat Race & Festival began with six boats and \$12,000 raised and has grown to an event of more than 25 boats, with over \$6 million raised to date. Accounting firm FL Fuller Landau celebrated their 11th anniversary for the 2018 edition, as the presenting sponsor of the festival, and it also took pride in being active participants. Funds raised are donated to the Cedars CanSupport program, which provides psychological, practical, and humanitarian assistance, as well as support services for cancer patients and their families at the MUHC.



## 40th Annual Golf Classic

**Over 200 golfers and partners, and over \$300,000 collected!**

The Cedars Cancer Foundation and the Montreal General Hospital Foundation partnered in 2018 to celebrate the 40th Annual Cedars Golf Classic on Monday, June 18. Once again, the event sold out both courses at The Royal Montreal Golf Club.

Participants enjoyed an all-inclusive day full of golf, food, drinks, awards, and auctions. The day was filled with amazing food supported by the Royal Montreal Golf Club as well as Rib N' Reef who, as they have in the past, provided our golfers with the most delectable seafood. The Cedars Golf Classic has become just that, a classic. Over the past 40 years, hundreds of individuals and corporations have supported this event in several ways: as participant golfers, as in-kind sponsors and as Golf Book ad purchasers. Without all their support, Cedars would not have been able to cement itself as a leader in cancer care, education and research.



## 17th Edition of Splash & Dash

**Over 500 participants and spectators, and over \$250,000 collected!**

On Saturday, November 3, 2018, race participants gathered at the McGill Sports Complex to raise funds for Sarah's Floor at the Montreal Children's Hospital through Sarah's Fund for Cedars. Each team made up of three people ranged from families with young children to corporate teams. All races that took place throughout the day had three components: run – swim – run or swim– bike – run! The annual Heroes & Celebrity race was, as always, the day's highlight. Local Montreal celebrities raced with the true heroes of the day; the patients of Sarah's Floor.

Splash & Dash raises money for Sarah's Fund for Cedars, founded in 2001 by a then 8-year-old girl undergoing treatment for Ewing's Sarcoma. Since its inception Sarah's Fund has raised over \$12 million to support the needs of the Hematology-Oncology division at The Montreal Children's Hospital.



## 33rd Annual Raffle and Auction Soirée at Le Windsor

**Over 500 people and over \$370,000 collected!**

On November 28, 2018, Montrealers gathered at the iconic Le Windsor for a festive evening to help the Cedars Cancer Foundation go beyond in its efforts to help cancer patients and their families. Amidst a sparkling décor at Le Windsor, patrons sampled food from some of Montreal's trendy eateries, La Sirène de la Mer, Rib N Reef, Buffet Il Gabbiano, Ryú, Lesters Deli, Lagoon Sea Food, Felice, Mtl Avec Amour et Lafrenaie, while sipping their beverage of choice; bid on everything from the quintessential holiday basket to large-ticket items.

With over 1,600 raffle tickets sold for the coveted cash prizes and a prestigious Rolex watch, as well as bids made online and onsite for the silent auction items, plus bids the exciting live auction, the event was an incredible success.

All proceeds raised from the event support the Psychosocial Oncology Program at the MUHC. This program offers cancer patients and their families free access to a team of psychologists and therapists to help them manage the social, psychological, emotional, spiritual and functional aspects of cancer.



## 3rd Run for Ovarian Cancer

**Over \$195,000 collected for leading-edge diagnostics and care!**

The Cedars Run for Ovarian Cancer was held on Sunday, October 14, in the Town of Mount Royal. Founded by ovarian cancer survivor and avid long-distance runner Dominique Dagenais, the Run raises money and awareness for the Detecting Ovarian and Endometrial Cancers Early (DOVEE) Project, a leading-edge ovarian cancer research program based at the MUHC.

Dr. Lucy Gilbert is the Director of Gynecologic Cancer Services at the MUHC, a professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology and Oncology at McGill University, and the founder of the DOVEE Project. She was at the Run to talk about her work and to cheer participants.

Dr. Gilbert and her team recently developed a new test, PapSEEK, in collaboration with researchers from Johns Hopkins University that provides a safe and minimally-invasive method of detecting ovarian and endometrial cancers at an earlier stage than was previously possible. Although it is not yet available to patients, it is a critical step toward improving survival rates.



