

Alberta Cares

TOMORROW'S
TREATMENT, TODAY:
**How Marilyn Tams
found hope in a
clinical trial.**

CANCER PATIENT
NAVIGATION PROGRAM

BUILDING A
LEGACY OF HOPE



ALBERTA
CANCER
FOUNDATION

More Moments.

Building a legacy of hope.

"I wanted to give people with a cancer diagnosis more hope," That's the mission John Sexsmith lives by – and he's no stranger to the challenge.

As a former Global TV sports anchor with more than 35 years in journalism, John spent decades telling the stories of others. But in 2012, the story changed - his own cancer diagnosis brought him face-to-face with a new path. He underwent surgery and radiation at Edmonton's Cross Cancer Institute, where the care he received left a lasting mark.

It wasn't just about medicine—it was about compassion

So in 2023, John joined the Alberta Cancer Foundation's legacy philanthropy team. His goal? To build a different kind of legacy. One rooted in humanity, connection, and a future where no one faces cancer alone.

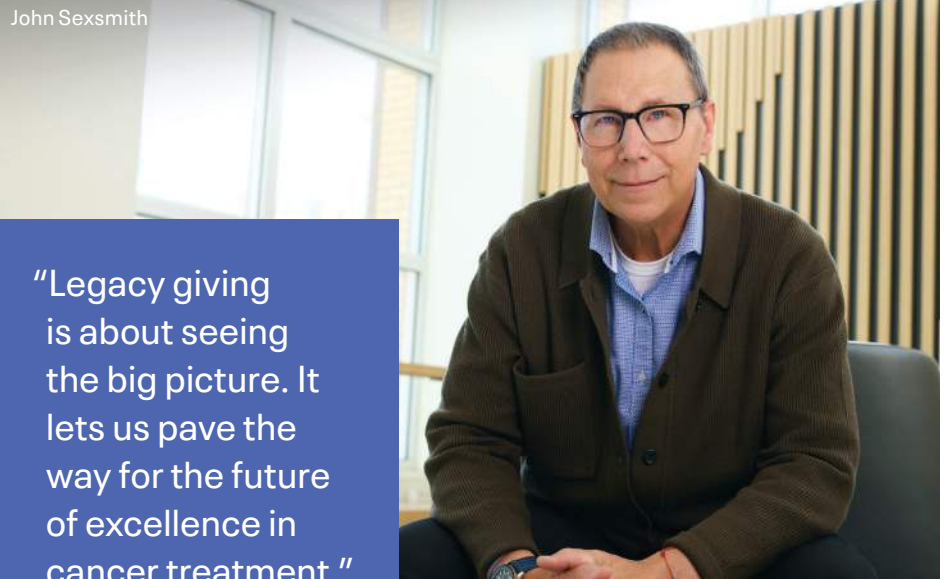
A legacy of hope.

And legacy giving is all about hope. Because when you give a planned gift, it allows the Alberta Cancer Foundation to plan as well, paving the way for the future of excellence in cancer treatment.

John works with over 300 incredible donors who are motivated to help others because either they've gone through treatment themselves, or they have family members who faced cancer. And they can see the incredible difference donations to the Alberta Cancer Foundation make simply by looking at the impact those gifts have already made at the Cross—and at cancer centres right across the province.

John witnesses that impact firsthand every day as he continues receiving treatment at the Cross.

John Sexsmith



"Legacy giving is about seeing the big picture. It lets us pave the way for the future of excellence in cancer treatment."

But thanks to the generosity of donors who are determined to make a meaningful difference through legacy giving, John has hope.

"It's pretty easy to stay positive when you see all the people willing to help," he says. "That's the power of giving."

CREATE YOUR OWN LEGACY

Legacy giving to the Alberta Cancer Foundation can include bequests in wills, naming the Foundation as a beneficiary of a life insurance policy, or donating a portion of RRSPs, RRIFs, or other retirement funds.

No matter which option you choose, your planned gift will make a meaningful difference by changing the landscape of cancer care in Alberta and impacting the future of cancer research.

It will also give the more than 24,000 Albertans who are diagnosed with cancer every year, more moments and more hope.

Want to learn more?

Join our complimentary Donor Motivation Program presentations (in person or online) where you'll learn strategies and tips for financial planning and maximizing your legacy.

For more details on upcoming dates and times, please visit albertacancer.ca/taxsavingsseminar.

TOMORROW'S TREATMENT, TODAY

Finding hope in a clinical trial.

