



2022-2023 COMMUNITY IMPACT REPORT



**Accelerate.
Advocate.
Transform.**



Accelerate.
Advocate.
Transform.

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Message from the Chair

Brain Cancer Canada began with a simple question: What if, together, we could change outcomes for brain cancer patients?

Since then, through the tremendous generosity and trust of our community, Brain Cancer Canada has raised over \$1.7 million for brain cancer research, and distributed funds to 13 research projects.

In 2022-2023 our community rallied to even greater heights:

- Our fundraising goal was exceeded by 30%, raising over \$669,000;
- The first-ever collaborative DIPG matching campaign resulted in a \$100,000 grant for DIPG research, and sent a message of hope and bravery to over 100 children receiving treatment across Canada.

While these successes stand out to us, we know there is so much more to be done.

We have witnessed how, for other cancers, significant philanthropic funding has spurred new therapies and survival rates have improved.

We have witnessed how, during the pandemic, researchers were able to come together to push the boundaries of science and medicine to improve outcomes for millions of people.

We must continue to push the boundaries of science and medicine to find solutions for brain cancer. To this end, we learn about advancements in the science of brain cancer, and through our fund stewardship we **ACCELERATE** the exacting work of researchers and clinicians.

The experiences of brain cancer patients and their loved ones reveal to us where more support is needed, whether in equitable access to front-line treatment, or in raising brain cancer awareness. We engage with, listen to and **ADVOCATE** for them.

We are proud to present this community impact report, reflecting the audacious goals we set and the remarkable progress we have been making toward them. We extend the invitation to you, the reader, to support us in our work to **TRANSFORM** the outcomes for brain cancer patients.

Please join us.

Angela Scalisi, Chair

Mission, Mandate, Values

Brain Cancer Canada is a **national charity** that funds research, technology and **treatment for malignant brain tumours**.

Our goal is to fund **the most promising research, technology and transformative treatment in the field**, facilitating the journey to a cure for brain cancer.

We are a 100% volunteer driven organization. No Brain Cancer Canada member receives compensation and there are no salaried employees.

For every dollar donated, 78 cents* goes to support promising brain cancer research, technologies and transformative treatments.

Brain Cancer Canada is fully and pro-actively transparent about our income and expenses, the projects we support, and the impact they generate.

Brain Cancer Canada's granting decisions are guided by independence and objectivity.

*Drop in donor dollar ratio from year previous owing to 2022 gala expenses.

What You Need to Know About Brain Cancer

Beating brain cancer requires the power of the whole community. Brain cancer research needs time and dedicated philanthropic investment, particularly when research funding in the field is declining. Site-specific research for the most lethal and complex adult and childhood cancers must not diminish. Nine Canadians a day are diagnosed with brain cancer. They are relying on us to make a difference.



- 1 Malignant brain tumours, in adults and children, remain incurable despite decades of laboratory and clinical investigation.
- 2 Brain cancer is one of the deadliest types of cancer.
 - The average survival for the most aggressive adult malignant brain tumours is 15-18 months¹
 - 10-20% of all pediatric brain tumours are Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Glioma (DIPGs). DIPGs are a leading cause of brain tumour deaths in children.²
- 3 Tumours are not always 100% removed through surgery. The expanse of the tumour across the brain and the impact of surgery on other parts of the brain are different in each patient.
- 4 Malignant brain tumours are complex, can be resistant to treatment, and often recur.
- 5 The current standard of care for brain cancer was discovered in 2005. Effective new treatments to advance the standard of care are badly needed.
- 6 The Brain Tumour Registry of Canada estimates 27 cases of brain tumours are diagnosed each day, approximately 38% of which are malignant. This means that an estimated nine Canadians a day, children and adults, will find out they have a primary malignant brain tumour.
- 7 Canada’s investment in overall cancer research dropped below the research spend of both the USA and the UK, in 2013 and has remained that way since.⁴
- 8 As of 2014 overall cancer research investment in Canada is below what it was in 2005.⁴

9 According to the Canadian Cancer Research Alliance, between 2005-2019 investment in brain cancer research, as a percentage of the total cancer research investment in Canada, averaged 8%.⁴

10 In 2019 the Government of Canada committed 3% of the overall cancer research investment to brain cancer specifically.⁵

¹ Voisin M, Sasikumar S, Mansouri A, and Zadeh G. Incidence and prevalence of primary malignant brain tumours in Canada from 1992 to 2017: an epidemiologic study. Canadian Medical Association Journal, 2021; 9(4):E973-E979. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC8580830/#:~:text=In%201992%E2%80%932017%2C%20the%20overall,more%20than%2019%20years%20old>. Accessed July 2023.

² Matthew, R. and Rutka, J. Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Glioma: Clinical Features, Molecular Genetics, and Novel Targeted Therapies. Journal of Korean Neurosurgery Society, 2018; 61(3): 343-351. <https://www.jkns.or.kr/journal/view.php?number=7107>. Accessed July 2023.

³ Smith T, Yuan Y, Walker EV, Davis FG. Brain Tumour Registry of Canada (BTRC): Incidence report 2010–2015. Brain Tumour Registry of Canada (BTRC) A Surveillance Research Collaborative. 2019; <https://braintumourregistry.ca/incidence-report/>. Accessed July 2023.

