# Driving collective action against cancer

## 2025/26 Impact Report



Canadian Cancer Society

IT TAKES A SOCIETY

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# Table of contents


1. Taking on cancer together . . . . . 2
2. Turning mission into impact . . . . . 3
3. A snapshot of our impact . . . . . 4
4. Powering progress through research and innovation . . . . . 5
5. Providing vital information and support . . . . . 8
6. Shaping policies that save and improve lives . . . . . 10
7. Uniting experts to accelerate impact . . . . . 12
8. Driving collective action through community fundraising . . . . . 14
9. Our impact through strategic corporate partnerships . . . . . 15
10. Fueling hope through generosity . . . . . 16
11. Investing in our mission . . . . . 17
12. Our board of directors . . . . . 18
13. Year over year metrics . . . . . 19
14. With heartfelt thanks . . . . . 20

# Taking on cancer together

We're proud to share the Canadian Cancer Society's 2025/26 Impact Report, highlighting the progress we made together toward a future without cancer.

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, volunteers, partners and supporters, we advanced bold, high-potential research, pushed for policy change to protect the health of people in Canada, and provided compassionate and practical support to those affected by cancer across the country.

Your generosity made it all possible. We expanded support for people who need to travel to treatment, making a difficult time more manageable. We championed improvements to screening and early detection to help find cancer sooner, when treatment can be more effective. And we funded cancer prevention research aimed at stopping cancer before it starts.

At the same time, we laid important groundwork for the future. We developed a new strategic plan to guide CCS in the years ahead, with a clear focus on saving lives, improving lives and driving collective action against cancer. We also launched national action plans to advance two urgent priorities: improving access to clinical trials in Canada and reducing lung cancer deaths.

Together, we made a meaningful difference. Thank you for helping create a better future for everyone affected by cancer.



## Andrea Seale

Chief Executive Officer
Canadian Cancer Society



## Christopher Wein

Board Chair
Canadian Cancer Society

# Turning mission into impact

At the Canadian Cancer Society, we are leading the way to a future without cancer. For the nearly half of people in Canada expected to be diagnosed with cancer in their lifetime, we are focused on saving lives, improving lives and driving collective action against cancer. We invest in world-leading research, influence policies that help shape healthier communities and provide trusted information and compassionate support to people affected by cancer.

We know that nothing big gets solved by one person or one organization. That is why we work alongside donors, volunteers, researchers, healthcare professionals, partners and people affected by cancer to create lasting change. Together, we are helping more people prevent cancer, detect it earlier, access better treatment and support, and live well with and beyond cancer.

Guided by our values of being courageous, united, caring and rigorous, we are working with communities across Canada to make the greatest possible impact against cancer.

Because it takes a society to take on cancer – and CCS is leading the way.



# A snapshot of our impact

Powered by 695,000 supporters, 23,200 volunteers and 163,600 event participants and organizations, we invested **$130.1 million** in 2025/26 to advance our mission and support the 2 in 5 people in Canada who will be diagnosed with cancer in their lifetime.

**$48.3M**
INVESTED IN CANCER RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

**346**
RESEARCH PROJECTS SUPPORTED

**14.6M**
INDIVIDUALS SUPPORTED WITH CANCER INFORMATION

**81,000**
NIGHT STAYS AT CCS LODGES

**57**
SIGNIFICANT HEALTH POLICY WINS



# Powering progress through research and innovation

Every day, researchers in Canada are making progress toward a future without cancer – and we're right there with them. Thanks to your support, Canadian Cancer Society-funded science and innovation are driving breakthroughs that deepen our understanding of cancer and move promising ideas closer to real-world impact, so more people in Canada can live longer and live better.

**Your generosity last year helped fuel bold ideas and back brilliant researchers. We ignited change through:**

## Advancing promising clinical trials

By testing potential new strategies to prevent, detect, treat and care for people with cancer, clinical trials are essential to driving research progress that saves and improves lives. Last year, CCS-funded researchers completed a pilot trial exploring whether fecal microbiota transplantation (FMT) – delivering healthy gut bacteria before treatment begins – can help people with advanced melanoma and non-small cell lung cancer benefit from immunotherapy, especially those who aren't responding to standard treatment. Results from the trial showed that 75% of patients with melanoma who received FMT alongside immunotherapy saw their cancer shrink or stop growing, and 80% of patients with non-small cell lung cancer saw the same result. The trial generated powerful early evidence that FMT can improve how immunotherapy works and laid the foundation for future FMT trials in Canada.