## 2nd Annual Ride for Hope & Gratitude

**\$116,000 collected for leading-edge cell therapy/immunotherapy program!**

Cheered on by family and friends, 32 riders enjoyed a glorious weekend from September 21 to 23, riding in the Ottawa River Valley as part of the 2nd Annual Cedars Ride for Hope and Gratitude in support of the Hematology-Oncology Cell Therapy for Blood Cancers at the MUHC.

Rob Callard, a cancer survivor and the driving force behind the ride is being treated by Dr. Pierre Laneuville and his leading-edge program. Cell therapy/immunotherapy has shown promise in the treatment of blood cancers and other applications and is being utilized as an alternative to certain forms of chemotherapy. By establishing a new Cell Therapy Unit under the direction of Dr. Pierre Laneuville, doctors, researchers and patients will benefit from this burgeoning area of research in the fight against cancer.



## Inaugural Gala Benefiting the Cedars Cancer Centre

**Over 560 participants and over \$1.2 million collected!**

The Cedars Cancer Centre Inaugural Gala was organized in support of leading-edge oncologic research, patient care and education. The December 6th gala attracted over 560 people, including members of the community, corporations, MUHC, McGill University, and Rossy Cancer Network-affiliated leaders, healthcare professionals and partners. National Bank of Canada President and CEO, Louis Vachon, served as Honorary Event Chair while Diana Ferrara Scalia, Paola Aprikian and Daphne Tsadilas Shamie co-chaired the winter wonderland extravaganza orchestrated by Nadia Saputo.

In addition, the Gala celebrated the exceptional women and men who represent every division of oncology and the Cancer Research Program of the Research Institute of the MUHC, shining a spotlight on the importance of donor contributions in an era of diminishing national investment. During the event, Board Co-Chair Bruce Shadeed confirmed that the Gala had tipped the \$50-million capital campaign over the \$10-million milestone.



## Cedars is always ready to partner with others for excellence and innovation in cancer care, research and education

Some highlights for 2018-2019

### Rad.Onc.Bra — An Invention that Changes Lives

In April 2018, the Cedars Cancer Foundation partnered with The CURE Foundation and 'The Bell' Fund to ensure patients can use the Rad.Onc.Bra, a revolutionary medical accessory developed at the MUHC that protects women's breasts from burns during radiation therapy. The Rad.Onc.Bra is the brainchild of MUHC radiation-oncology technologists Nancie Raffis and Suzanne Rossel, who were upset about seeing their patients suffer and decided to do something about it back in 2010.

*"We knew that placing a breast higher on the chest wall during radiotherapy treatments had been shown to alleviate these painful side effects," says Rossel. "With that in mind, we set-out to design a medical accessory that would optimize the positioning of the breast, immobilize it, and therefore reduce unnecessary burning, inflammation and dermatitis."*



Raffis and Rossel teamed up with Diane Rousseau, a medical garment specialist who creates compressive garments for lymphedema patients. Together, they developed and tested prototypes, as part of a research protocol in collaboration with Cedars Cancer Centre's radiation oncologists. For the next five years, with the financial support of Cedars and 'The Bell' Fund, the Rad.Onc.Bra was tested, improved, and made less costly to manufacture, more user-friendly for radiation oncology technologists and even more effective for patients. Finally, in 2017, the Rad.Onc.Bra was officially ready.

*"One of my patients underwent radiotherapy without the Rad.Onc.Bra, and, years later, with the Rad.Onc.Bra," adds Raffis. "The difference was like night and day. She had severe burns the first time and none the second time."*

### Soirée en Or — Benefiting the Program for Innovative Therapeutics in Chest and Esophago-Gastric Cancers

Cedars Cancer Foundation joined forces again with the Montreal General Hospital Foundation in 2018 to co-host the 2nd edition of the Soirée en Or gala benefiting the Program for Innovative Therapeutics in Chest and Esophago-Gastric Cancers. This Program is part of the McGill Division of Thoracic Surgery and is based at the Montreal General Hospital of the MUHC. As one of the largest thoracic surgical oncology programs in North America, the MUHC team delivers cutting-edge care to patients suffering from lung, esophagus and stomach cancers from Montreal, as well as regions across Quebec and Eastern Canada. Surgery is conducted at the Montreal General Hospital while medical oncology and radiation oncology services are delivered in the Cedars Cancer Centre. In raising \$2.7 million in 2018, the event and other related activities during the year are having a huge impact on patients' lives.



