



# 2019/20 ANNUAL REPORT



**Ontario Health**  
Cancer Care Ontario

**Toronto Central  
Regional Cancer Program**

**Together, we will improve the performance of our health systems by driving accountability, innovation and value.**

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## KEY FIGURES

### Toronto



A population of 6,139,000 and growing

Toronto has a diverse Indigenous community with representation from many nations = 69,000; the 4th largest Indigenous population in Canada

### Clinical Leadership



20 clinical and patient care leads that oversee care and quality improvement programming across the region. These thought-leaders and content experts drive changes in their areas of expertise

### Partner Hospitals



4 partner hospitals, 10 hospital sites

### The Journey



Oversight over 11 strategic and operating programs

## HIGHLIGHTS

### Ongoing growth of our programs

Systematic and radiation treatments have increased year-over-year across the region. Cancer surgery quality based procedure volumes continue to grow in the areas of head and neck, gynecologic oncology, colorectal, prostate, and neurology. The fecal immunohistochemical test (FIT) for colorectal cancer screening was also successfully launched and sustained across the region.

### Delivering highly specialized services and treatments

Sarcoma diagnosis and treatment, lung cancer screening for high risk patients, hyperthermic intraperitoneal chemotherapy (HIPEC) for peritoneal malignancies, ocular brachytherapy for uveal melanoma, interventional radiology services, and bile duct cancer treatment.

### Launched a program for safety

An oral chemotherapy quality improvement initiative – H.O.M.M.E. (How Oral chemotherapy agents are Monitored, Managed and Evaluated) was launched within the region to optimize adherence and side effects for breast and colorectal patients on oral chemotherapy.

### Improved or sustained access to services

The region has seen improvements in overall access to both consults and treatments for systemic, radiation and surgical oncology care (percentage of patients seen within Ontario Health, Cancer Care Ontario targets).

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



**Dr. Mary Gospodarowicz**  
Regional Vice President,  
Toronto Central South  
Regional Cancer Program,  
Ontario Health, Cancer Care Ontario

We are pleased to present the 2019/20 Annual Report for the Toronto Central South Cancer Program (TRCP). This report highlights some of the activities led by region's clinical and program leadership teams. We would like to recognize the contributions of the TRCP North as we worked together to implement program priorities guided by the Ontario Cancer Plan V (2019-2023), launched this year.

This year, we continued to lead an extraordinary amount of work under a changing healthcare landscape. On December 2, 2019, Cancer Care Ontario transferred into Ontario Health under the Connecting Care Act and is now known as Ontario Health – Cancer Care Ontario. Ontario Health is led by Dr. Matthew Anderson, President and CEO.

With these changes, the TRCP and other Regional Cancer Programs across the province received budgetary reductions this fiscal year. Together, the clinical leads and the program identified priority areas across the system and ensured ongoing performance management, improvement, and high-quality delivery of care. Thank you to our leaders across the region, and our partners in the North for their ongoing engagement, commitment, and support this year!

At this time, we would also like to extend a thank you to Dr. Michael Sherar for his influential leadership and impacts he has made to the delivery of cancer care in Ontario. In January 2020, Michael stepped down as President and CEO of Ontario Health – Cancer Care Ontario after 14 years with the organization. Garth Matheson has assumed the role of interim President and CEO.

We look forward to continuing our work in achieving the Ontario Cancer Plan V goals under new leadership and in partnership with Ontario Health.

The Toronto Central Regional Cancer Program (TRCP) is one of 14 Regional Cancer Programs in the province with the vision to **create the best health systems in the world**. Ontario Health - Cancer Care Ontario is the Ontario government's principal cancer advisor with the mandate to translate knowledge and evidence into planning, policy and program design recommendations and decisions across the cancer continuum.

The Toronto Central Region has two large cancer centres: the Princess Margaret Cancer Centre, University Health Network and the Odette Cancer Centre, Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre. As Regional Cancer Programs are affiliated with Cancer Centres, the Toronto Central Region has two Regional Cancer Programs: North and South.

The TRCP South oversees delivery of care with partner hospitals and is responsible for the following:

