



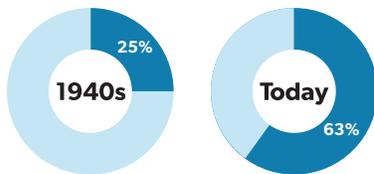
For millions of people worldwide Terry Fox is the face of cancer research. Your support has been vital to the progress we have made over the past four decades. In 2020, it feels like the world is in a holding pattern, waiting for the COVID-19 global crisis to end, but we know that cancer patients can't wait for this crisis to be over. Nor can the researchers who have made it their life's work to save lives. The Terry Fox Foundation is committed to continuing to fund cancer research programs this year with the support of Terry Foxers across Canada.

## RESEARCH INVESTMENT

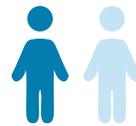
The Terry Fox Foundation continues to be a leading national investor in cancer research, directing \$26.6 million to its programs in 2018/19.

## CANCER STATISTICS

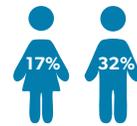
Reference: 2019 Canadian Cancer Statistics



5-year cancer survival rate



Nearly **1 in 2** Canadians are expected to be diagnosed with cancer in their lifetime



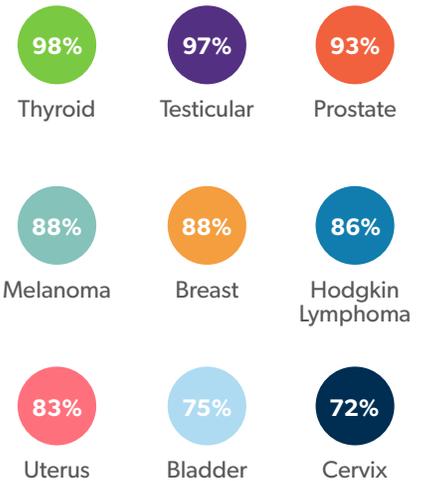
Decrease in mortality rates for men and women between **1988-2019**

## IMPACTING PEOPLE

### Lawrence Traa – Defying the Odds

Five years ago, Lawrence Traa of Manitoba was watching television when he suddenly forgot the names of everyone he knew. Testing revealed a brain tumor – very similar to glioblastoma multiforme (GBM). There is currently no cure. Initially, Traa was given 2 years to live, but despite this prognosis he has surprised doctors, and is now in his sixth year of battling the disease. He was thrilled to learn that DNA repair biologist Dr. Sachin Katyal (CancerCare Manitoba, University of Manitoba) was recently awarded the TFRI New Investigator Award for his quick-to-clinic personalized medicine approach to better treat GBM patients. Dr. Katyal is analyzing resistant brain cancer tumour cells to determine what DNA-damaging enzyme repair proteins are allowing cancer cells to survive following chemotherapy and radiation treatments.

“Hearing about research like this being done in Manitoba brings brain cancer patients hope,” Traa says. “When people donate it buys myself and future patients more time. The research is being sped up in such a good way, and that is very exciting!”



## IMPACTING RESEARCH

### Understanding Metastatic Sarcomas

In 1980, Terry Fox's Marathon of Hope was cut short as he received the grim prognosis of metastatic sarcoma. The cancer that had taken his leg was back, and had spread to his lungs. Metastatic sarcomas are almost always resistant to therapy, and little is understood about them. This is because they cannot be surgically removed, meaning there are very few human samples of metastatic sarcomas.

Dr. Livia Garzia of the Research Institute of the McGill University Health Centre is hoping to change this, thanks to a recent New Investigator award from TFRI. This award will provide her with for the next three years to study how and why certain sarcomas metastasize. Dr. Garzia's hope is that by identifying early signs of metastatic dissemination she will be able to know what tumours are more at risk of becoming metastatic and find new treatments for children and young adults with these cancers.

**Guided by Terry's wishes, our research spans a wide variety of cancer sites including prostate cancer, melanomas & leukemias pancreatic cancer, lung cancer & brain cancer.**



*We expect our leaders and innovators to have bold visions, to take us places where we have not been before, to make the world a better place. Terry Fox never thought of himself as a leader or innovator and yet, undoubtedly, he was. His story, and more importantly his cancer research legacy, lives on more than 40 years after his death, because Canadians and people around the world demand it, need it and are inspired by it.*

## ROAD MAP TO CURE CANCER

The Marathon of Hope Cancer Centres Network is a bold vision led by The Terry Fox Research Institute and The Terry Fox Foundation with support from dozens of research and funding partners across Canada.

Its goal is to accelerate the adoption of Precision Medicine for cancer through the creation of a pan-Canadian network of designated cancer centres. This network represents a powerful collaborative platform that will embed research in the cancer clinic, uniting the top-tier cancer researchers and clinicians in Canada and allowing them to share their data and apply exciting new technologies such as artificial intelligence to deliver the best outcomes for each cancer patient in Canada, no matter where they are.

## ACCELERATING MEDICAL BREAKTHROUGHS

A new computational resource by a group of TFRI-funded researchers in Toronto may one day provide some answers about how patients respond to radiation therapy before their treatment begins. RadioGx, is a richly annotated, open-source computational tool that combines genomic profiles of tumours with their response to radiation therapy. It will allow scientists to mine large amounts of data in search of genetic biomarkers that indicate how patients respond to treatment, which could help personalize therapies for cancer patients in the near future. Dr. Benjamin Haiibe-Kains who, along with Dr. Scott Bratman, led the team of bioinformaticians at the Princess Margaret Cancer Centre in Toronto that created RadioGx, a study that was partially funded by a Terry Fox Translation Program Grant to the ImmunoTherapy NeTwork (iTNT).

**After 143 days and 3,339 miles, Terry was forced to stop running outside of Thunder Bay. Before returning to BC for treatment Terry said, "I'm going to do my very best. I'll fight. I promise I won't give up." He never did. And neither will we.**



## MEET OUR 2020 TERRY FOX SCHOOL POSTER AMBASSADOR

### Cai, Age 6

Diagnosed at only 11 months old, Cai has had cancer as long as he can remember. He had surgery at 15 months of age to remove a tumour inside his spinal cord, after which he had to learn to walk again. Unfortunately, Cai's cancer returned and he has to travel across Canada to receive specialized treatment and chemotherapy. He has not let this stop him, and will tell you that he loves playing with his dog, swimming, playing mini rugby, and riding his scooter. Cai's tumour has stopped growing, thanks to new technologies and cancer research. Every year, around his birthday, he partakes in a Terry Fox Run.