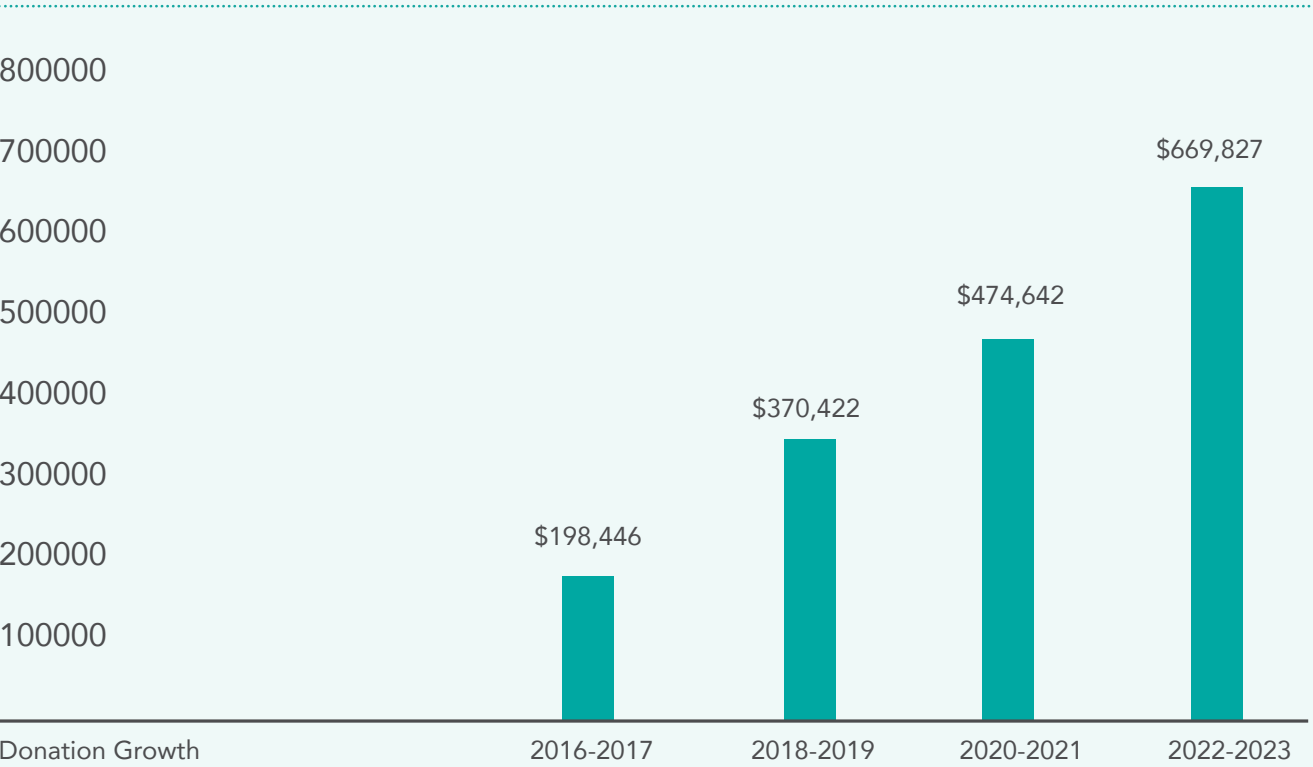
⁴ Canada Cancer Research Alliance. Fifteen Years of Investment in Cancer Research in Canada, 2005-2019. 2022; https://www.ccra-acrc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Fifteen_year_EN_reduced_size.pdf Accessed July 2023.

⁵ Government of Canada. Canadian Institutes of Health Research. Message from the Minister of Health – International Brain Tumour Awareness Day 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/institutes-health-research/news/2019/06/message-from-the-minister-of-health---international-brain-tumour-awareness-day-2019.html> Accessed July 2023.

2022-2023 At a Glance

In the past 8 years
Brain Cancer Canada
has raised a total of
\$1,713,337.

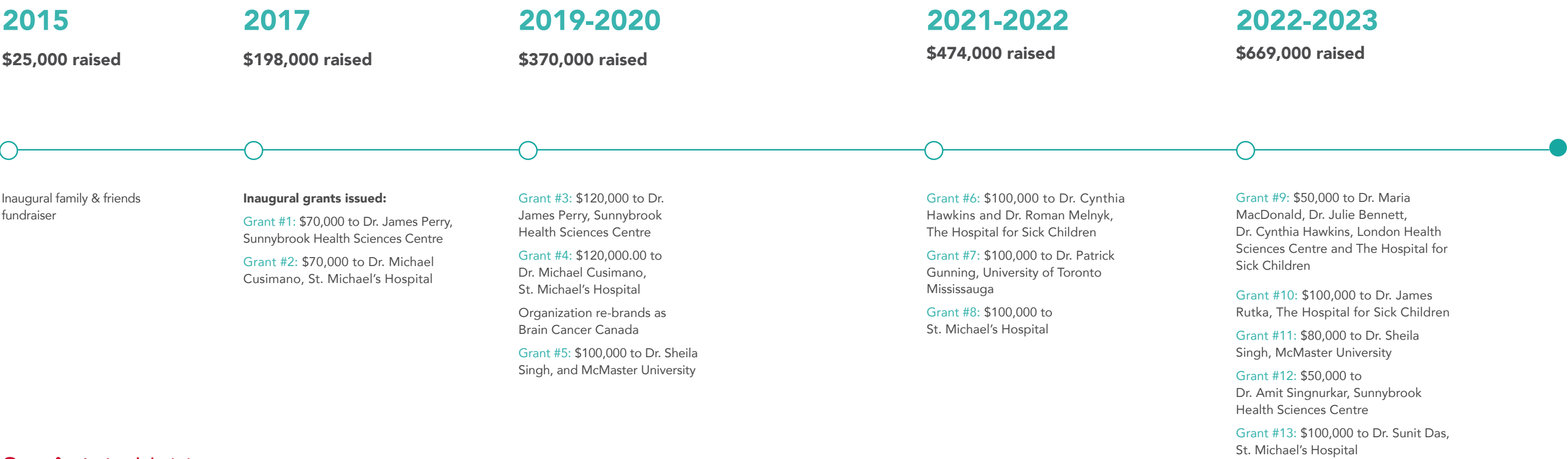
- In 2022-2023 we raised \$669,827; with \$150,000 reserved for future grant(s) and operational expenses.
- Five grants were issued in the totalling \$380,000.
- For every dollar raised, 78 cents goes directly to research.
- Each year, our fundraising total has grown by more than 22% over the previous year.