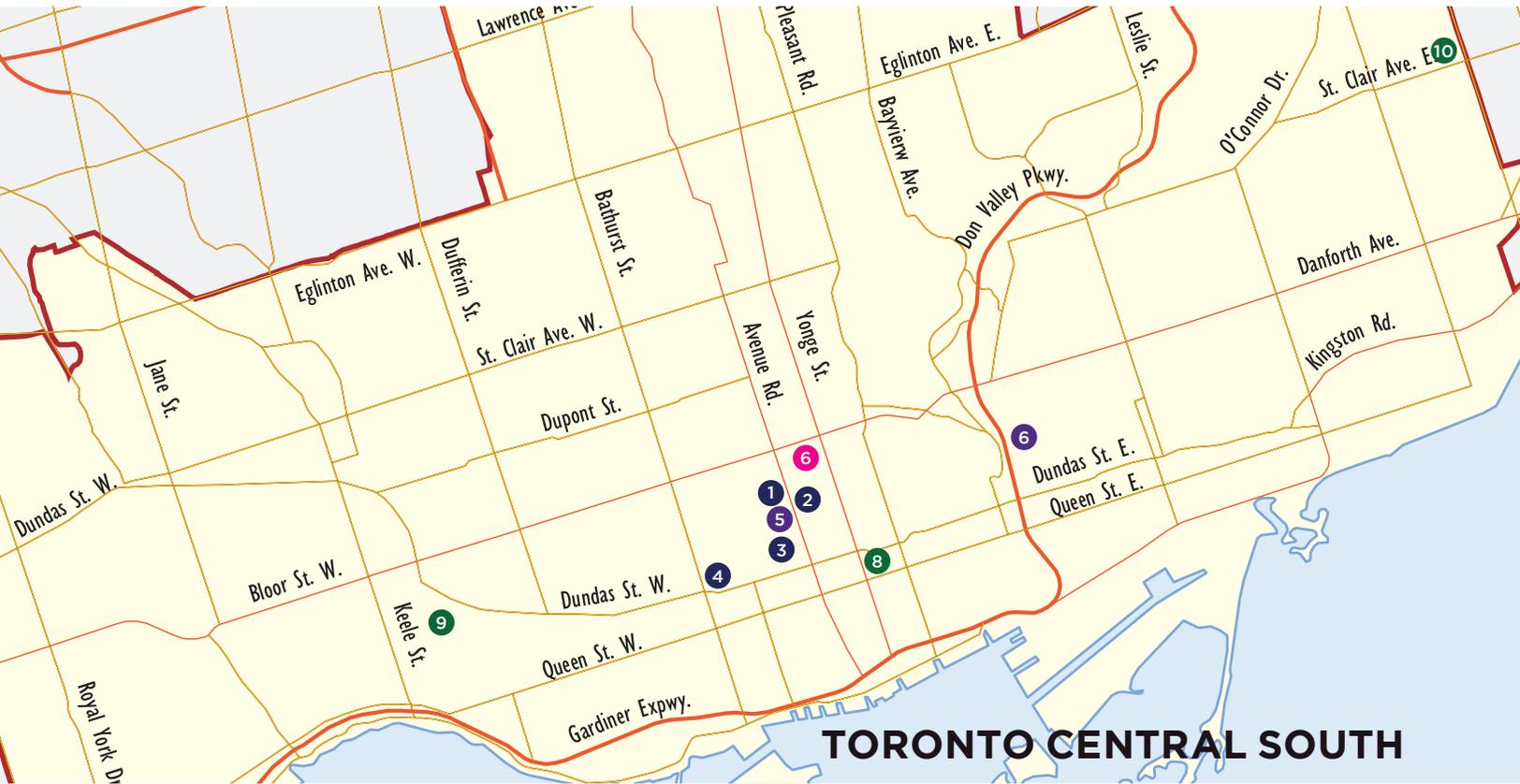
- Implementing standards and programs
- Ensuring requirements and targets are met as established in the partnership agreements
- Responding to local issues
- Coordinating care across regional partners and providers
- Working to improve access to care, wait-times and quality

2019/20 Program Priorities included:

- Fecal Immunohistochemical Test (FIT) launch and sustainability
- The Indigenous Cancer Program
- The Complex Malignant Hematology Program (CMH)

The former programs will be highlighted later in the Annual Report, while CMH 2019/20 highlights are below.

This year, a new dashboard was launched by the CMH program which optimized access to care for patients requiring Stem Cell Transplant. Additionally, Princess Margaret Cancer Centre has continued to support regional expansion, including diagnostic management of patients with CMH at Lakeridge Health in Oshawa and the Royal Victoria Hospital in Barrie.



- |    |                                  |                           |
|----|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1  | PRINCESS MARGARET CANCER CENTRE  | UNIVERSITY HEALTH NETWORK |
| 2  | TORONTO GENERAL HOSPITAL         |                           |
| 3  | TORONTO REHABILITATION INSTITUTE |                           |
| 4  | TORONTO WESTERN HOSPITAL         |                           |
| 5  | MOUNT SINAI HOSPITAL             | SINAI HEALTH SYSTEM       |
| 6  | BRIDGEPOINT ACTIVE HEALTHCARE    |                           |
| 7  | WOMEN'S COLLEGE HOSPITAL         | UNITY HEALTH TORONTO      |
| 8  | ST. MICHAEL'S HOSPITAL           |                           |
| 9  | ST. JOSEPH'S HEALTH CENTRE       |                           |
| 10 | PROVIDENCE HEALTHCARE            |                           |

## THE TEAM

The Toronto Central South Regional Cancer Program (TRCP) is governed through the TRCP (North and South) Executive and manages programming through the TRCP Steering Committee.

The following individuals participate in the Steering Committee as regional leaders, clinical experts, thought leaders and advisors to the program(s).



**Dr. Mary Gospodarowicz**  
Regional Vice President,  
Toronto Central South  
Regional Cancer Program,  
Ontario Health,  
Cancer Care Ontario



**Ms. Alexandra Boasie**  
Regional Director,  
Toronto Central South  
Regional Cancer Program,  
Ontario Health,  
Cancer Care Ontario;  
Ontario Cancer Symptom  
Management Collaborative  
Regional Lead & Experience and  
Engagement Regional Lead  
(Acting Director for Ms. Martha  
Wyatt as of May 1, 2019)



**Ms. Martha Wyatt**  
Regional Director,  
Toronto Central South Regional  
Cancer Program, Ontario Health,  
Cancer Care Ontario  
(Leave of absence for fiscal year)



**Ms. Lesley Moody**  
Regional Director,  
Toronto Central South Regional  
Cancer Program, Ontario Health,  
Cancer Care Ontario  
(Acting Director for Ms. Martha  
Wyatt January to April 2019)