**Dr Isabella Tai**

CCS-funded researcher,
BC Cancer Research

## Backing Canada's brightest science

A future without cancer begins by investing in promising research today. In 2025/26, we supported more than 340 research projects across cancer types and the cancer continuum. In partnership with the Canadian Institutes for Health Research (CIHR), the Bringing Biology to Cancer Prevention Grants fund projects uncovering how cancer starts and develops so we can find new ways to prevent it, reduce risk and detect it earlier. Our Research Training Awards support promising early-career researchers, strengthening Canada's research landscape by helping the next generation of leaders build momentum to drive future discovery. And our Workplace Cancer Research Grants address a critical funding gap by supporting research into preventing cancers linked to harmful exposures on the job, ensuring fewer people in Canada face a cancer diagnosis because of their work.

## Bringing innovation closer to care

In partnership with Creative Destruction Lab (CDL) CCS is the Founding Partner of CDL Cancer. This business mentorship program helps turn bold cancer research into real-world solutions by connecting early-stage tech ventures with mentors who can help bring their cutting-edge innovations to people. mDETECT, a graduate venture and previous recipient of CCS research funding, is poised to transform care for people with metastatic cancer through an innovative liquid biopsy test. This simple blood test gives oncologists detailed, personalized information about a person's cancer, helping them make faster, more informed decisions about treatment. Recently, mDETECT secured vital funding from the Ontario government, giving the team momentum to move this promising test out of the lab and into cancer centres where it can improve the lives of cancer patients.



**$19M**
INVESTED IN CLINICAL TRIALS



**$30.3M**
TO ENHANCE TREATMENT AND QUALITY OF LIFE



**$2.9M**
TO ADVANCE EQUITABLE AND TIMELY ACCESS TO CARE



**$5.8M**
TO IMPROVE EARLY DIAGNOSIS



**$4.5M**
IN RESEARCH TO PREVENT CANCER

**Dr Anargyros Xenocostas**

CCS-funded researcher, London Health Sciences Centre Research Inc.



**"Without the generosity of all supporters, we wouldn't be able to do what we do. Thank you for being a part of the important research that is transforming cancer."**

— Dr Robin Urquhart, Dalhousie University, CCS-funded researcher

# Providing vital information and support

A cancer diagnosis can change everything. Thanks to our supporters, we ensure no one faces cancer alone.

**Together, we helped people across Canada find the answers, support and connection they needed. We made a difference by:**

## Connecting Canadians to cancer clinical trials

Clinical trials help advance research and improve care, giving patients a chance to receive potential new treatments under careful medical oversight. Yet too often, people face challenges finding clear, reliable information about trials. To address this, CCS collaborated with Q-CROC to launch Cancer Trials Canada, a website that shares quality, trusted and current information on clinical trials in one place. The website is helping people with cancer, their caregivers and healthcare providers explore trial options and make informed decisions about care.

## Empowering people with trusted cancer information

At a time when health misinformation is on the rise, CCS is proud to be a trusted source of accurate, evidence-based, plain-language cancer information. Our website, cancer.ca, provides information on more than 100 types of cancer. For those who want to talk to someone about cancer, our Cancer Information Helpline connects people to live support via telephone or chat. In 2025/26 alone, cancer.ca welcomed over 14.5 million visitors and the Helpline fielded more than 23,000 questions.




## Improving support for people who need to travel to treatment

In 2025/26, we enhanced and expanded critical transportation and accommodation services that help ease the burden for those who need to travel to treatment. Several CCS lodges completed renovations to increase comfort and capacity, including new bedrooms in Kelowna, refreshed gathering spaces in Victoria and expanded outdoor space in St. John's. In addition, we expanded our Wheels of Hope transportation service in British Columbia and Newfoundland so we can help more people get to and from treatment. These improvements are helping us reduce costs for people facing cancer and make a difficult time more manageable.