5	0	27
Research projects supported in 2022-2023	Wages & Salaries	# of BCC Ambassadors
6,658	\$18,675	\$40,000
Instagram followers	Amount raised by Facebook users hosting birthday fundraisers in support of Brain Cancer Canada	Largest one-time donation

Brain Cancer Canada Milestones

Determined to address the fundraising gap for primary malignant brain tumour research, with the hope of ultimately transforming the standard of care, the Scalisi Family launches Brain Matters Brain Cancer Charity in 2015. Tremendous growth over the last eight years confirms that the need for brain cancer research investment remains high.



Scotia Wealth Management.

Brain Cancer Canada is grateful to its Founding Sponsor, Scotia Wealth Management, for its partnership since 2015. With its steadfast commitment and generous contributions over the years, Scotia Wealth Management has been a critical partner in our mission to defeat brain cancer through research.

Accelerate

Fund Stewardship

Brain Cancer Canada’s Scientific Advisory Committee invites researchers to submit proposals through an RFP process.

The committee, consisting of medical professionals and community members with a passion for research, reviews the research proposals to ensure alignment with RFP criteria. Criteria include innovation, clarity, likelihood of success, and other factors.

The 2022-2023 RFP invited research proposals across three categories:

Pioneering Solutions, including novel translational research for knowledge acquisition

Supporting Pediatric Research, including care and wellbeing of pediatric patients and closing the disparity in funding directed to pediatric research

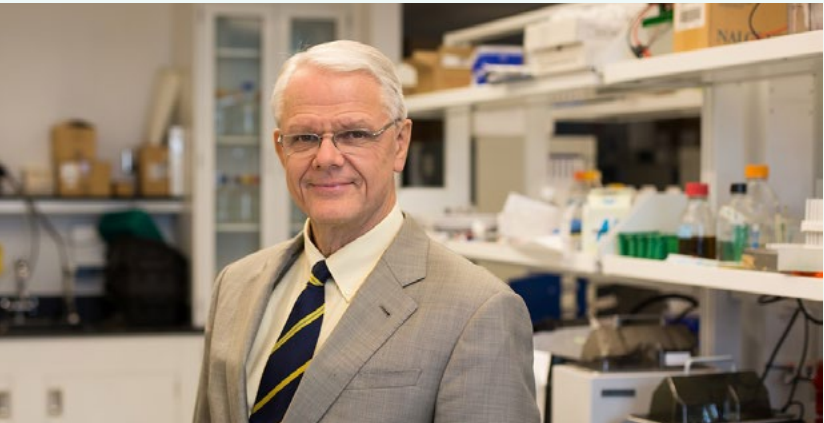
Innovating the Field, including process innovation, pre-clinical and clinical development, and technologies

2022-2023 Grant Recipients

Brain Cancer Canada is humbled by the tenacity and hard work of researchers, physicians, and clinicians in the brain cancer community. We applaud each of their successes and look forward to the opportunity to support them further.

Five grants were awarded in 2022-2023 and announced during Brain Cancer Awareness Month.

Institution	Principal Investigator(s)	Project	Area	Amount	Announced
London Health Sciences Centre & The Hospital for Sick Children	Dr. Maria MacDonald , Dr. Julie Bennett , Dr. Cynthia Hawkins	Frequency and Clinical Characteristics of Pediatric Type Glioma in Adults Beyond Adolescence and Young Adulthood (B-AYA)	AYA GBM/ Glioma	\$50,000.00	May 1, 2023
The Hospital for Sick Children	Dr. James Rutka	Enhanced patient-specific drug delivery in DIPG	DIPG	\$100,000.00	May 8, 2023
McMaster University	Dr. Sheila Singh	Combinatorial immunotherapies targeting heterogeneity of treatment-refractory Glioblastoma immunotherapies targeting heterogeneity of treatment-refractory Glioblastoma	GBM	\$80,000.00	May 15, 2023
Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre	Dr. Amit Singnurkar	FET-PET/MRI Based Treatment Planning for Grade III/IV Glioma in Post-Surgical Patients	HGG (GBM)	\$50,000.00	May 22, 2023
St.Michael's Hospital	Dr. Sunit Das	Acquisition of next-generation sequencer, first in Canada	All brain tumours	\$100,000.00	May 29, 2023



“Our research has shown that overcoming the blood-brain barrier using MR-guided focused ultrasound offers a novel treatment strategy for children with diffuse intrinsic pontine glioma (DIPG). We are excited that our encouraging pre-clinical studies on DIPG have now been translated into the ‘first in human’ clinical trial for children with this otherwise fatal brainstem tumour. Philanthropy is mission-critical to our research. We are extremely grateful to Brain Cancer Canada for funding our research program on novel drug delivery strategies for children with DIPG, and thank Scotia Wealth Management, Auto|One Group Limited, Highlight Motor Group, Pal Insurance and Saporito Foods for their generous support of our work.”