Marilyn Tams first heard the words, "You have cancer", in 2023 after going to the doctor for a sore knee. Routine blood tests revealed she had low red and white blood cell counts, and eventually Marilyn was given the diagnosis of multiple myeloma.

After two avenues of treatment were unsuccessful, Marilyn's doctors started discussing something that gave her renewed hope: a promising new drug called teclistamab.

The drug had been showing great promise—and researchers believed it might one day become the standard of care for multiple myeloma—but it was still in a phase 3 clinical trial in Calgary.

After an unsuccessful stem cell transplant, Marilyn said yes to trying teclistamab, which, despite still being in clinical trials, is accessible to patients like Marilyn if prescribed by their doctors.

Marilyn's hope in the experimental drug was justified. After receiving her first set of blood test results since starting teclistamab, she discovered that her cell counts had dropped to almost normal range.

"I cried tears of joy all the way back home," she remembers. "Almost a year after diagnosis, we finally have a drug that works."

While Marilyn isn't technically in remission, the new drug kept her cancer at bay and giving her what every Albertan facing cancer wants: more moments and more hope.



Marilyn Tams at home with her dog, Leo

"I feel very hopeful for the future, to spend time with our six children and five grandchildren."

That's the power of clinical trials—and Alberta is home to hundreds of them every year, each one offering patients access to tomorrow's treatments, today.

In fact, Alberta leads the way in clinical trial activity in Canada, thanks to the generosity of Alberta Cancer Foundation donors.

And with every study you support, researchers and clinicians are able to explore new ways to prevent and diagnose cancer, and transform how cancer is treated in the future, both here in Alberta and around the world.

Care to do more?



With over \$3 million in prizes—including a grand prize choice of a dream home, cash, or both—your lottery ticket purchase helps make a meaningful difference in advancing cancer research and care in our province.

Purchase your tickets by visiting albertacancerlottery.ca



Join Alberta's largest annual cycling fundraiser and pedal for more hope as a community.

Whether you're a seasoned rider or a first-time participant, there's a distance for every ability, a fully supported ride and a welcoming community cheering you on.

Learn more and register as an individual rider or team at touralbertaforcancer.ca

DONATE PUBLICLY TRADED SECURITIES

This is a tax-efficient way of giving and helping Albertans facing cancer. You'll eliminate capital gains tax and receive a charitable receipt.

Find out more at albertacancer.ca/secureities

More impact.

YOUR SUPPORT IN ACTION!

Every gift you make to the Alberta Cancer Foundation helps to ensure that Albertans facing cancer have access to the support they need and the very latest treatments, now and in the future.

But your generosity also supports groundbreaking research and clinical trials, enabling the best and brightest researchers to better understand cancer, detect it earlier, develop more effective treatments, reduce Albertans' cancer risk, and improve the quality of life for patients.

Just look at what you've helped make possible!

202

active cancer clinical trials

972

Albertans facing cancer enrolled in clinical trials in 2024

40,000+

Albertans received help managing their cancer journey through the Cancer Patient Navigation Program since inception

MAKING MOMENTS MATTER

Cancer Patient Navigation Program.

The cancer journey is a challenging road to walk. When 22-year-old Moreylle Resurreccion (Ella) unexpectedly found herself on that path after being diagnosed with a rare combination of advanced sarcomas, she and her family needed help navigating the way forward.

And that's when they connected with April Boychuck.

April is an adolescent and young adult (AYA) patient navigator, and part of the Cancer Patient Navigation Program—a team of registered nurses with specialized training in cancer care who provide personalized support for specific populations in our province including those living in rural areas, AYA patients, and Indigenous patients. These dedicated nurses provide information, resources, and much-needed guidance.

For Ella, that support meant making the most of the moments she had left with those she loved.



Ella and her husband at their wedding in the Philippines.

April was always a phone call away, and she helped Ella and her family face every challenge during the year Ella was treated for cancer. And when Ella's journey was coming to an end, April helped make one last dream come true. With April supporting the coordination of every medical detail, Ella was able to fly home to the Philippines and get married to the love of her life, surrounded by family and friends.

Programs like the Cancer Patient Navigation Program are made possible by donor support of the Alberta Cancer Foundation, and the impact your gifts make is priceless to patients like Ella—and the family members who love them.



Help give Albertans facing cancer more hope and more moments. Support the Alberta Cancer Foundation today.

Give online at albertacancer.ca/summer-2025



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710-10123 99 St NW | Edmonton AB T5J 3H1