**"The lodge was more than a place to stay – it built a sense of community and care. Support like this and Wheels of Hope eased the financial and emotional burden when getting to treatment felt overwhelming."**

— Rita Pak, Lodge and Wheels of Hope client, Kimberley, BC

**5.9M**
KILOMETRES DRIVEN BY WHEELS OF HOPE VOLUNTEERS

**736**
CAMP PARTICIPANTS AT CAMP GOODTIMES

**23,000**
CLIENTS SUPPORTED VIA THE CANCER INFORMATION HELPLINE

**716,000**
PEER SUPPORT SESSIONS ON CANCERCONNECTION.CA

# Shaping policies that save and improve lives

Changing public policy is one of the most powerful ways to prevent cancer, save lives and protect the health of Canadians. Backed by our supporters, and working alongside people affected by cancer, the Canadian Cancer Society calls upon governments across Canada to enact change that reduces cancer risk, increases access to care and improves the lives of those living with cancer and their caregivers.

**Last year, we consistently engaged 120,000 volunteer advocates and met with 1,315 elected officials and changemakers to champion policies that transform cancer care, including:**

## Championing improvements to cancer screening

Screening saves lives by finding cancer earlier, when treatment is more likely to be successful. In 2025/26, CCS continued to push for stronger early detection programs across Canada, and we saw meaningful change. Ontario, Quebec, Alberta, Prince Edward Island and the Northwest Territories announced a switch to HPV testing for cervical cancer, using a more accurate method to identify people at risk. We also saw progress in lung cancer screening. Nova Scotia expanded access to more of the province, Newfoundland and Labrador announced a province-wide program, Alberta extended its lung screening pilot, Saskatchewan launched a new pilot and Ontario broadened eligibility while adding new screening sites. These changes are increasing access to testing and screening that can help detect cancer earlier.

## Expanding job protected leave to all provinces

Job-protected leave helps ensure people facing serious illnesses like cancer can step away from work to focus on recovery without fear of losing their jobs. Since 2022, CCS has been calling on governments across Canada to put this protection in place. In 2025/26, this advocacy helped drive important progress: Saskatchewan, British Columbia and Alberta expanded job-protected leave, bringing the total number of provinces with this important legislation to 9. Our advocacy last year also laid the foundation for New Brunswick's announcement that it would implement job-protected leave in 2026. Thanks to these policies, Canadians in every province can now take the time to get better and care for their families, knowing their job is secure.



**"I find purpose in serving others, advocating for meaningful change and contributing to a healthier society. As a volunteer Advocacy Constituency Team (ACT) Lead with CCS, I use my voice to support cancer patients, promote equitable access to care, and advance investment in research and treatment."**

— Olabode Gabriel Omowayeola, ACT Lead, St. John's, NL

## Mobilizing communities to reduce financial burden

The costs that come with cancer can add stress and uncertainty to an already difficult time. In 2025/26, more than 111,500 people across Canada signed our petition calling on governments to reduce this financial burden. As a result, provinces took important steps to lower out-of-pocket costs. Nova Scotia eliminated hospital parking fees and Prince Edward Island expanded funding for people who need to travel for cancer care. In addition, Saskatchewan introduced a 50% refundable tax credit for fertility treatment costs, and New Brunswick invested $2 million to cover in vitro fertilization, providing relief for people whose fertility is affected by cancer treatment. Together, these changes are easing some of the added pressure cancer can place on people and families.




**Left: Dan Albas**
MP — Okanagan Lake West — South Kelowna

**Right: Helena Sonea**
Director, Advocacy, CCS

# Uniting experts to accelerate impact

Some of the biggest opportunities to save and improve lives depend on bright minds with deep expertise coming together around a shared goal. Last year, thanks to our supporters, CCS led the way by bringing experts from across the cancer community together to forge new collaborations, align priorities and turn bold ideas into coordinated action for people affected by cancer.

**We drove collective action against cancer by:**

## Uniting top minds against glioblastoma

Glioblastoma is the most aggressive and deadly type of brain cancer, with few effective treatment options. In 2025/26, thanks to a landmark partnership with the Lundin Cancer Fund, CCS launched Canada's largest research program focused exclusively on glioblastoma. This bold new initiative is designed to speed much needed progress against this devastating disease. To help lay the foundation for this research program, CCS and the Lundin Cancer Fund convened the first Glioblastoma Discovery Summit, bringing together leading experts from across the country to identify shared priorities, spark collaboration and build a more coordinated national effort against glioblastoma — helping speed up solutions for those who urgently need more hope and better options.