**Dr. Eitan Amir**  
Regional Systemic Therapy Lead,  
Toronto Central South  
Regional Cancer Program



**Dr. Michael Anderson**  
Regional Indigenous Cancer Lead,  
Toronto Central  
Regional Indigenous  
Cancer Program



**Mr. Leonard Benoit**  
Indigenous Navigator,  
Toronto Central  
Regional Indigenous  
Cancer Program



**Ms. Rose Cook**  
Administrative Lead and Director,  
Toronto Central Palliative Care  
Network, Toronto Central  
Regional Cancer Program



**Dr. Meredith Giuliani**  
Regional Smoking Cessation Lead,  
Toronto Central South  
Regional Cancer Program



**Ms. Ali Henderson**  
Regional Psychosocial Oncology  
Lead, Toronto Central South  
Regional Cancer Program



**Ms. Anet Julius**  
Regional Nursing Oncology Lead,  
Toronto Central South  
Regional Cancer Program  
(Ms. Pam Savage held role until  
December 31, 2019)



**Dr. Edward Kucharski**  
Regional Primary Care Lead,  
Toronto Central South  
Regional Cancer Program



**Dr. Supriya Kulkarni**  
Regional Breast Imaging Lead,  
Toronto Central  
Regional Cancer Program



**Dr. Fei-Fei Liu**  
Regional Radiation Lead,  
Toronto Central South  
Regional Cancer Program



**Dr. Taymaa May**  
Regional Surgical Oncology Lead,  
Toronto Central South  
Regional Cancer Program  
(Dr. Gail Darling held role  
until September 31, 2019)



**Ms. Ashley Migwans**  
Indigenous Coordinator,  
Toronto Central  
Regional Indigenous  
Cancer Program  
(Acting role for Muriel Lopez)



**Dr. Martin O'Malley**  
Regional Imaging Lead,  
Toronto Central South  
Regional Cancer Program



**Ms. Tina Papadakos**  
Regional Patient Education Lead,  
Toronto Central South  
Regional Cancer Program



**Dr. Rebecca Prince**  
Regional Systemic Quality  
Improvement Lead,  
Toronto Central South  
Regional Cancer Program



**Dr. Michael Shier**  
Regional Cervical Cancer  
Screening Lead, Toronto Central  
Regional Cancer Program



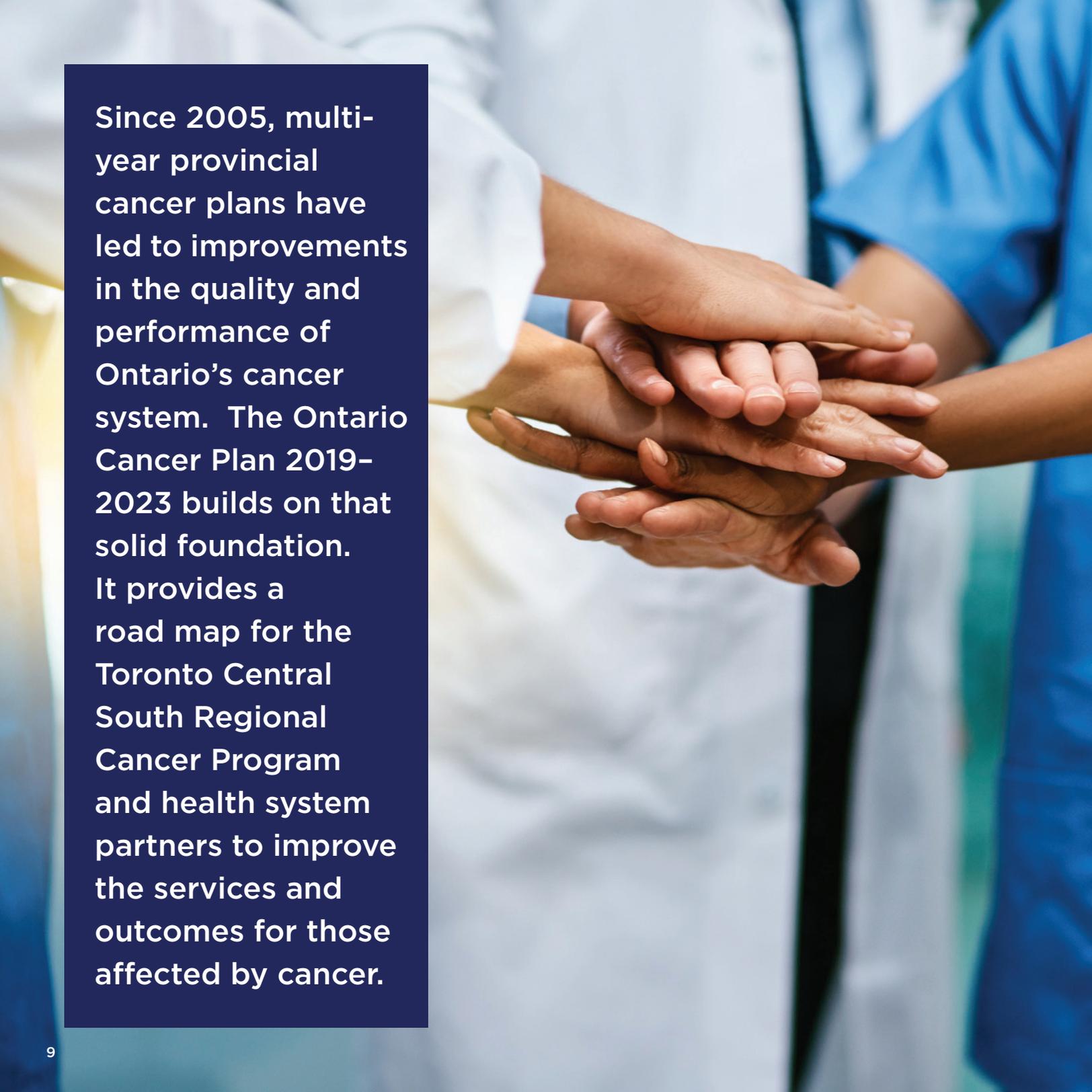
**Dr. Ilan Weinreb**  
Regional Pathology Lead,  
Toronto Central South  
Regional Cancer Program