### Origin House Founder Marc Lustig sets new goal for Medical Cannabis Research and Care

In December 2018, Cedars announced that the Lustig Family Medical Cannabis Research and Care Fund achieved its \$250,000 goal and that a new \$1 million target over four years had been set by Origin House founder Marc Lustig. This Fund supports a best-in-class medical cannabis program as part of the Division of Supportive and Palliative Care at the MUHC, as well as vital research, training and education. A first-of-its-kind in Canada medical cannabis therapy pilot project was launched in January 2018 with support from the Cedars Cancer Foundation and the Rossy Cancer Network's Quality Improvement Initiatives Fund.

*"Medical cannabis can alleviate pain and the significant side effects that accompany cancer, such as loss of appetite, anxiety and insomnia," stated Dr. Antonio Vigano, Director of the Cancer Rehabilitation Program at the MUHC, Associate Professor of Oncology at McGill and a Principal Investigator in two medical cannabis clinical trials. "Improving access, adjusting type, dose and the frequency of cannabinoid treatments through a precision-medicine approach, studying the long-term outcomes and assuring appropriate training for healthcare professionals are necessary. This is why the Lustig Family Medical Cannabis Research and Care Fund is so critical."*

### Other noteworthy collaborative initiatives included:

- Cedars joined forces with the Montreal Children's Hospital Foundation for Sarah's Fund at Cedars' Splash & Dash event
- Cedars teamed up with the Montreal General Hospital for Cedars' Annual Golf Classic
- Cedars partnered with the MUHC Foundation for Enchantée, an event benefiting the MUHC Breast Clinic and Wellness Program

## A Community in Motion

### 100 Days Across Canada

To raise awareness and funds for the Prostate Cancer Research Fund under the leadership of Dr. Simon Tanguay, MUHC Urologist-in-Chief, Juan Manuel Alonso and Luis Nasim, who have family members and close friends affected by the disease, completed a cycling journey that took them from Victoria, BC to St. John's, NL (over 8,000 km) in a period of 100 days. They raised \$104,362.

### Men's Health Day

One in seven men in Canada will one day be given a prostate cancer diagnosis. Prostate cancer can be slow-growing, and some men may live many years before cancer is detected. Regular screening is therefore vital. The 2018 edition of MUHC Men's Health Day, under the leadership of Dr. Peter Chan, was a resounding success. More than 280 men were seen by doctors and nurses at outside clinics.

### Carol for a Cure

Since 2009, Team RockStarr has gathered for holiday carolling to honour the memory of Rochelle Barr, and in celebration, remembrance, and support of breast cancer fighters everywhere. Over \$175,000 have been collected and allocated to the Cedars Breast Cancer Program, which supports access to a Breast Cancer Nurse Navigator who offers guidance to patients through all stages of their cancer journey.