Dr. James Rutka, Hospital for Sick Children

Advocate

Patient Equity: Access to and Coverage for Treatment

Based on the experience of our Ambassadors, in October 2022 Brain Cancer Canada conducted an inter provincial comparative review of some of the most commonly prescribed take-home chemotherapies in the treatment of adult brain cancer.

The review showed that Canadian brain cancer patients are not treated equally. Depending on what province they live in, 55% of brain cancer patients don't have immediate access to, or complete coverage for, take-home cancer drugs that are the front-line global standard of care for the treatment of brain cancer.

Brain Cancer Canada continues raise awareness of the gaps and inequities that patients experience.

Canadian Brain Cancer Patients Treated Unequally

No Canadian should have to choose between their life savings and saving their life.





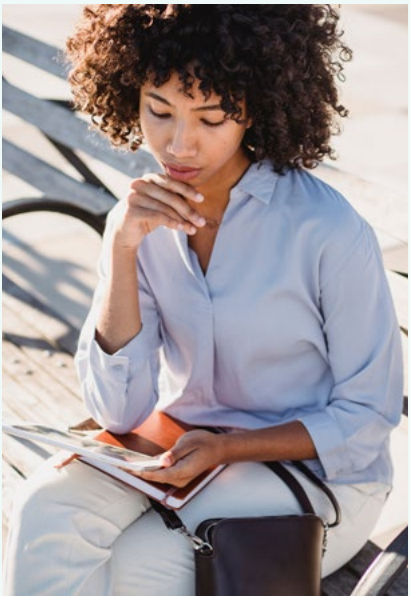


Pharmacare

The federal government has promised to introduce a national pharmacare plan, though the legislation has been put off a number of times.

Brain Cancer Canada will continue to engage with brain cancer patients and their caregivers to learn about their experience, elevate their voice, and promote equity in care across Canada.

Brain Cancer Canada in the News



- [Brain cancer widow calls for equitable access to chemotherapy treatment in Canada | Globalnews.ca](#)
- [Brain Cancer Patients Treated Unequally press release](#)
- [Ottawa Now – ‘He should have been the priority’: Brain cancer widow calls on the feds to provide country-wide access for chemotherapy treatments - 580 CFRA - Omny.fm](#)
- [Brain Cancer Widow Calls For Equitable Access To Chemotherapy Treatment In Canada The Alex Pierson Show podcast \(player.fm\)](#)
- [Isabelle’s Story, Presented by Brain Cancer Canada Ambassadors Jackie and Michal Borkowski and Patient Voice](#)



Transform

Mobilizing Community

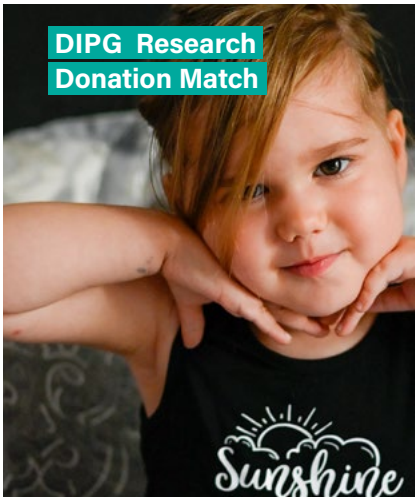
In 2022-2023 Brain Cancer Canada’s efforts to mobilize community support reached new heights through a matching-gift campaign for DIPG, heartfelt personal fundraisers, special events, and corporate giving.

DIPG Campaign

In response to understanding the needs across the brain cancer community, Brain Cancer Canada launches its first-ever DIPG matching-gift campaign raising \$50,000 in donations and matching the donations with another \$50,000 to create a \$100,000 research grant for DIPG.

In addition to funding DIPG research, donations of \$250 or more sent Marvelous Maverick, Powerful Penelope and Buddy the Brave to more than 100 children receiving treatment at pediatric hospitals in Alberta, Quebec, Ontario and Newfoundland, sending a powerful message of hope and bravery.

Brain Cancer Canada would like to acknowledge and thank the Borkowski, Ellsworth, Morissette-Gagné, Palmowski, and Shankar families for their significant support and contribution to the DIPG Campaign.



After losing our daughter, Trinity, to a rare pediatric brain cancer, DIPG, I felt alone and didn’t know what to do. I did know that I wanted a change. These children deserve a fight. I reached out to Brain Cancer Canada and learned that a campaign to do just that was underway.

Taking on such an initiative gave me hope. Hope that a change can happen.

Brain Cancer Canada was able to match every dollar raised up to \$50,000, providing a \$100,000 research grant directly for DIPG research.

Brain Cancer Canada recognizes that a change is needed. Their involvement in this change gives families like mine hope. And for that I am forever grateful.

Tammy Ellsworth, Mom of Trinity, Newfoundland & Labrador

Le 31 mai 2021, nous apprenions le diagnostic fatal d’une tumeur cérébrale, le gliome infiltrant du tronc cérébral, de notre fille Florence, 4 ans. 9 mois plus tard, elle prenait son envol. Elle aura toujours 5 ans. Avant ce combat, comme beaucoup trop de gens, nous ignorions tout des tumeurs cérébrales et du terrible pronostic qui les accompagne. Le combat de Florence se poursuit, malgré son décès. Je lui ai promis de sensibiliser la population aux tumeurs cérébrales afin d’obtenir les financements pour des recherches. Sans recherche, nous n’aurons jamais de cure. Brain Cancer Canada nous a permis d’atteindre un premier pas, soit de créer une levée de fonds dédiée strictement au GITC, du jamais vu. L’écoute et l’engagement de Brain Cancer Canada auprès de la communauté canadienne GITC nous permet d’espérer un vent de changement pour les futurs guerriers d’une tumeur cérébrales pédiatriques. Merci.