**Dr. Kirsten Wentlandt**  
Regional Palliative Care  
Clinical Co-Lead,  
Toronto Central South  
Regional Cancer Program



**Dr. Talia Zenlea**  
Regional Colorectal Cancer Lead,  
Toronto Central  
Regional Cancer Program



Since 2005, multi-year provincial cancer plans have led to improvements in the quality and performance of Ontario's cancer system. The Ontario Cancer Plan 2019-2023 builds on that solid foundation. It provides a road map for the Toronto Central South Regional Cancer Program and health system partners to improve the services and outcomes for those affected by cancer.



Person-centred



Safe



Equitable



Efficient



Effective



Timely



## Person-centred

*Deliver responsive and respectful person-centred care, optimizing quality of life across the cancer care continuum*

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To support the expansion of patient-reported outcomes (PRO) and **improve symptom management** across the region, the TRCP and partner hospitals have worked together to improve uptake of **Your Symptoms Matters**.

- Sinai Health System completed several quality improvement initiatives including increasing screening rates and developing new webpages focused on topics identified by patients and their caregivers.
- Unity Health has expanded collection of PRO data to iPads and have empowered their staff to promote the use of Your Symptoms Matters by each and every patient at each and every visit.
- Women's College Hospital is currently working with the Regional Psychosocial Oncology Lead to understand this tools' applicability throughout their programming.
- The Princess Margaret Cancer Centre has been engaging with staff throughout the centre to ensure that Your Symptoms Matters is on the forefront of care. This work includes a re-launch of the governance and reporting structures, a rebranding of the system, and updates to ensure technology remains user friendly. All plans have been created in partnership with patients and caregivers.

We are excited to see how participation continues to grow over the next fiscal year at our partner sites!



# Safe



## *Improve the safety of patients, caregivers and healthcare professionals across care settings*

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### How Oral Chemotherapy Agents are Monitored, Managed and Evaluated

The systemic therapy program in partnership with St. Michael's Hospital, Unity Health have led a quality improvement initiative with **the aim to improve the safety of oral chemotherapy agents for breast and colorectal cancer**. Through the use of Plan-Do-Study-Act Cycles (PDSAs), the St. Michael's Hospital team changed the way they deliver care for these patients through the use of patient education and creating tailored appointment times. **They trained over 50 staff on the new standards of care.**

St. Michael's has already demonstrated a **30% improvement** in appointments being booked at the right time and right place.



*"This has ultimately improved patient education and safety for those on oral chemotherapy for their disease."*

Dr. Rebecca Prince, Regional Systemic Quality Improvement Lead



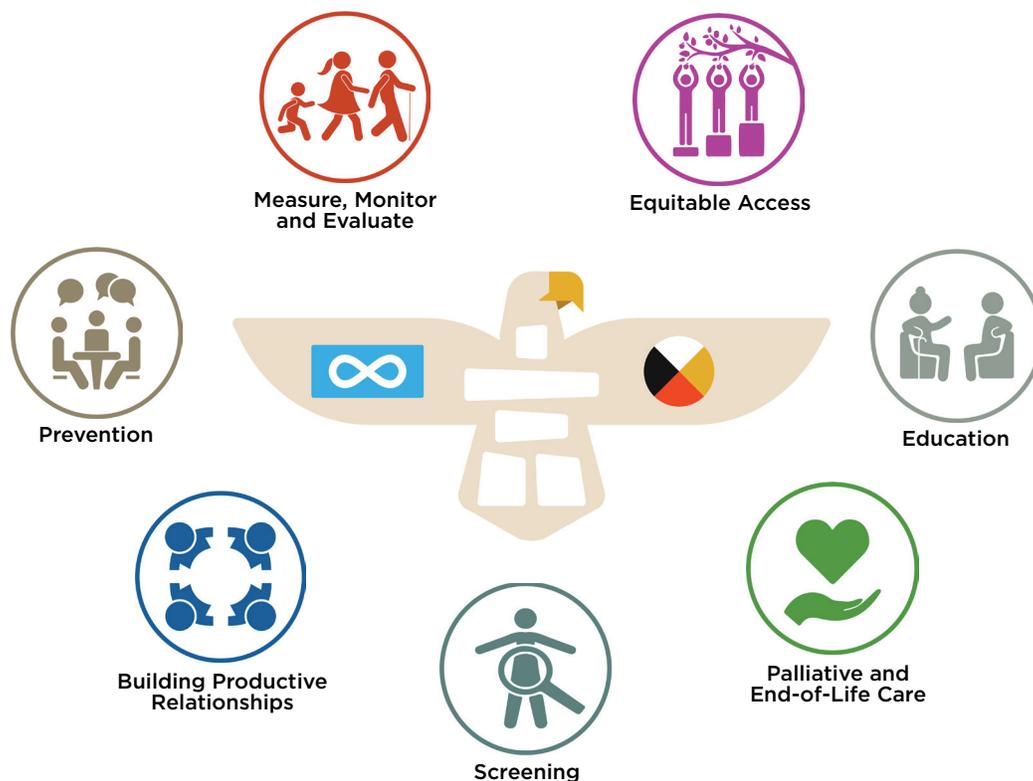
## TORONTO CENTRAL REGIONAL INDIGENOUS CANCER PROGRAM

Our vision is to achieve wholistic care by creating a harmonized system where Indigenous peoples values, knowledge and spirit are visible, meaningful and respected. We humbly recognize and acknowledge the differences within and between the First Nations, Inuit and Métis communities and nations.