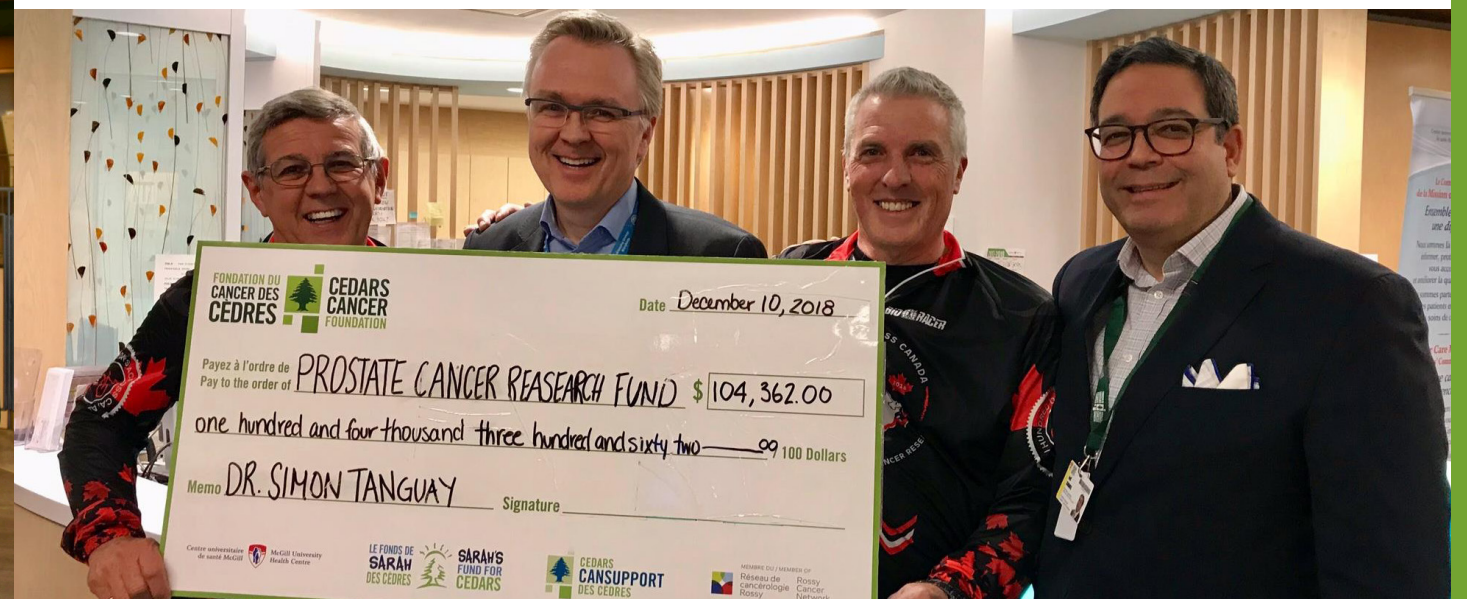
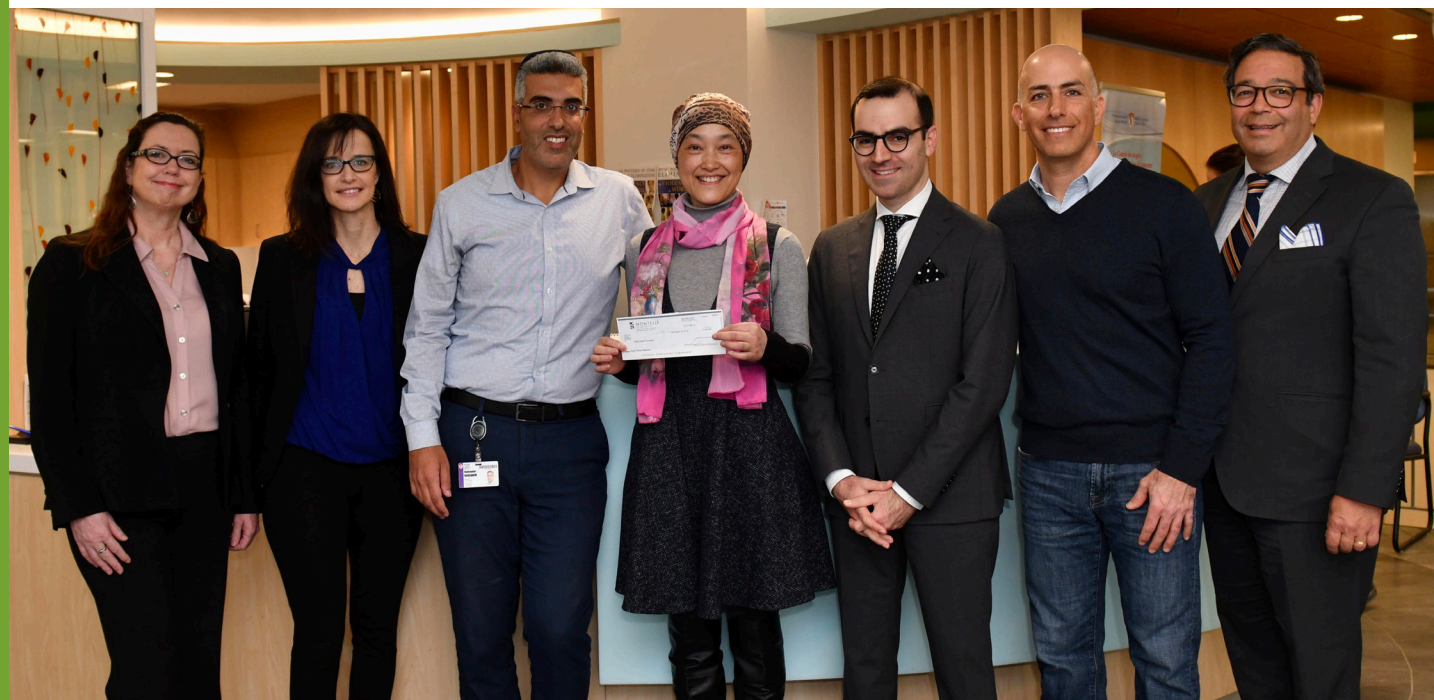
### Holt Shopping Night

Holt Renfrew once again opened its doors to the Montreal community for a one of a kind stylish Charitable Shopping Night, where 10 percent of all sales from the evening were donated to the Cedars Cancer Foundation.

