

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY TRANSDISCIPLINARY TRAINING PROGRAM IN CANCER RESEARCH

Translating discovery to cancer control



A reimagined approach to cancer

Cancer is a leading cause of death in Canada and around the world, and it will likely remain so well into the future. Faced with an aging population and evolving technologies, cancer researchers and cancer care professionals are rethinking the way they approach this complex disease that claims 88,000 Canadian lives every year.

A reimagined approach requires a broad understanding of the field of cancer control so that the cancer researchers of tomorrow can effectively address all of the disease's molecular, clinical, social, and policy implications.

The Queen's Cancer Research Institute's innovative training program helps young researchers develop the skills they need to bridge these diverse fields.

Our Transdisciplinary Training Program provides an opportunity to work with exceptional investigators in cancer research as part of new teams that span disciplines to capture synergies between fields and develop innovative approaches to translational cancer research.

The program is designed to support and mentor a new generation of cancer experts whose broad knowledge and understanding will enable them to translate advances made in research into clinical applications and health-care policies that will reduce the burden of cancer around the world.



An investment in innovative research

Over the past decade, the Queen's Transdisciplinary Training Program in Cancer Research has partnered with the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, the Cancer Research Society and the Terry Fox Research Institute to raise more than \$3 million to support graduate and undergraduate students and postgraduate fellows involved in cancer research at Queen's and its affiliated hospitals.

Recent changes in funding priorities for these agencies have led to significant reductions in their commitment to training. This has impacted our program's ability to provide opportunities for highly motivated young researchers.

Investment in these future leaders will not only support their research efforts, it will also strengthen innovation in cancer research at Queen's. Financial support of the Queen's Transdisciplinary Training Program in Cancer Research focuses on:

- Establishing summer studentship opportunities to introduce undergraduate students to translational cancer research at Queen's. It costs less than \$5000 to provide a summer studentship award and create a new cancer researcher.
- Providing graduate scholarships to support PhD and MSc students involved in transdisciplinary cancer research at Queen's and affiliated hospitals. \$20,000 provides yearly support for a graduate student engaged in cutting edge translational research.
- Enhancing fellowship opportunities for Post-MD and Post-PhD investigators working to establish their professional paths in cancer research. Post-graduate fellows can transition their training to early-stage careers in cancer research for \$50,000 per year.

Shaping the cancer experts of tomorrow

In Canada today there is tremendous pressure to accelerate the application of advances in understanding the basic science of cancer into clinical practice, patient care and disease prevention. At the same time, resources to support young investigators with the expertise to meet these challenges are decreasing.

Investment in the Transdisciplinary Training Program provides support and mentorship for a new generation of cancer experts with the broad knowledge and understanding of cancer control that will empower them to become leaders in translational cancer research.

For more information on investing in MD/PhD studies at Queen's, contact:

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