We will Indigenize engagement by understanding the past, acknowledging the present, and inspiring the future.

We will create a network of strong partnerships through supporting and nurturing existing and emerging relationships.

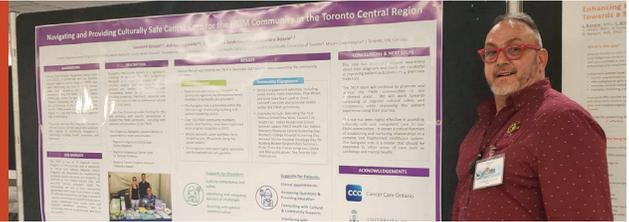
We will improve access to services with the goal of optimal cancer outcomes.



The Eagle, a highly respected and sacred being to many Indigenous peoples, watches over Turtle Island (North America), and can see all. The Eagle signifies 'all my relations' and that we are all one on Turtle Island. Within the Eagle are three emblems which represent the Indigenous Peoples: The Medicine Wheel (First Nations), the Inuksuk (Inuit), and the Infinity symbol (Métis).

## World Indigenous Cancer Conference

Presented an abstract at the WICC 2019 in Calgary, Alberta titled: Navigating and Providing Culturally Safe Cancer Care for the FNIM Community in the Toronto Central Region. The team was awarded "Most Engaging Poster".



## Indigenous Ceremonial Practices Alliance

A regional approach was established to address Indigenous Ceremonial requests, such as smudging, by patients or staff in hospital settings. The Alliance is composed of partners and members with varying expertise from the Toronto Central Region. The Alliance has completed a full review of current practices and policies in place and are working to create a standardized Wise Practices Guideline that will enable easy access to ceremonies across the region and province.

## High Risk Lung Cancer Screening Program Partnership

Partnered with UHN's HRLCS program to promote smoking cessation practices and lung cancer screening in the Indigenous communities in Toronto. The HRLCS team participated in cultural safety training with the ICP and have made visual strides in making their department a safe space for the Indigenous community by having Indigenous artwork displayed throughout.

## KAIROS Blanket Exercise

This event was hosted with attendance from all partner hospitals. Over 50 staff participated in this unique, interactive workshop covering 500+ years of Canadian-Indigenous history, underlining the importance of acknowledging and understanding those relationships in order to improve access to indigenous services in the future. Facilitated by Indigenous peoples and non-Indigenous allies.



## Indigenous Cancer Patient Navigator Guidebook

To address the complex and diverse nature of navigating patients and respecting Indigenous knowledge and ways of life, a Guidebook was developed that outlines the roles and responsibilities of the ICPN that can be used during orientation, as a reference, and a resource document, which will be distributed across Ontario.



## Indigenized Engagement

Delivered Q&A and smudge sessions to over 200 staff at all three Sunnybrook campuses, cumulating in a monthly Smudge and Sharing Circle. This initiative aims to improve care for the Indigenous community by allowing for participation in cultural gatherings and learning opportunities for patients and staff alike. It also served to promote and implement Sunnybrook's smudging policy. This will continue into 2020/21.



## *Provide effective cancer care based on best evidence*

Lung cancer is one of the most common cancers in Ontario; it is the number one cancer people die from. Up to **85%** of lung cancers are caused by smoking cigarettes.

University Health Network is one of four High Risk Lung Cancer Screening Pilot Programs in Ontario. This program has seen over 450 patients since launching in February 2019. Each patient is **connected with a Screening Navigator** who conducts a detailed risk assessment over the phone to determine the patient's eligibility. Once a patient is deemed eligible, they will come to the High Risk Lung Cancer Screening Program located in Toronto General Hospital for a low-dose computed tomography (CT) scan as well as one-on-one smoking cessation consulting with the Navigator.

Regular screening can lower a patient's change of dying from lung cancer by **20%**.



(L-R) Screening Clerk - Shannon Olinoski, CT MRT Technologist - Khalil Gul, and Screening Program Radiologist Lead, Dr. Michael McInnis. Shot taken at Toronto General Hospital.



*"In both current and former smokers at high risk, lung cancer screening saves lives. Our program is designed to find the patients at highest risk where we can provide the greatest benefit."*

Dr. Micheal McInnis, thoracic radiologist at Toronto General Hospital, and Lung Cancer Screening Radiology QA Lead

# Efficient



## *Improve the efficiency and coordination of cancer services*

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On June 24, 2019, Ontario Health, Cancer Care Ontario transitioned from the guaiac fecal occult blood test (gFOBT) to the FIT for screening asymptomatic average risk people for colon cancer. FIT offers several advantages over gFOBT, including higher sensitivity and ease of use, ultimately **improving effective take-home-cancer programming**.