Stéphanie Morissette, maman de Florence Gagné (2016-2022), Québec, Canada.

On May 31, 2021, we learned of the fatal diagnosis of a brain tumour, diffuse intrinsic pontine glioma, of our 4-year-old daughter Florence. 9 months later, she gained her wings. She will always be 5 years old. Before this fight, like far too many people, we knew nothing about brain tumors and the terrible prognosis that comes with them. Florence’s fight continues, despite her death. I promised her to raise awareness of brain tumors in order to obtain funding for research. Without research, we will never have a cure. Brain Cancer Canada has allowed us to take a first step, to create a fundraiser dedicated strictly to DIPG, which has never been seen before. Brain Cancer Canada’s listening and commitment to the Canadian DIPG community allows us to hope for a wind of change for the future warriors of a pediatric brain tumor.

Stéphanie Morissette, mom of Florence Gagné (2016-2022), Québec, Canada

Personal Fundraisers

Across Canada, family, friends, and caregivers continue to hold personal fundraisers for their loved ones, naming Brain Cancer Canada as the recipient of their donations. Brain Cancer Canada is buoyed by their energy and grateful for their trust.

LOCKS FOR LIFE

Goal:
\$5,000.00

▶

Raised:
\$32,000.00



What LENGTH would you go to for someone you love if they were diagnosed with brain cancer?

In 2022, Jordan Bain approached Brain Cancer Canada with a unique fundraising initiative. Her goal was to raise \$5000, with the incentive that if she reached her goal, she would cut off her 16-year-old, 12-inch dreadlocks.

“I have the best sister ever whom I love dearly. Her name is Tena and she has a stage 3 anaplastic astrocytoma brain tumour. She has fought her way through major brain surgery, chemotherapy and radiation, and she fights every single day against this horrible disease. WE NEED TO FIND A CURE.”

Not only did Jordan reach, she exceeded her fundraising goal by by more than 600%. Her efforts continue to highlight the determination and drive of those affected by brain cancer to fund innovative research.

“To the people of Fort McMurray, and surrounding area, thank you. Thank you to everyone who has supported this inspiring event. Your generosity and support will help us find a cure for brain cancer.”


Jordan Bain, Fort McMurray, Alberta

Personal Fundraisers

- 55 Burpees a Day
- Car Rally for Brain Cancer Research
- Danny’s Army
- Dr. Surya & Associates
- Eric’s Brain Bros
- Farands for the Fight
- In loving memory Giorgia Nicolo, Holy Name Catholic School
- In loving memory of Daniela Ranieri
- In loving memory of Dario DiCenso
- In loving memory of Mikel Lehmann
- In loving memory of Sam Morana
- Nicole’s Army
- Pat’s Run for Heads and Hearts
- SABCR Art Auction
- Villamere Family Trivia Night

Social Media


Donating is not the only way to support brain cancer research. Social media has proven a powerful tool in delivering our message across the nation. Here are the most liked Instagram posts in 2022-2023.



677 Likes

Grey in May

https://www.instagram.com/p/CgOxsSZqk_p/



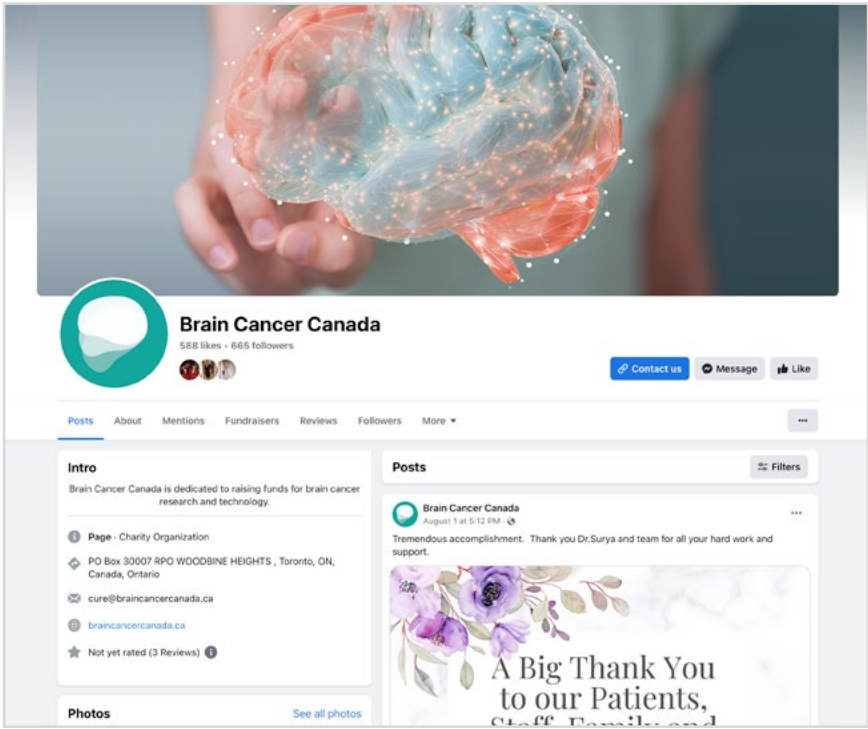
211 Likes

GBM Day


https://www.instagram.com/p/CgOxsSZqk_p/

Facebook Fundraisers

Facebook Fundraisers is a great way to support a cause you care about. In 2022-23, 104 FB users chose to direct their birthday fundraiser towards Brain Cancer Canada, generating \$18,675.00.



