

Marathon of Hope Cancer Centres Network

Phase 2 Funding Announcement – Key Messages

Announcement

The Government of Canada is investing up to \$80 million over four years in the next phase of the Marathon of Hope Cancer Centres Network (MOHCCN). This funding will be matched by the Terry Fox Foundation and participating institutions, supporting a \$160-million national initiative to accelerate precision oncology and bring its benefits to more Canadians.

Key Messages

An unprecedented pan-Canadian collaboration inspired by Terry Fox. Inspired by Terry Fox and led by the Terry Fox Research Institute and Terry Fox Foundation, the MOHCCN brings together patients, clinicians, researchers, hospitals, donors and partners across Canada in an unprecedented collaboration to advance cancer research and care for all Canadians through precision oncology. By creating new ways for researchers and clinicians across the country to share data, knowledge and resources, the Network is tackling questions that no single institution or province can answer alone and creating a national strategy to bring personalized care to more Canadians with cancer – no matter who they are or where they live.

Phase 1 built the foundation. The first phase (2021-2026) established the partnerships, genomic capacity, common standards and data-sharing infrastructure needed for a national precision oncology network. Today, clinical and genomic data from more than 16,000 patients form Canada's largest cancer case resource, creating an unprecedented foundation for research and discovery.

Phase 2 will turn that foundation into greater impact for patients. The next phase will expand the Network's database and collaboration to the territories and support the use of precision medicine in real time to inform cancer treatment. It will also broaden access to research and genomic technologies, generate evidence needed to bring precision oncology into care and support new approaches to prevention, diagnosis and treatment.

The goal is precision oncology for more Canadians, closer to home. Every cancer is different. Precision oncology uses information about an individual patient and their cancer to help identify the most appropriate approach to care. Phase 2 will work to make these opportunities available to more people, including patients outside Canada's largest cities.

Patients are partners, not simply participants. Patients, survivors and caregivers help shape Network priorities, research and decision-making. This ensures that new approaches reflect patient needs and values, including quality of life, equitable access and the responsible return and use of genomic information.

This is a shared investment in Terry Fox's vision. Federal funding is being matched by the Terry Fox Foundation and participating institutions. Canadians who support the Terry Fox Run therefore help make this national collaboration possible alongside governments, hospitals, research institutions, clinicians, researchers and patients.

Phase 2: What the Investment Will Enable

- Prospective precision-oncology studies that can generate evidence while helping inform care.
- Expansion to underserved communities, community hospitals and the territories, helping make precision oncology research more representative and accessible.
- Research into inherited cancer susceptibility and approaches that can help patients and families better understand cancer risk.

- Research using the Network's national cancer data resource to uncover new patterns, biomarkers and treatment opportunities.
- New technologies, early-phase clinical trials and interdisciplinary partnerships that can translate discoveries into better tests, treatments and approaches to care.
- Evidence on clinical benefit, patient experience and health-system value to support the responsible adoption of precision oncology.

Proof Points

- More than 100 research and funding institutions across Canada are now connected through the Network.
- Clinical data from more than 16,000 patients form Canada's largest cancer case resource.
- Phase 1 supported national genomic sequencing, standardized clinical data and secure data-sharing infrastructure.
- Network-supported genomic testing has already helped inform treatment discussions for over 1,500 patients, including through molecular tumour boards.
- The Government of Canada's new \$80-million investment will be matched to support a \$160-million Phase 2 initiative.

About Precision Oncology

Precision oncology recognizes that cancers that look similar can be driven by different biological changes. By combining genomic and clinical information, researchers and clinicians can better understand an individual cancer and, where evidence and treatment options allow, use that information to guide treatment, clinical-trial or risk-management decisions.

Terry Fox Connection

Terry Fox believed deeply in the power of research and in what Canadians could accomplish together. The Marathon of Hope Cancer Centres Network carries that idea forward at a national scale: patients, researchers, clinicians, donors, governments and institutions contributing to a shared effort to improve outcomes for people with cancer.

About the Marathon of Hope Cancer Centres Network

The Marathon of Hope Cancer Centres Network is a bold initiative inspired by Terry Fox and led by the Terry Fox Research Institute and the Terry Fox Foundation. Launched in 2021, it unites patients, clinicians, researchers, administrators, and donors from institutions across the country, including the Government of Canada, in an unprecedented collaboration for the benefit of cancer patients. Together, we're creating a national strategy to bring personalized treatments to every cancer patient in Canada – no matter who they are, or where they live – to help finish the marathon against cancer that Terry started in 1980. Today, the Network includes over 1,400 researchers, clinicians, and patients and nearly 60 member institutions, including academic and healthcare institutions from all 10 Canadian provinces. www.marathonofhopecancercentres.ca

About the Terry Fox Research Institute

Established in 2007, the Terry Fox Research Institute (TFRI) invests in world-class, collaborative cancer research teams and partnerships across Canada. Through its flagship research programs and national precision medicine initiatives, TFRI connects leading scientists, clinicians, and institutions to accelerate cancer discoveries and translate research into improved patient care. By leveraging Canada's research strengths and fostering collaboration at a national scale, TFRI supports innovative research aimed at transforming how cancer is detected, diagnosed, treated, and ultimately prevented. www.tfri.ca