## Strengthening Canada's clinical trials system

Clinical trials are an engine of progress. They're essential to turning research discoveries into real-world options, giving patients access to tomorrow's treatments today and providing the evidence needed to improve care. But in Canada, too many people face barriers to accessing trials. To address this, CCS launched the Clinical Trials Action Plan — a plan to strengthen Canada's clinical trials system and double participation in clinical trials by 2035. Shaped with input from researchers, clinicians, funders, health system leaders, industry representatives and people with lived and living experience of cancer, the plan lays out practical steps to build a more coordinated, inclusive and sustainable clinical trials system that can help research breakthroughs reach people faster.



**"Complex challenges require collective action. By bringing together patients, caregivers, clinicians, researchers and health leaders from across Canada, the Canadian Cancer Society helps create the partnerships and shared vision needed to drive meaningful change. When diverse voices come together around a common purpose, we can achieve far more than any one person or group could alone."**

— Dr Christian Finley, Co-Chair, Pan-Canadian Lung Cancer Action Plan Steering Committee

## Launching a national plan to tackle lung cancer

Lung cancer remains the leading cause of cancer-related death in Canada, making progress against the disease essential to save more lives. In 2025/26, CCS and our partners published Canada's first Pan-Canadian Lung Cancer Action Plan — a bold national roadmap to reduce lung cancer deaths by 30% over the next decade. Created with input from clinicians, researchers, patients, caregivers, Indigenous Elders and health organizations from across the country, the plan sets clear priorities to reduce risk, detect lung cancer earlier, improve access to care and accelerate research. Together, these actions can help more people get the care they need sooner and create a future where fewer lives are impacted by lung cancer.



**Angus Pratt (1958 – 2025)**

A remarkable advocate and long-time CCS volunteer

# Driving collective action through community fundraising

Across Canada, fundraising brought people together to take meaningful action against cancer. Through the CIBC Run for the Cure, Relay For Life, Cops for Cancer tours, Daffodil Balls, special events, and independent fundraising events, 858,600 participants, donors and organizations helped fuel our mission. Together, they raised vital funds to support world-leading research, compassionate and practical support services, and powerful advocacy that helps save and improve lives for people affected by cancer.



**"Our goal is to fund the best cancer research in the world. Events like the Canadian Cancer Society's Daffodil Ball are a vital part of that effort, bringing CCS donors and supporters together to drive progress, inspire action and create change for people facing cancer."**

— The Lundin Family



# Our impact through strategic corporate partnerships

We are proud to partner with organizations that share our commitment to taking on cancer's biggest challenges. Through employee engagement, sponsorships, cause marketing campaigns, gifts-in-kind and donations, these partnerships contributed an incredible **$14.5 million** to support our mission. Together, we are driving progress and creating hope for people affected by cancer.

CIBC

WICC
WOMEN IN INSURANCE CANCER CRUSADE

HEALTHPARTNERS
PARTENAIRESANTÉ

AGNICO EAGLE

corus.

WHEATON
PRECIOUS METALS

tc TRANSCONTINENTAL

nicorette

Desjardins

Federated
Health Charities

McKESSON Foundation

GSK

AstraZeneca

McKESSON
Canada

Manulife

LA ROCHE-POSAY
LABORATOIRE DERMATOLOGIQUE

randstad

PAN AMERICAN
SILVER

LUNDIN
CANCER
FUND

Kruger
Products

WESTJET

**" At WestJet, we believe in strengthening the communities we serve. Our partnership with the Canadian Cancer Society allows us to support Canadians affected by cancer and contribute to meaningful change through collective action, compassion and purposeful corporate leadership."**

— April Crane, Vice President Communications and Engagement, WestJet

# Fueling hope through generosity

Our donors are helping drive meaningful progress for people affected by cancer. Your support powers the Canadian Cancer Society's work to save lives, improve lives and drive collective action against cancer. In 2025/26, donor contributions helped us invest **$130 million** toward advancing world-leading research, providing trusted information and compassionate support and advocating for policies that help shape healthier communities.