Scan to start your own fundraiser:



16 | Brain Cancer Canada 2023

Brain Cancer Canada 2023 | 17

Corporate Giving

These socially conscious corporate sponsors are championing Brain Cancer Canada’s efforts to defeat the disease. Our investments in research, technology and treatments for childhood and adult malignant brain tumours would not be possible without their support. We are grateful for their contributions to improving lives in our communities.

Highlight Motor Group proudly supports Brain Cancer Canada in their tireless efforts to find a cure for this devastating disease. Committed to making a meaningful impact, we recognize the crucial role of funding critical initiatives and innovative research, as well as providing specialized care and unwavering support to those affected by brain cancer. By partnering with Brain Cancer Canada, we aim to bring hope, raise awareness, and actively contribute to the ongoing pursuit of finding a cure and fostering hope for a brighter future.

- Kirk Kalinitchenko, President and CEO, Highlight Motor Group

Auto|One Group’s support for Brain Cancer Canada is personal. We lost our brother to this deadly, aggressive cancer, and experienced firsthand the tragic impact this disease has on so many families just like ours. Our organization is proud to join Brain Cancer Canada on their vital mission to fund innovative research, increase awareness, and bring hope to all those impacted. We thank the researchers leading the way to find a cure!

- Kevin Andrews, President and CEO, Auto|One Group Limited



For the fourth year in a row, Stem Wine Group is stepping up by donating \$5,000 of the proceeds from one of its top-selling labels, Matto. This donation has been made in memory of their colleague Ping Yang.

Since 2017, Stem Wine Group has donated over \$30,000 towards brain cancer research. These funds have contributed to acquiring a Stealth Autoguide Cranial Robotic Guidance Platform, a novel neuro-oncology genetic testing panel, and other research that is having an immediate and meaningful impact on advancing brain cancer research.



★ **Major**
\$30,000+

AUTO|ONE GROUP
HIGHLIGHT MOTOR GROUP
PAL INSURANCE
SAPORITO FOODS
SCOTIA WEALTH MANAGEMENT

★ **Leader**
\$10,000-\$15,000

CFAO + OFA
STRAW CONSTRUCTION GROUP
TI GROUP
YAMANA GOLD

★ **Champion**
\$5000

AJF FORMING
BATHURST READY MIX
BRAND PARLOUR DESIGN
CARPENTER’S LOCAL 27
CIBC
CLOVER MORTGAGE INC.
COTTON READY MIX
DUTCH BROS
GLOBOTECH INC
KRAEMER CONCRETE
JNF READY MIX
KWIK MIX MATERIALS
CAPITAL DEVELOPMENTS
LEHIGH HANSON
LI LIMITED
LIPMAN, ZENER & WAXMAN
LIUNA LOCAL 183
LOGIT GROUP
MD FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT
NATIONAL HOMES
NEXT PATHWAY
PPG ELECTRIC
RES GROUP
RINOMATO GROUP
ROCK BOTTOM
UNDERPINNING
TRIM ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO
ROSHEL
SCOTIABANK HOME FINANCING
SEGAL GCSE LLP
SOLID CONSTRUCTION
SORBARA GROUP
SPECIALTY LIFE
SPOROS FOUNDATION
STEM WINE GROUP
SYNERGY CARPENTRY INC.
THE IMMIGRATION COMPANY
TRANSCRETE HAULAGE

Events

Brain Cancer Canada events include the CN Tower Lighting Grey in May for Brain Cancer Awareness Month, the CN Tower Lighting Yellow and Grey for DIPG Awareness, and the Annual Gala.



Annual Gala

Influential business leaders, world-renowned physicians, and over 600 esteemed guests gather annually at Brain Cancer Canada’s Gala in support of pediatric and adult brain cancer research. The 2022 gala raised \$360,000 in net proceeds.



Become a Brain Cancer Warrior

There are a number of ways you can help advance the work of Brain Cancer Canada through fundraising. We invite you to consider these possibilities:

Personal Fundraisers

Host a community-based event in honour of the brain cancer warriors in your life. Help us learn about your story, read about how others have been inspired, and designate donations you receive to Brain Cancer Canada. Email cure@braincancercanada.ca to start your own fundraiser.

Personal Donations

Thank you for your gift to support brain cancer research, technology and treatment. Brain Cancer Canada is pleased to direct your donations where they will have greatest impact.

Corporate Giving

Annual Budget

Include Brain Cancer Canada in your company's annual budget.

Philanthropic Gifts in Honour

Your organization may have employees, vendors or suppliers who have had experience with Brain Cancer. Honour them with a philanthropic gift to Brain Cancer Canada and receive a tax receipt.

Corporate Giving

Brain Cancer Canada has sponsorships suited to all types of companies and organizations. Our sponsorships are designed to help you meet your business objectives, maximizing your investment.

Gifts-in-Kind

Also known as non-cash gifts or in-kind donations. This is a kind of charitable giving where goods and services are given in lieu of money. In-kind donations gives Brain Cancer Canada access to good and services that would otherwise be unaffordable, or allow us to allocate more funds to research grants.

KIDS! Charitable Birthday Parties

Host your child's next birthday party in support of Brain Cancer Canada with [ECHOage](#), where kids get to choose their birthday gift and a charity to support. Guests

contribute online instead of bringing gifts to the party. Half the money raised goes to Brain Cancer Canada and the other half to the birthday child.