The TRCP (North and South) along with gastrointestinal/endoscopy clinical and administrative leads from six regional hospitals collaborated to support the implementation of FIT screening in the region by ensuring access to the **necessary equipment and expertise needed** to manage the complexity of FIT positive colonoscopies.

Process changes and supporting documents included the development of a centralized referral intake and procedure bookings at each hospital, standardized regional referral forms, and bowel prep instructions.

TRCP continues to monitor FIT uptake and access to colonoscopies for patients with a positive screening test. Discussions are underway for regional polyp adjudication to **support cancer screening care based on best evidence**.





## *Delivery timely care across the cancer continuum*

The TRCP South ranks **4th out of all provincial programs for best access to cancer surgery** (referral to consult and consult to treatment). The partner hospitals across the region have worked diligently to monitor wait times and access to surgery for their patients. A number of centers, including Unity Health and Sinai Health System have completed quality improvement projects with their front-line providers to educate on accurate data reporting and monitoring reasons for delays to patient care. Dr. May has worked closely with her clinician and administrative counterparts to create a community that shares best practices and promotes performance management to ensure all the patients in the region have equitable and timely access, regardless of their disease.



“Achieving the wait time targets for cancer surgery takes a coordinated, team approach. I am very impressed with the hospitals for their leadership in utilizing technology and quality improvement to improve wait time monitoring.”

Dr. Taymaa May,  
Regional Surgical Oncology Lead



## UPDATES FROM THE DESKS OF

### Dr. Eitan Amir Systemic Therapy

The region has continued to maintain or improve its performance in wait time targets for access to consult and chemotherapy treatments. The region has continued to consolidate toxicity management programs with the expansion of the onco-nephrology program and has continued to be a provincial leader in preparation for therapeutic biosimilars as these have begun entering the Canadian market in 2019.



### Dr. Fei-Fei Liu Radiation Medicine



The program continued to see a significant growth in patient volumes, delivering over 11,000 courses of radiation treatment – the highest number in recent decades. The majority of Ontario Health, Cancer Care Ontario's performance targets were exceeded for access and peer review. Additionally, the compliance rate for referral-to-consult within 14 days was 82% and 89% for ready to treat-to-treatment.

Ongoing successful collaborations with other hospital partners within and beyond the Toronto Central Regional include development of new clinics, in-patient consultation programming and cross-appointments of physicians.

### Dr. Kirsten Wentlandt & Rose Cook Palliative Care

Throughout 2019/20, health service providers in the Toronto Central Palliative Care Network (TCPCN) have continued to work to improve access, reduce clinical variation, increase standardization and improve quality palliative care at a local level. Highlights include: completed the second year of the Palliative Approach to Care in Long-Term Care Initiative, implementation of an integrated palliative care volunteer training model that supported an increase in capacity, and an innovative initiative in partnership between Women's College Acute Ambulatory Care Unit and the Temmy Latner Centre for Palliative Care (Sinai Health System) to reduce emergency room visits and hospital admissions.





**Dr. Martin O'Malley**  
Cancer Imaging

Priorities continued to focus on imaging appropriateness, access to imaging and interventional procedures, standardization of imaging reporting and participation in multidisciplinary oncology initiatives. This year, novel programs were launched including prostate specific membrane antigen (PSMA)-PET testing for patients with recurrent prostate cancer and Ga68-Dotatate-PET for patients with neuroendocrine tumours.

Advances were also made to define priority levels for both CT and MRI, provincially.

**Dr. Ilan Weireb**  
Pathology

A stable performance in cancer reporting turn-around-times in 2019 through the prioritization of cancer cases, even during times of volume increases or human capital challenges.

The program successfully implemented Lynch and BRCA biomarker testing at two reference centres in Toronto. The program will continue to improve standardization efforts by updating their CAP Synoptic Reporting to align to the 2018 AJCC 8th edition release.



**Alexandra Boasie, Ali Henderson, Tina Papadakos & Anet Julius**  
Person Centred Care



The region continues to promote the importance of Your Symptoms Matters across the region, including the development of patient-friendly resources and symptom management guides. Healthcare providers were educated on the new symptom management algorithms across various hospitals in the region, including social workers, nurses, and other allied health professionals.

A focus continues to promote uptake and use of Your Voice Matters in the clinical areas to best understand the needs of our patients and their caregivers.

Engagement is thoughtfully done with patients and caregivers whenever possible to ensure we are designing a system that is centred around the individual person.



Thank you to each of the leaders, members, partners and contributors to this report. Your continued dedication and drive for improvement through partnerships, programming and education was evident throughout.

Fiscal 2019/20 was my last year as Regional Vice President. I am extremely honoured to have led the Toronto Central South Regional Cancer Program since 2005 and I am proud of the role this Region has played in changing the way cancer care is delivered. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you, the team, clinical leaders, partners, and the patient and family advisors who led Cancer Care Ontario's mandate to create the best cancer care system in the world. I have greatly valued and enjoyed working with you over the last fifteen years and am extremely proud in what we have accomplished. Together, we have built a Region that led ground-breaking programming and services that directly impacted the health, well-being and quality of life of cancer patients and families in Toronto.

As I look ahead, I could not be more confident that we will continue to drive system improvements and innovations through the use of technologies, novel care models and further evolutions in care. Together, we will continue to enable the highest quality cancer services for the people of Toronto and beyond.

Thank you to Ontario Health – Cancer Care Ontario for their leadership and vision in always establishing a strategy that empowers us to create a system that delivers person-centered, safe and effective services in an efficient, equitable and timely manner.

