



QEII

HEALTH SCIENCES CENTRE
FOUNDATION

1276 South Park Street
Room 1-040, Centennial Building
Halifax, NS B3H 2Y9

Phone: 902-473-7932
Toll free: 1-888-428-0220
Fax: 902-473-4421
www.qe2foundation.com
info@qe2foundation.ca



Canadian Cancer Society
Société canadienne
du cancer

5826 South Street
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3H 1S6

Telephone: 902-423-6183
Toll Free: 1-800-639-0222
Fax: 902-429-6563
www.cancer.ca
ccs.ns@ns.cancer.ca

Cancer Information Service
1-888-939-3333

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Craig's Cause, QEII Foundation and Canadian Cancer Society join forces to make unprecedented \$1.4-million donation to pancreatic cancer research

(Monday, September 15) Halifax, NS – Today, Craig's Cause Pancreatic Cancer Society, the QEII Foundation and the Canadian Cancer Society Nova Scotia Division announced that together they will fund pancreatic cancer research to the tune of \$1.4-million. This marks the most significant single contribution from Atlantic Canada that will be invested in pancreatic cancer research. The Canadian Cancer Society Research Institute was the recipient of the funds.

This remarkable investment was made possible by Craig's Cause Pancreatic Cancer Society contributing \$500,000; \$300,000 of which was raised in partnership with the QEII Foundation over the past several years. The QEII Foundation committed an additional \$200,000, and the Canadian Cancer Society matched \$700,000 in funding for a combined total of \$1.4-million. This strategic partnership places Nova Scotia as a leader in funding pancreatic cancer research.

"This partnership is a huge step in the right direction to improving treatment and survival rates for one of the hardest-to-treat cancers - pancreatic cancer. We are very fortunate to be working with fellow organizations who are so committed to the same cause," said Barbara Stead-Coyle, CEO, Canadian Cancer Society, Nova Scotia Division. "The Nova Scotia Division invests significantly in cancer research. We take great pride in our leadership in that regard."

The partnership began when Stefanie Condon-Oldreive, founder of Craig's Cause Pancreatic Cancer Society, reached out to the QEII Foundation with a goal to fund pancreatic cancer research. The QEII Foundation had long recognized the impact the Canadian Cancer Society has been making in funding research and connected the organizations with the mutual goal of making a significant and impactful difference in pancreatic cancer research in Canada.

"This is the culmination of many years of work. When my father was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in 2006, I quickly learned that information was very limited. Very few research proposals were being funded and there was absolutely no awareness of this cancer," said Condon-Oldreive. "This journey started with an awareness run and bike ride and culminated in an amazing \$1.4 million fund for pancreatic cancer research."

Bill Bean, President and CEO of the QEII Foundation, knows the need for these much-needed funds. “The QEII Health Sciences Centre cares for Atlantic Canadians when they need it most. We are proud to have partners who are investing in pancreatic cancer research to advance health care for our loved ones and our community,” says Bean. “This investment is made possible by the tremendous support from our donors, who share our vision for better health.”

Pancreatic cancer is the fourth most common cause of cancer death in Canada for males and females, and is largely considered an under-funded and hard-to-treat cancer. Today, the 5-year survival rate for pancreatic cancer is 8%.

“The Canadian Cancer Society is the leading not-for-profit funder in cancer research in Canada,” says Pamela Fralick, National President and CEO, Canadian Cancer Society. “The money we raise has supported some of the most significant research advances in cancer—thanks to our generous donors, we are proud to fund more cancer research, on more types of cancer than any other national charity. We’re very excited to see this contribution come out of Atlantic Canada towards pancreatic cancer research.”

The Canadian Cancer Society Research Institute (CCSRI) is the research arm of the Canadian Cancer Society. Since 1947, the Society has supported thousands of researchers by providing more than \$1-billion in cancer research funding in Canada. In 2013, the CCSRI funded 152 new grants and awards with research portfolios extending from coast to coast. The internationally renowned peer review system includes a panel of volunteer scientists and cancer survivors who choose only the most promising research.

In 2013, 62% (or \$23.6 million) of CCSRI’s research portfolio was for research targeting specific cancers. The funds targeted for pancreatic cancer research totaled \$750,000. The \$1.4-million contribution from Craig’s Cause Pancreatic Cancer Society, the Canadian Cancer Society and the QEII Foundation will make a significant impact on enhanced research for pancreatic cancer. The Canadian Cancer Society is committed to doubling the 5-year survival rates for hard-to-treat cancers: pancreatic, lung, ovarian, throat, brain and colorectal.

About the Canadian Cancer Society

The Canadian Cancer Society funds the best cancer research in Canada thanks to our generous donors and our rigorous peer-review process. We are the largest national charitable funder of cancer research in Canada, funding hundreds of researchers in universities, hospitals and research centres.

Together we are discovering new ways to change cancer forever. For more information, visit cancer.ca or call our toll-free bilingual Cancer Information Service at 1-888-939-3333 (TTY 1-866-786-3934).



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Société canadienne du cancer

About Craig's Cause Pancreatic Cancer Society

Founded by Stefanie Condon-Oldreive, in memory of her father who passed away after an 8-week battle with pancreatic cancer, Craig's Cause Pancreatic Cancer Society has grown into a national charitable society whose aim is to increase awareness, education, support and research funding. One hundred per cent of the funds raised go to pancreatic cancer research. Craig's Cause Pancreatic Cancer Society will continue to raise significant funds for research through their Pancreatic Awareness Walks. Starting in September through to November, walks will be held in 5 provinces including Porter's Lake, Nova Scotia; Cold Lake, Alberta; Fredericton, New Brunswick; Charlottetown, PEI and St. John's, Newfoundland. For more information or to donate go to craigscare.ca.

About the QEII Foundation

Every day donors to the QEII Foundation change the lives of Atlantic Canadians who visit the QEII Health Sciences Centre for treatment. With their generosity, the Foundation is able to strengthen and advance health care to ensure loved ones receive the best care possible. The Foundation raises funds to support research, professional education, equipment and technology, and community-based programs. These much needed funds support primary care, such as treatment of chronic conditions, specialized care like heart surgery and cancer treatment, and the most advanced care, such as organ transplantation. Gifts to the QEII Foundation have the power to make a difference for patients, now and in the future. Visit qe2foundation.ca to learn more.

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For more information, contact:

Heather Spriet, Canadian Cancer Society Nova Scotia Division
heather.spriet@ns.cancer.ca
(902) 423-6183 ext 222

Tanya MacLean, QEII Foundation
tanya.maclea@qe2foundation.ca
(902) 489-5664



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