Link: <https://echoage.com/brain-cancer-canada>

Employee Engagement

Engaging your employees in support of Brain Cancer Canada is an effective way to make a real impact. Some of the ways your company can engage employees include:

- **Payroll donations.** This is the easiest way for employees to give. Donations can be taken directly from their paycheque, making it easy for anyone to participate. Brain Cancer Canada currently works with the following corporate giving programs: Benevity, United Way, Charitable Impact, Cyber Grants, Canada Helps.
- **Matching-gift programs:** A simple but highly effective fundraising concept: a company pledges to match the donations raised by employees, doubling the total contribution.
- **Dollars for Doers:** You may have highly motivated and engaged employees. Reward them by pledging to donate to charities like Brain Cancer Canada in exchange for their volunteer time in the community. Donation amounts are determined according to your budget and can be processed through the Benevity website.
- **Host a Corporate Event:** Does your company host golf tournaments or parties? You can raise your company's profile in the community by hosting or participating in fundraising events, and direct all proceeds to Brain Cancer Canada. To make it more exciting, throw in a matching-gift.
- **Consider Brain Cancer Canada for Childhood-Related Fundraisers** Many companies host events year-round to keep employee engagement energized. If your company has childhood-related fundraisers, Brain Cancer Canada would be honoured to be a designated beneficiary, as we continue to support research for childhood and adolescent brain cancers such as DIPG.



Showcase Brain Cancer Canada on Corporate Website or Email Signature

Let your customers know that you proudly support a future without brain cancer. Add a [Brain Cancer Canada link](#) on your website or in your email signature. Send us an email, and we'll have our web team contact yours.



Include Brain Cancer Canada in your Company Newsletter

Does your company publish a monthly or quarterly newsletter? Consider featuring Brain Cancer Canada alongside a story of why your company us to help us raise awareness brain cancer and the need for more research.



End-of-Year Donations

If your company had a profitable year and there are funds left in your budget, considering making a year-end gift. Donations are eligible for a tax receipt.

Who We Are

We are brain cancer warriors, spouses who have lost their partners, parents who have lost their children, children who have lost their parents, family members and caregivers who have rallied for their loved ones, and medical and research professionals who are chasing the cure for brain cancer.

With a diversity of skills ranging from public relations and marketing to law and engineering, our team is made up of 30+ volunteers from across Canada, the majority directly affected by brain cancer. Our work is done by a series of committees that benefit from the skills and strengths of our volunteers, and keep us responsive to the experiences of the brain cancer community.

With boundless talent and drive, we are confident that, together we will fulfill our mission.



“It’s simple. I volunteer because so many others that are going through this diagnosis don’t have the remaining time, resources, capacity, or energy to advocate before their time is up. We have so many voices and stories to share, but I strongly feel everyone needs to hear from the actual patients while we still have the breath to speak. I give that energy to Brain Cancer Canada because they afford me the lens to see our impact.”

- Jason Power, Brain Cancer Canada Ambassador, Alberta



“When I lost my 39-year-old husband Paulo to brain cancer, it was a significant part of my grief journey to find a meaningful way to honour his legacy – of positivity, compassion, and immeasurable strength. Brain Cancer Canada’s advocacy on behalf of patients and their efforts to advance treatment have given me the opportunity to do that as the organization’s Ambassador Chair.”

- Jessica Soares, Ambassador Chair, Brain Cancer Canada



“Following my mother’s diagnosis of brain cancer in October 2020, my resolve to spare other families from the struggles my loved ones endured grew stronger. This determination led me to become a part of BCC, enabling me to actively participate in the pursuit of a cure and better treatment options for individuals affected by brain cancer. Observing the unwavering commitment of those involved in the organization, I gained confidence that, together, we were making incremental progress toward a brighter future. The knowledge that each contribution brings us closer to our shared objective is the ultimate source of fulfillment.”

- Chloe Asselstine, Brain Cancer Canada Ambassador, Ontario

Governance

Brain Cancer Canada board members lead with an unwavering commitment to independence and transparency. Board members represent a diverse cross-section of industries, geographies, and areas of expertise. They are avid community participants with a track record of service as board members and advisors for many organizations. Our code of conduct and board policies ensure our practices are congruent with our mission, mandate, and values.

2022-2023 Board Members



Angela Scalisi
Chair
Angela@braincancercanada.ca
LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/angela-scalisi-bb66734/>



Stella Kaplatzis
Director
Stella@braincancercanada.ca



Yung Hoang
Director
Yung@braincancercanada.ca
LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/yung-hoang-a945206b/>



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Director
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LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/bruno-cunsolo-19a72379/>



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Ronald Davidzon
Director
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Carlos Pimentel
Director
Carlos@braincancercanada.ca



Giancarlo Spataro
Director
Giancarlo@braincancercanada.ca



Lino Dinis
Director
Lino@braincancercanada.ca

2022-2023 Committees

Brain Cancer Canada committees report to the Board; meet regularly between board meetings to plan, refine, and take action on priorities; and have subcommittees to more efficiently deploy our volunteer resources.

Ambassador Committee

Brain Cancer Canada Ambassadors play a key role in raising awareness about the brain cancer experience, shaping advocacy efforts, and leading fundraising initiatives.

Jessica Soares (Chair), Anita Angelini, Chloe Asselstine, Shamini Ayyadhury, Shalane Basque, Jackie Borkowski, Michal Borkowski, Karina Bychkova, Kiera Caruso, Yolanda Caruso, Marisa Cunsolo, Noel Da Costa-Machado, Kaviya Devan, Anna Estrin, Kirsten Goodwin, Ali Ladak, Lia Loebenberg, Russell Leong, Douglas MacRae, Maria Peragine, Jason Power, Bernardo Scalisi, Marissa Wener, Jake Windsor, Namal Zubair

Fundraising Committee

Ensuring the financial viability and stability of the organization, the Fundraising Committee oversees sponsorship, events and fundraisers, and implements marketing-initiated campaigns and programs.