### Montelle Special Edition Wire-free Bra

In October 2018, Montelle Intimates announced it would donate \$10 from the sale of each Special Edition Wire-free Bra to the Cedars Cancer Centre via the Cedars Cancer Foundation to raise awareness about breast cancer and the fight for a cure. The special edition pink bra combines a European aesthetic with North American comfort thanks to built-in versatile straps.

"One of our own is battling breast cancer. The importance of offering functional, yet elegant undergarments that make all women feel beautiful is amplified," said Annette Smith, Brand Director, Montelle Intimates. "At Montelle, we are committed to empowering women through everything, from their happiest milestones to their most intimate challenges. This initiative is a wonderful opportunity to deliver on that goal."



## A Community with Purpose

In 2018-2019, Cedars saw its funds continue to draw more attention within the community and consequently do more good. The Foundation is grateful to all those who established these funds to support a cause near and dear to their heart, to honour a loved one, to “react, accept, overcome and fight the beast”, and/or raise awareness or monies for exceptional patient care, research and education. Last year, over \$1 million were raised through these community-based funds.



The ‘Bell Fund’, a grassroots program that has seen already in excess of 4,500 cancer patients supplied with a free comfort kit, was launched on February 4, 2016, World Cancer Day, in a sunny atrium at the Glen site of the MUHC. Judy Martin, indefatigable founder, accompanied by her treatment team, rang a ship’s bell she donated in 2013 to celebrate the completion of her chemotherapy. The bell is engraved with the words Lucky, Grateful, Hopeful.



Each Comfort Kit contains:

- A soft fleece blanket with a foot pocket
- A reusable water bottle for taking medication
- A notebook and pen to jot down the instructions given by doctors and nurses
- Mints to soothe sore throats and mitigate the metallic taste that can be a side-effect of chemo
- A magazine to pass the time

Since its founding, ‘The Bell’ Fund has raised more than a million dollars, and continues to see support flow into this vital initiative driven by and for our patients.

## A Community with Vision

Thanks to past gifts, Cedars supports four visiting professorships, which give healthcare practitioners first-hand access to the latest developments and technologies in care and research. Professorships foster healthy, thought-provoking discussions amongst leading professionals, stimulate innovation and enhance the education of doctors, medical students, postdocs and fellows.

[The Edward J. Tabah Visiting Professor in Surgical Oncology](#)

April 3-4, 2018

David Shibata, MD FACS FASCRS

Surgeon-in-Chief, University of Tennessee Health Science Center

[The Vivian Saykaly Visiting Professor in Radiation Oncology](#)

June 14, 2018

Jim B. Conway

Retired Adjunct Lecturer, Department of Health Policy and Management, Harvard School of Public Health in Boston

[The Dr. Sharon Wexler Visiting Professor in Neuro-Oncology](#)

November 8, 2018

Robert L. Martuza, MD

Chief, Emeritus of Neurosurgery

Massachusetts General Hospital/Harvard Medical School

[The Dr. N. Blair Whittemore Visiting Professor of Sarah’s Fund for Cedars in Pediatric Hematology/Oncology](#)

February 27, 2019

Charles Mullighan, MBBS (Hons), MSC, MD

Co-Leader of the Hematological Malignancies Program

St-Jude Children’s Research Hospital, Memphis, TN

Help Us Help Cancer Patients and Their Families

The Cedars Cancer Foundation recognizes that generosity comes in many forms. It is also deeply aware that its vision to ease the pain and suffering that cancer causes requires constant care and attention.

