

TORONTO REGION AND ONTARIO: A GLOBAL LEADER IN ONCOLOGY RESEARCH AND TREATMENT

THE TORONTO REGION IS....

- One of North America's largest health sciences complex: 60 hospitals including 12 research hospitals affiliated with medical schools at the **University of Toronto** and **McMaster University** (Hamilton); 37 medical institutions; 8,200 physicians; and 54,000 health professionals
- The location of one of North America's largest biomedical sectors: more than 1,200 life sciences firms; 140,000 employees; and \$8 billion in pharma revenues in Ontario (ethical, generic and OTC)
- A global research centre with sophisticated resources such as:
 - **Structural Genomics Consortium**, a \$30 million partnership between the University of Toronto, Oxford University, Karolinska Institute, Merck, Novartis and GlaxoSmithKline
 - **Toronto Centre for Phenogenomics**: a \$69 million state-of-the-art research facility studying mouse models of human disease, is the most advanced of its kind in the world
 - **Terrence Donnelly Centre for Cellular & Biomolecular Research** at the University of Toronto: centre for integrative biology, disease modeling, and functional imaging
- State-of-the-art molecular imaging capacity, including:
 - 9 PET/CT scanners and 3 PET scanners supported by five cyclotrons
 - \$23 million radiation oncology facility enables preclinical studies of new radiodiagnostics and radiotherapeutics in rodent models (micro-PET, micro-CT, nanoSPECT/CT for mice, rats and rabbits)

CANCER FOCUS IN ONTARIO

- 2008 Ontario cancer estimates: 63,000 new cases; 27,400 deaths (166,400 and 73,800 respectively for all Canada)
- Cancer Care Ontario, provincial agency responsible for cancer services established in 1997
 - 12 regional cancer centres (with 4 new centres in development)
 - Directs and oversees close to \$700 million funding to hospitals and other cancer care providers
- More than 1,100 clinical trials in progress across the province;
 - 620 in the Toronto Region drawing from broad catchment area of 7.2 million residents
 - Ontario Cancer Research Ethics Board facilitates province-wide scientific and ethical review of multi-centre oncology trials, resulting in faster approval process to initiate clinical studies
 - Centralized system tracks all cancer trials which expedites patient enrolment, increasing capacity to conduct clinical studies
- Three prominent cooperative oncology studies groups have enrolled and tracked over 64,000 patients since 1980:
 - Clinical Trials Group of the National Cancer Institute of Canada
 - Ontario Clinical Oncology Group
 - Princess Margaret Hospital Phase II Consortium



ONTARIO INSTITUTE FOR CANCER RESEARCH (OICR)

- New centre of excellence in cancer research with \$347 million budget over five years from the Ontario government expected to:
 - Establish the province as a leading jurisdiction for cancer research
 - Attract public and private research funds
 - Promote effective knowledge transfer and commercialization of research findings to maximize both health and economic benefits
- Serves as the Secretariat for the newly-formed **International Cancer Genome Consortium**
- Five strategic priorities:
 - **OICR Innovation Projects:** New insight and approaches for cancer prevention, detection or treatment, through the establishment and support of multi-institutional networks that will link basic and clinical researchers from multiple disciplines
 - **OICR Translational Programs:** Translational research programs that will move new discoveries to prevent, detect and treat cancer directly from the bench to practical applications in patients
 - **OICR Investigator Program:** Strengthen Ontario's cancer research capacity by attracting outstanding PhD researchers and clinician scientists to the province by establishing Investigator Awards Program, designed to provide stable recruitment and retention funding for 50 principal investigators involved in OICR programs
 - **OICR Cancer Research Fund:** A program that supports investigator-initiated translational cancer research projects based on excellence in translational cancer research, from validation of novel drug targets and development of new treatments and diagnostic tools, to their clinical validation and application
 - **Partnerships:** Develop strategic partnerships with organizations that can accelerate the discovery and translation of new cancer diagnostics and therapeutics
- Developing **High Impact Clinical Trials Program** to study novel targeted cancer therapies using innovative trial designs:
 - Spans all stages of development from phase I through phase IV label expansion studies
 - Focus on molecular pathology, clinical pharmacology and pharmacogenomics studies

TRRA OFFERS R&D INVESTORS:

- Key information about the region, including population and business data
- Intelligence about critical location factors
- In-depth analysis and understanding of research and innovation issues
- Quick access to regional leadership (governments, business and institutions)
- Reliable navigation and introductions to the most relevant regional resources

For more information, please contact:

Sam Lee, PhD
Director, Life Sciences
slee@trra.ca
t: 1 416 673 6681
m: 1 416 670 2081

