



**2006-001 Colorectal Cancer Awareness Campaign** (NCRF, RCC, \$15,000)

**Program** to raise awareness in Northwestern Ontario about colorectal cancer

The NCRF launched *The Bottom Line* campaign in March 2005 to coincide with Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month. TV ads, newspaper ads, and a whole section on the NCRF website to promote the importance of recognizing the danger signs of colorectal cancer and discussing the disease with a doctor or healthcare professional. Floor stickers were also placed at Quality Market, in every Medi-Plus pharmacy in Thunder Bay, and throughout the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre as a unique way to get the message out. Caught early, colorectal cancer is 90% curable.

**2006-002 Prostate Awareness Campaign** (NCRF, RCC, \$15,000)

**Program** to raise awareness in Northwestern Ontario about prostate cancer

This annual campaign seeks to raise awareness about prostate cancer throughout the region using several media including TV ads, posters, newspaper ads and urinal liners. The odds are that 1 in 8 men will have prostate cancer in their lifetime. This campaign is funded directly from the proceeds of the annual *Bell Motorcycle Ride for Dad*.

**2006-003 COPE – Linda Buchan Speaker Series** (McMullen, \$3,000)

**Program** speaker series for medical professionals

The Community Oncology Professional Education (COPE) is an annual professional education workshop for healthcare professionals focusing on screening, prevention, diagnosis, management, and prognosis of a different disease site each year. The Linda Buchan Speaker Series will allow COPE to invite relevant cancer experts from around the world to deliver the keynote speech. A short tribute to Linda will be included in each introduction to recognize her tremendous commitment to cancer research and treatment.

**2006-022 Inpatient Tobacco Cessation Implementation in NWO Hospitals** (Smith, Sellick, \$270,000)

**Research** to develop inpatient tobacco cessation programs at regional hospitals

Hospitals direct a large portion of their resources towards tobacco-related disease treatment. However to date little has been done to promote tobacco cessation, despite the fact that clinical guidelines support inpatient tobacco cessation programs. This project will first review the current cessation programs available to inpatients in 14 Northwestern Ontario hospitals. Researchers will then work with each individual hospital to design a tobacco cessation program that both meets their needs and fits within accepted clinical guidelines.

**2006-025 Research Lab Asset Replacement Plan** (Northan, \$60,000)

**Equipment** to upgrade, replace, and add to the Wet Lab's resources

Many of the Research Lab's computers, mixers, incubators, and other basic lab equipment are aging and in some cases are starting to fail. Further, the number of students and associate researchers is growing. The Lab has designed a five-year plan to replace old equipment, and add new equipment as needed.

**2006-024 Integrin Receptors as Potential Targets for Therapy of Cervical Cancer** (Ulanova, Zehbe, \$80,000)

**Research** studying role of integrins in development of cervical cancer, and testing a potential treatment

There are several factors involved in the development of cervical cancer. One factor may be the presence of integrins, a chemical that helps regulate vital cell functions including cell division. Infections in the female genital tract can cause alterations to the integrins' signalling process, which may be a factor in triggering cervical cancer. This research will determine what specific role integrins play in the development and continuation of cervical cancer and provide a basis for the development of novel treatment of cervical cancer.

**2006-017 Increasing Colorectal Cancer Screening in Ontario through RN-Performed Flexible Sigmoidoscopy** (McMullen, St. Germain, Pilatzke, Bobinski, \$175,000)

**Equipment** to enable a RN-performed flexible sigmoidoscopy program

Colorectal cancer, if caught in the early stages, is 90% curable. However a shortage of resources (both human and equipment) have made colorectal screening a challenge throughout Ontario, and in Northwestern Ontario in particular.

This program, as part of the Princess Margaret Hospital and Sunnybrook Women's College Health Sciences Centre project, will train nurses in sigmoidoscopy use, thereby increasing access to screening services for residents of the region. This grant will be used to purchase a flexible sigmoidoscopy and related equipment for the program.

**2006-026 Equipment Requirements (Fort Frances)** (Maki, \$10,000)

**Equipment** for the new Fort Frances Chemotherapy Unit

The new Chemotherapy Unit at the Riverside Health Care Facility requires an IV infusion pump to administer chemotherapy and a blanket warmer to enhance patient comfort during treatments.