For more details about the TRCP, please visit [www.trcp.ca](http://www.trcp.ca).

Sincerely,

Dr. Mary Gospodarowicz

## GOVERNANCE

## Toronto Central Regional Cancer Program Structure

Toronto Central Regional Cancer Program Steering Committee

Toronto Central Regional Cancer Program Executive Team

Toronto Central Local Health Integrated Network

Prevention & Screening	Governance			
<b>Cancer Screening</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Breast Screening Imaging</li> <li>Colorectal Screening &amp; Gastrointestinal Endoscopy</li> <li>Cervical Screening &amp; Colposcopy</li> </ul> Primary Care Smoking Cessation	<b>Diagnostic</b> Pathology Staging Imaging	<b>Treatment</b> Surgical Oncology Systemic Therapy Radiation Therapy	<b>Person-Centred Care</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nursing</li> <li>Ontario Cancer Symptom Management Collaborative</li> <li>Patient Education</li> <li>Psychosocial Oncology</li> <li>Indigenous Cancer Program</li> </ul>	<b>Palliative Care</b> Toronto Central Palliative Care Network

### Hospital Partner and Clinical Leadership

#### Regional Vice Presidents

Dr. Mary Gospodarowicz  
Medical Director, Princess Margaret Cancer Centre  
Regional Vice President  
Toronto Central South Regional Cancer Program

Dr. Calvin Law (TRCP North)  
Chief, Odette Cancer Centre  
Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre  
Regional Vice President  
Toronto Central North Regional Cancer Program

#### Regional Directors

Ms. Alexandra Boasie  
Regional Director  
Regional Cancer Program and Medical Affairs  
Princess Margaret Cancer Centre  
University Health Network  
Toronto Central South Regional Cancer Program  
(Acting Director for Martha Wyatt)

Ms. Janice Stewart (TRCP North)  
Director, Operations & Regional Planning  
Odette Cancer Centre  
Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre  
Toronto Central North Regional Cancer Program

## Hospital Administrative Leads

Ms. Joyce Fenuta  
Senior Clinical Program Director  
Oncology & Endoscopy Program, Unity Health Toronto

Ms. Lesley Moody  
Clinical Director  
Solid Tumour and Ambulatory Clinics  
Princess Margaret Cancer Centre, UHN

Ms. Marnie Escaf  
Senior Vice President, UHN & Executive Lead  
Princess Margaret Cancer Centre

Ms. Lisa Wayment  
Senior Director Surgery and Oncology  
Sinai Health System

Ms. Victoria Noguera  
Clinical Director, Perioperative Services  
Women's College Hospital

Mr. Mark Fam  
Vice-President, Programs, Michael Garron Hospital

## Cancer Program Hospital Clinical Leads

Dr. Fei-Fei Liu  
Chief, Radiation Medicine Program  
Princess Margaret Cancer Centre, UHN

Dr. Gelareh Zadeh  
Head of Surgical Oncology, UHN

Dr. Danny Enepekedis  
Chief, Surgical Oncology  
Sunnybrook Health Sciences

Dr. Christine Brezden-Masley  
Medical Director, Sinai Health System

Dr. Najma Ahmed  
Interim Chief, Department of Surgery  
St. Michael's Hospital, Unity Health Toronto

Dr. Yoo-Joung Ko  
Program Medical Director, Oncology and Endoscopy  
Unity Health Toronto

Dr. Michelle Sholzberg  
Interim Division Head, Hematology and Oncology  
St. Michael's Hospital

Dr. Carmine Simone, Chief, Department of Surgery  
Michael Garron Hospital

Ms. Terri Stuart-McEwan  
Executive Director  
Surgical Services, UHN

Ms. Judy Costello  
Senior Clinical Director, Malignant Hematology  
Blood Disorders and Supportive Care  
Princess Margaret Cancer Centre, UHN

Ms. Susan Blacker  
Senior Director, Cancer and Palliative Program  
and Planning and Performance, Sinai Health System

Ms. Sonya Canzian  
EVP Clinical Program & Chief Nursing  
& Health Professions Officer, Unity Health Toronto

Ms. Sandra Dickau  
Director of Medicine  
Michael Garron Hospital

Ms. Jane Hardwood  
Director of Surgery, Michael Garron Hospital

Dr. Amit Oza  
Head, Division of Medical Oncology and Hematology  
Princess Margaret Cancer Centre, UHN

Dr. Greg Czarnota  
Radiation Program Director  
Odette Cancer Centre, Sunnybrook Health Sciences

Dr. Helen Mackay  
Head, Division of Oncology & Hematology  
Odette Cancer Centre, Sunnybrook Health Sciences

Dr. Jay Wunder  
Surgeon-in-Chief, Sinai Health System

Dr. Chris Compeau  
Chief, Department of Surgery  
St. Joseph's Health Centre, Unity Health Toronto

Dr. Dorothy Lo  
Division Head, Medical Oncologist  
St. Joseph's Health Centre

Dr. David Urbach  
Surgeon-in-Chief, Women's College Hospital

## HOSPITALS



For the Princess Margaret, 2019 was a year of growth and reflection. We launched our new strategic plan *Future Care Now: Create Cancer Care for 2030*, which outlines the foundational essentials and new strategic priorities that will guide our efforts to achieve impact as one of the top comprehensive cancer centres in the world. In alignment with our new strategy, we made progress in advancing data science, expanded our global partnerships, implemented new advances in care, and furthered our understanding of cancer through clinical, translational and basic research. The Princess Margaret clinical trials program continues to grow in volume and breadth with **2,759** patients enrolled in clinical trials in 2019.