Bruno Cunsolo (Chair), Chloe Asselstine, Kiera Caruso, Yolanda Caruso, Marisa Cunsolo, Lino Dinis, Anna Estrin, Kristin Goodwin, Maria Peragine, Carlos Pimentel, Jason Power, Jessica Soares, Giancarlo Spataro, Jake Windsor, Namal Zubair.

Subcommittees

Sponsorship, Events, Independent Fundraisers
Employee Giving, Silent Auction, In-Kind Giving

Operations Committee

The operations committee is the seat of financial oversight, legal affairs, leadership development, protecting board integrity, and establishing compliance with internal governance policies for Brain Cancer Canada. The group works to recommend multi-year plans to execute on chosen strategic priorities.

Stella Kaplatzis (Chair), Karina Bychkova, Bruno Cunsolo, Ronald Davidzon, Yung Hoang, Marc Peeters and Angela Scalisi

Subcommittees

Legal, Finance, Operations, Governance

Partnerships & Stakeholder Committee

This committee works to build a constructive network of partners and stakeholders to achieve Brain Cancer Canada’s goals. This includes building awareness through research and education about the brain cancer patient experience. It is also the seat of the Scientific Advisory Committee, which designs the Requests for Proposals and makes recommendations to the Board for awarding grants.

Marc Peeters (Chair), Anita Angelini, Shamini Ayyadhury, Shalane Basque, Jackie Borkowski, Michal Borkowski, Ronald Davidzon, Kaviya Devan, Lino Dinis, Yung Hoang, Ali Ladak, Lia Loebenberg, Russell Leong, Carlos Pimentel, Bernardo Scalisi, and Jessica Soares

Subcommittees

Education and Research, Scientific Advisory Committee, Stakeholders & Relations

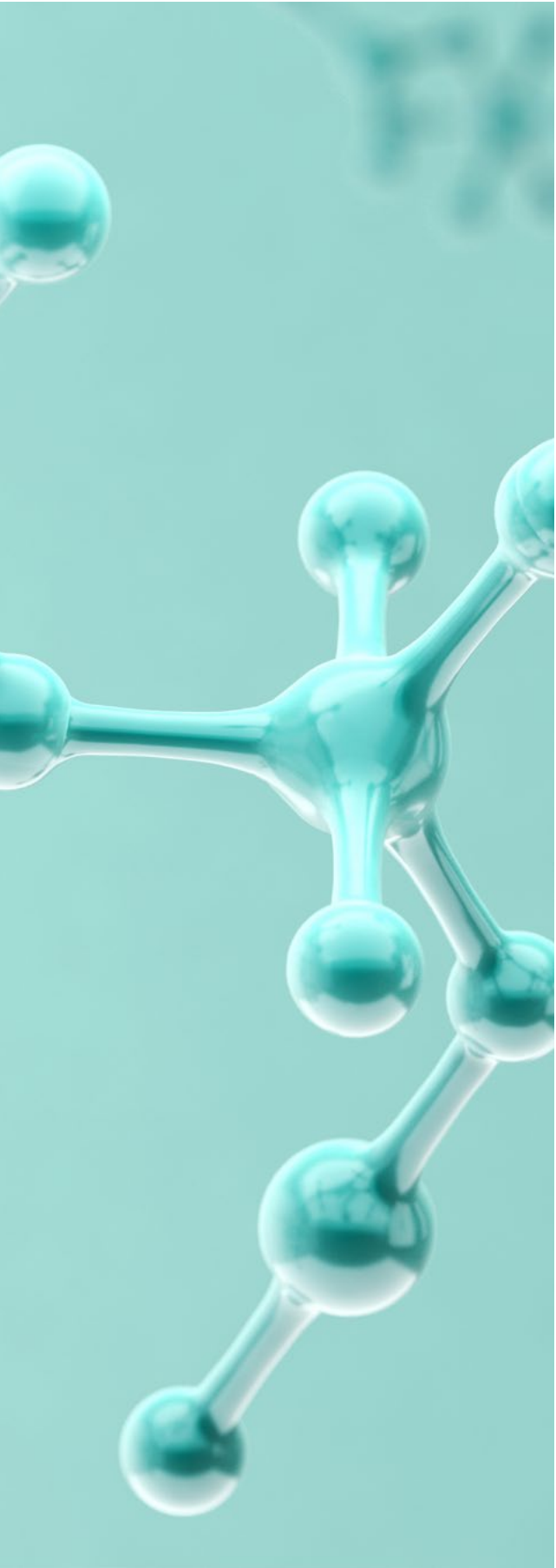
Marketing & Communications Committee

This committee is responsible for stewarding Brain Cancer Canada’s brand and image through marketing and communications, and ensuring campaign alignment with strategic priorities.

Angela Scalisi (Chair), Sunita Ajmani, Chloe Asselstine, Noel Da Costa- Machado, Lino Dinis, Stella Kaplatzis, Jason Power, Giancarlo Spataro, Jessica Soares, and Marissa Wener

Subcommittees

Social Media Content, Campaigns, Public Relations
Web Development, Communication



Connect with Us

Donate to Brain Cancer Canada using our online form at <https://braincancercanada.ca/ways-to-give/>

Learn about the work of Brain Cancer Canada grant recipients at <https://braincancercanada.ca/research-grants/>

Join Brain Cancer Canada as an Ambassador <https://braincancercanada.ca/our-team/#join-the-team>

Cheer on family, friends, and community members as they launch personal fundraisers <https://braincancercanada.ca/fundraisers/>

Together, we can change outcomes for brain cancer patients.

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