**2006-021 Ionizing Radiation-Induced Oxidative Stress and DNA Damage in Breast Cancer, and the Role of BRCA1** (Khaper, Tassotto, Anthes, \$120,000)

**Research** to further develop knowledge about the role of the BRCA1 gene in the development of breast cancer

Previous research shows that a mutation in the BRCA1 gene can lead to breast or ovarian cancer for several reasons. A recent study has found a new reason: the BRCA1 gene may act as a type of antioxidant to reduce the number of "free radicals" that can lead to cancer. The research team plans to investigate how big of a role the BRCA1 gene plays in eliminating free radicals and whether the addition of sulforaphane, an antioxidant, can protect cells. The results of this study may change the way that breast and ovarian cancer is treated in patients with BRCA1 mutation.

**2006-009 Treated Live Cell Imaging** (Landry, McGhee, \$85,000)

**Research** into live cell imaging

The Medical Physics Lab at Regional Cancer Care has developed a novel imaging system called oblique incidence reflection (OIR) that allows scientists to view live cells longer under a microscope with less interference in cell behaviour. Now that the method has been proven to be effective, this grant extension will help fund research using this technique to compare the effects of specific chemicals and radiation on healthy and cancerous cells. Ultimately, the research will help optimize future cancer treatment methods.

**2006-020** Linda Buchan Centre (Von Ritschl, Lepage, McMullen, Lacourciere, \$460,000)

**Program** to provide timely and coordinated diagnostic investigation of breast abnormalities in an environment that supports the physical and emotional health of patients

The Linda Buchan Centre is designed to improve access and reduce diagnostic wait times from discovery of a breast abnormality to diagnosis for patients in Northwestern Ontario. Further, as an affiliate of the Ontario Breast Screening Program (OBSP), the Centre must meet minimum standards in patient care. To meet these goals, the Centre requires renovations and equipment purchases.

Renovations at the current site will improve the functional layout of the Centre including a direct patient entrance, enhanced privacy, and better workflow, with future planned growth including a space for onsite surgical consultation. Equipment purchases include a Vacuum-Assisted Biopsy Instrument for minimally-invasive diagnostic testing, a Picture Archiving Communication System (PACS) workstation to allow viewing and transmission of digital mammograms, and an ultrasound unit for breast imaging.

**2006-008** Equipment to Outfit Red Lake Margaret Cochenour Memorial Hospital Chemotherapy Services (Larson, \$15,000)

**Equipment** to improve local access to chemotherapy for Red Lake and area residents

In order to provide “closer to home” chemotherapy treatments, the Margaret Cochenour Memorial Hospital in Red Lake requires several equipment purchases including an IV infusion pump, vital signs monitor and accessories, treatment chair, and other supplies. This equipment will be dedicated to the local chemotherapy program, reducing the need to rely on other hospital departments for equipment needs.

**2006-007** Molecular Imaging with MRI for the Measurement of Radiation-Induced Apoptosis (Rapley, \$76,000)

**Research** into using Molecular Imaging to identifying cancer and tracking treatment progress

Molecular Imaging combines MRI imaging and “contrast” agents (chemicals that attach to specific cells to highlight them in images) to find disease including cancer at the molecular level. This has also shown promise as an important tool for measuring the effectiveness of treatments like chemotherapy and radiation earlier than the traditional method of measuring tumour shrinkage over time. This project will investigate the use of the technique for tracking the effectiveness of radiation treatments using a new contrast agent.

**2006-005** Development of Palliative Care Education Curriculum (Kelly, Kortes-Miller, Prince, Sellick, Habjan, \$10,000)

**Program** to teach health care providers palliative care knowledge and skills to the Aboriginal population in Kenora and Rainy River Districts

Currently, there is no palliative care curriculum designed to meet the specific needs of the Aboriginal community. This project will develop and evaluate a program to teach health care providers working at 13 First Nations Communities in the Kenora and Rainy River Districts how to provide effective palliative care. This pilot project will be evaluated and refined, and may ultimately become a learning tool for health care providers across Northwestern Ontario, as well as a basis for similar programs in other regions.

**2006-004** Thunder Bay Breast Cancer Support (Hughes, Greer, \$5,200)

**Program** that supports women diagnosed with breast cancer

The Thunder Bay Breast Cancer Support Group provides much needed support to women who have recently been diagnosed with breast cancer and are undergoing treatment. The Group holds monthly meetings and publishes a monthly newsletter for women with breast cancer and their families.