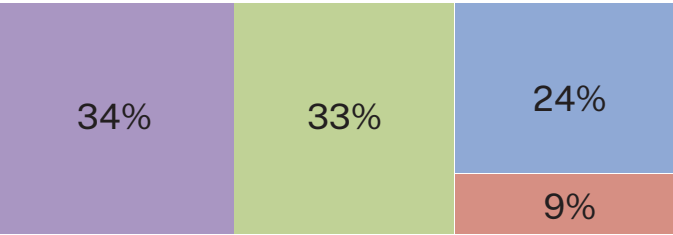
Cedars therefore appreciates each and every dollar that is donated, each and every hour that is spent lending a helping hand, and each and every gift.

We encourage you to reach out to our team who is always ready to listen and guide you so that together we help cancer patients and their families.

Ways to give and get involved include:

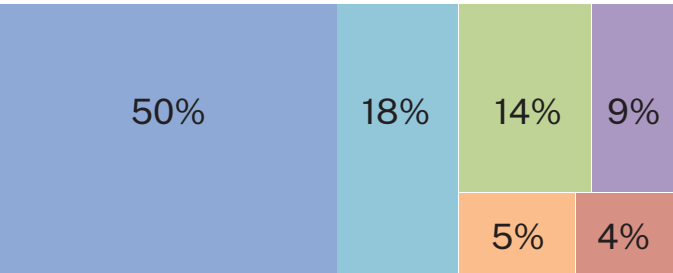
- One-time donation
- Monthly giving
- Support Cedars’ Annual Appeal for Priority Needs
- Tax-smart giving (stocks & securities, in kind gifts)
- Cedars’ Heroes Program
- Planned / Estate gifts
- Invest in research
- Invest in patient education oncology guides
- Pay tribute to someone special (honour / in memory)
- Organize a fundraiser
- Participate in / donate to a flagship event
- Sponsor an event
- Become a volunteer
- Corporate donations
- Matching gifts
- Leadership gift
- Transformational gift
- Build a legacy

Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Allocations



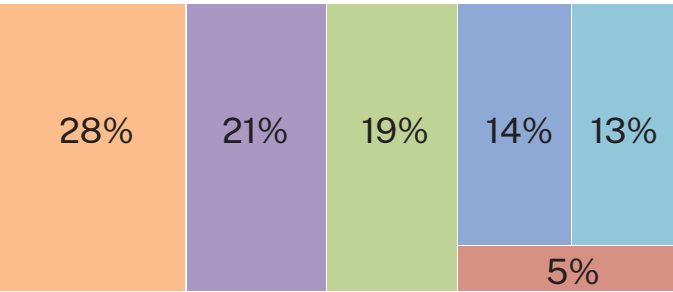
	<u>\$ Amount</u>
Research	1,165,234
Education	417,487
Patient Care (Pediatric & Adult)	1,592,798
<i>The Best Care for Life Campaign</i>	1,705,627
	<u>4,881,146</u>

Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Revenues



	<u>\$ Amount</u>
Charity Events	3,779,371
Sarah's Fund	337,111
<i>The Best Care for Life Campaign</i>	1,040,000
Donations	656,325
Restricted donations	1,370,087
Investment Income	398,125
	<u>7,581,019</u>

Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Distribution & Expenses



	<u>\$ Amount</u>
Research	1,165,234
Education	417,487
Patient Care (Pediatric & Adult)	1,592,798
<i>The Best Care for Life Campaign</i>	1,705,627
General, administration and fundraising expenses	1,048,934
Charity events expenses	2,280,414
	<u>8,210,494</u>

Insvestments in a Master Trust as at March 31, 2019

	<u>\$ Amount</u>
<i>The Best Care for Life Campaign Fund</i>	6,211,851
Sarah's Fund at Cedars for pedriatric hematology-oncology	2,271,373
Rossy Family Foundation - MUHC Oncology Supportive Care Centre	1,093,788
Wilfrid Howick Humanitarian Fund	890,700
Other Funds	1,300,511
	<u>11,768,223</u>

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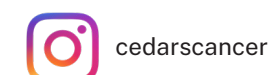
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Cedars Cancer Foundation  
1310 Greene Avenue, Suite 520, Westmount, QC H3Z 2B2  
514-656-6662  
Charity Registration No. 10520-2501-RR-0001  
info@cedars.ca  
www.cedars.ca



Cover photo: Members of the MUHC Medical Oncology Division in the Team Room (Dr Michael Thirlwell, Dr Marie Vanhuyse, Dr Thierry Alcindor, Dr Jean-Pierre Routy, Dr Catalin Mihalcioiu, Dr Raghu Rajan)

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**There is strength in community  
Thank you for making us stronger**