None of this would be possible without you. Together, we are leading the way to a future without cancer.





**"My journey with the Canadian Cancer Society began after losing my grandfather to cancer. Decades later, I continue to give because every dollar invested in research, prevention and support brings us closer to a world without cancer."**

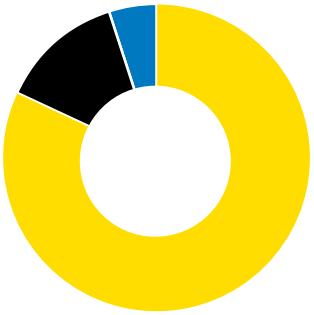
— Darcy Hulston, President & CEO, Canoe Financial, Calgary, AB

# Investing in our mission

## Our revenue

Thanks to our donors, participants and partners, we generated $210.5M in revenue through the following channels:

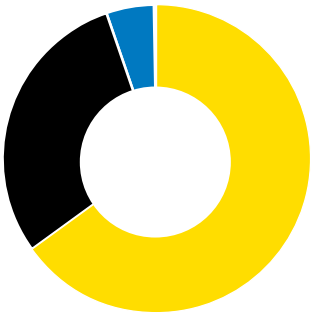
| | |
|---|---|
| Individual and corporate | $172.5M |
| Government-sponsored projects and grants | $27.7M |
| Investment and other income | $10.3M |



## Our expenses

Of the $199.9M total spending, we invested in:

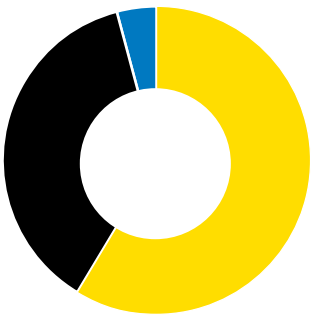
| | |
|---|---|
| Mission | $130.1M |
| Fundraising | $59.8M |
| Administration | $10M |



## Investments in our mission

Thanks to you, of the $130.1M we spent on our mission, we invested in:

| | |
|---|---|
| Information, services and programs | $76.6M |
| Research | $48.3M |
| Advocacy | $5.2M |





# Our board of directors

Christopher Wein (Board Chair)
Toronto, ON

Hilary Pearson (Vice Chair)
Westmount, QC

John (Kien) Trang (Vice Chair)
Toronto, ON

Dr Chen Fong
Calgary, AB

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Montreal, QC

Robin Speer
North Battleford, SK

Bobbi White
Toronto, ON




**Christopher Wein**
Board Chair

**Andrea Seale**
Chief Executive Officer
Canadian Cancer Society

# Year over year metrics

| 2023/24 | 2024/25 | 2025/26 | IMPACT |
|---|---|---|---|
| $44.7M | $50.8M | $48.3M | invested in cancer research and innovation |
| 69,000 | 76,000 | 81,000 | night stays at CCS lodges |
| 18.4M | 18.3M | 14.6M | individuals reached through cancer information platforms |
| 29 | 67 | 57 | CCS-led health policy wins |
| $32.2M* | $31.4M* | $30.3M* | to enhance treatment and quality of life |
| $2M | $3.2M | $4.5M | in research to prevent cancer |
| $4.7M | $6.7M | $5.8M | to improve early diagnosis |
| $2M | $3.8M | $2.9M | to advance equitable and timely access to care |
| 600 | 700 | 736 | camp participants at Camp Goodtimes |
| 4,000 | 3,300 | 2,900 | wigs and breast accessories distributed |
| 730 | 1,060 | 1,315 | elected officials and policy-makers engaged |
| $10.8M | $16.2M | $19M | invested in clinical trials |
| 400 | 470 | 346 | research projects supported |

*Data inclusive of only research investment.



# With heartfelt thanks!

We're grateful for your support of the Canadian Cancer Society. Because of you, we fund life-saving research, power new discoveries, support people affected by cancer and drive collective action toward a future without cancer.

Together, we are leading the way to a healthier future for all.



**Contact us**
connect@cancer.ca
1-888-939-3333

Canadian Cancer Society

IT TAKES A SOCIETY

Charitable Registration No. 118829803 RR 0001
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