With impending transitions in the Centre's leadership in 2020, an external review was commissioned by Dr. Kevin Smith, UHN CEO, and Dr. Brian Hodges, UHN Chief Medical Officer, to critically assess the Centre's progress, current state, future plans and ambitions. The reviewers endorsed the Centre's aspiration to be a top 5 Cancer Centre in the world and provided a unique opportunity to assess future plans for the Princess Margaret to continue to impact cancer care at a global scale.

We also experienced a significant shift in the governance of cancer care across the province. One central agency - Ontario Health - now oversees all cancer care delivery and clinical guidance to ensure the best quality care for patients. The Princess Margaret will continue to work closely with Ontario Health-Cancer Care Ontario, to facilitate system-wide collaboration and improvement.

We acknowledge the crucial role of the Princess Margaret Cancer Foundation in its tremendous support and philanthropic efforts that help make our programs and innovation agenda possible. We thank our donors, granting agencies, sponsors, and supporters for their continued patronage.

Finally, we extend our gratitude to our staff and volunteers for their relentless dedication and determination in providing the very highest standard of care and support for our patients, and for continually pushing the boundaries of innovation and collaboration.



Mount Sinai Hospital is home to a number of highly specialized cancer services, including its familial and genetics cancer program (for breast and colorectal), and its sarcoma and hyperthermal intraperitoneal chemotherapy (HIPEC) programs. In 2020, the Marvelle Koffler Breast Centre celebrates 25 years of providing outstanding care in comprehensive breast health and breast cancer treatment, and the vision of its founding director, Dr. Pamela Goodwin and the Koffler family. In July 2019, Sinai Health welcomed Dr. Christine Brezden-Masley, the new Director of the Marvelle Koffler Breast Centre and the first Medical Director of the Cancer Program at Sinai Health System.

The teams at Bridgepoint Active Healthcare provide state-of-the-art rehabilitation services to many patients after surgery or other cancer treatments. Sinai Health is also home to the Temmy Latner Centre for Palliative Care, which provides home-based care to more than 2,000 families each year in the community, along with its palliative care outpatient clinics, inpatient consultation team and the 32 bed Palliative Care Unit at Bridgepoint Active Healthcare.

The Lunenfeld-Tanenbaum Research Institute (LTRI), home to researchers and scientists finding new ways to target cancer therapy, is supporting exciting new discoveries that will shape the future of cancer care.



Women's College Hospital (WCH) has four cancer surgery programs including: Thyroid, Breast, Ovarian and Cervical. Our programs are staffed by a multidisciplinary team of clinicians which allows for individualized, integrated and coordinated approach to prevention, screening, surgical/medical treatments, aftercare and survivorship of women's cancers.

The prevention of cancer in women is a strong focus for Women's College Hospital. Patients who have had genetic screening and are determined to be at high risk for breast and ovarian will be scheduled urgently in our Hereditary Breast and Ovarian Cancer clinic. The purpose of the clinic is to have the patients come for one hospital visit to see all the necessary clinicians on the same day. They are given an itinerary when they meet with the nurse practitioner who then follows the patient through all of the appointment visits.

Another unique program at WCH is our After Cancer Treatment Transition (ACTT) Program which provides comprehensive cancer survivorship care to women and men who have completed their cancer treatment at Princess Margaret Cancer Centre and/or Women's College Hospital and are now cancer free.



## St. Michael's

Inspired Care.  
Inspiring Science.



ST  
JOSEPH'S  
HEALTH CENTRE TORONTO



PROVIDENCE  
Healthcare



With the new shared vision of 'The best care experiences. Created together,' Unity Health brings together three sites with a joint legacy in providing excellent care to the urban communities around them. The organization's new values, which were launched in 2019, are: community, excellence, compassion, human dignity and inclusivity.

In the area of cancer care, Unity Health has brought together two urban cancer centres under one organization, creating a cross-site Oncology and Endoscopy Program that encompasses the work done at St. Michael's Hospital and St. Joseph's Health Centre. Highlights from the year's work include:

- The launch of a quality improvement initiative at St. Michael's to optimize treatment adherence and support for toxicity management and side effects of two oral chemotherapeutics for GI and breast cancers. This project aims to address the fact that missed doses were identified as an opportunity for improvement by a chart audit conducted by the interdisciplinary teams.
- Medical education continues to expand at St. Joseph's with the introduction of four to five medical students and/or residents per year, who work with allied staff, rotate through inpatient and consultation services and outpatient clinics. Educational simulation has also supported the team in training. The team has also engaged more pharmacy students in the ACC Anticoagulation Clinic.
- Across Unity Health, changes to the fecal immunochemical testing (FIT) process have improved wait times for abnormal fecal test to colonoscopy. FIT endoscopists utilize reserved FIT spots and the testing is done only through a central intake program.
- An ongoing review of processes is in place at both sites to understand timelines and ensure timely access for patients, as well timely reporting. The Oncology and Endoscopy Program crosses sites and collaborates with all cancer services across Unity Health. The physician lead for this work will start in late February. The goal is to create a structure that supports dialogue and collaboration across teams.
- State-of-the-art technology is being employed by our neurosurgery and neuroradiology teams.
- Continue to improve the patient experience at the SMH CIBC Breast Centre through peer-to-peer education and patient engagement.



