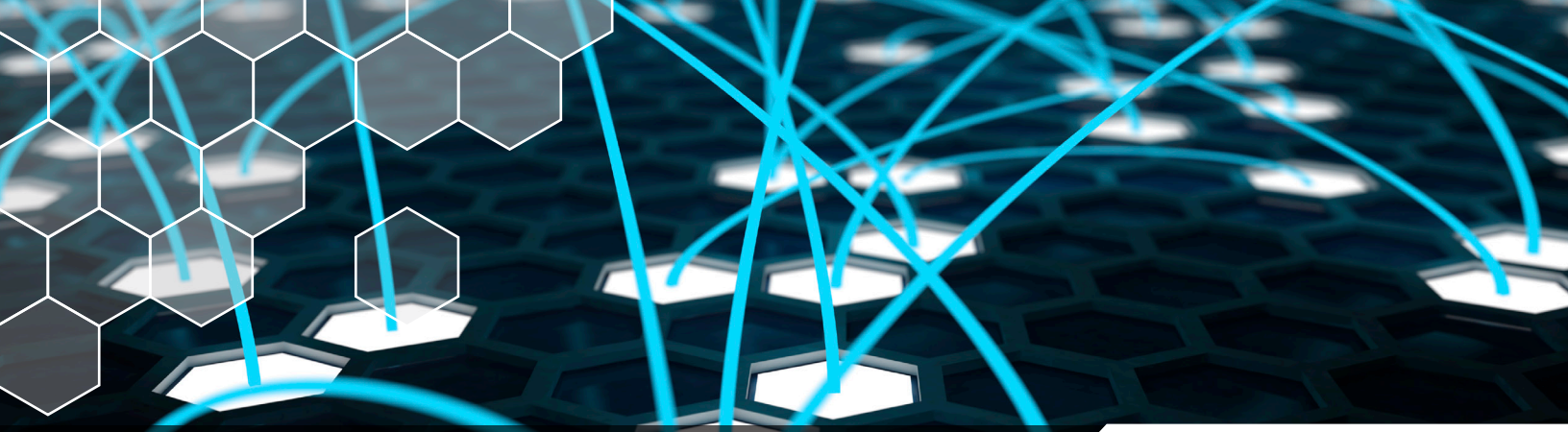


NCE funding for

BIOTHERAPEUTICS FOR CANCER TREATMENT (BIOCANR$_x$)

$25 million for 2014-2019

RAMPING UP CANCER-FIGHTING FACTORIES ACROSS CANADA

The opportunity

Biologically-based therapies are among the most exciting and promising cancer treatments to emerge in the past decade, thanks to their ability to mobilize and activate the body's natural defense mechanisms and create new therapeutic weapons against the most advanced cancers. Unfortunately too many of these promising therapies are failing to reach the clinical licensing stage, in part because of a lack of critical infrastructure to bridge the gap between the laboratory discoveries and human testing of promising experimental therapeutics. Canada has launched a national effort to overcome these hurdles. It sees scientists and clinicians working with provincial agencies, cancer foundations, industry and NGOs – as well as cancer patients and their families – to bring new treatments to patients quickly while reducing healthcare costs.

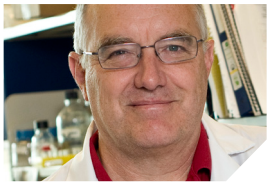
NCE
Networks of Centres of Excellence of Canada

BioCanR$_x$ at a glance
(as of January 15, 2015)

NCE program
Network of Centres of Excellence

Headquarters
Ottawa Hospital Research Institute

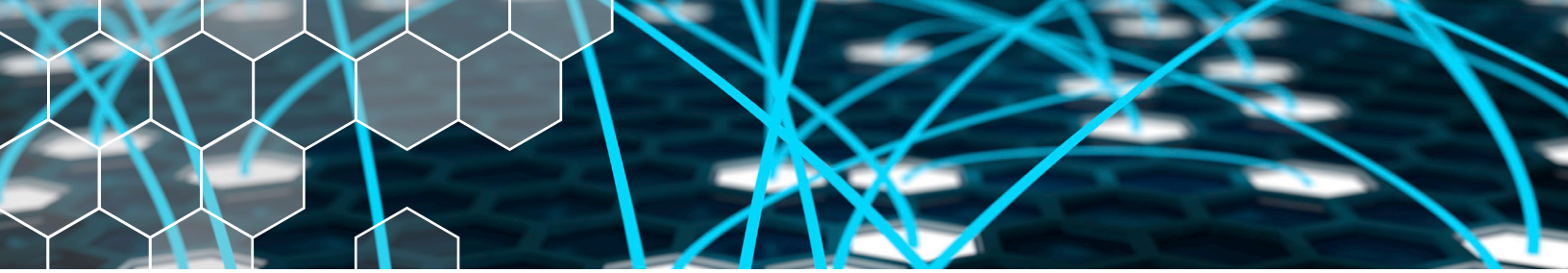
Scientific Director



John Bell

Board chair

Ken Newport



How BioCanR$_x$ is seizing the opportunity

Biotherapeutics for Cancer Treatment is establishing a pan-Canadian network of expertise and infrastructure for the development, manufacture and clinical testing of new personalized biotherapeutics that hold the promise of being more effective, affordable and safe than conventional cancer therapies. The network will build upon the fundamental scientific discoveries made in laboratories across the country and leverage Canada's specialized manufacturing, toxicity and testing infrastructure to de-risk the most promising therapeutic candidates and initiate testing in cancer patients. In addition to scientists specializing in biology, genomics and immunology, legal scholars, ethicists and health economists will also be enlisted to ensure new therapies comply with regulations and are affordable to healthcare payers.

Among the expected results

- Manufacturing capacity will be ramped up at existing biotherapeutic facilities in Toronto, Montréal, Ottawa and Hamilton, in partnership with CellCAN, a recently funded Knowledge Mobilization NCE.
- BioCanRx will establish specialized infrastructure for immune cell therapy manufacturing and clinical know-how, providing cancer patients with access to the most up-to-date developments in cell-based immune therapy through Canadian-led clinical trials.
- Four novel experimental strategies will be tested in cancer patients within the first funding cycle.
- A new program will train highly qualified personnel on the latest techniques in process engineering, project management, quality assurance and control, regulatory requirements and ethical aspects of biopharmaceutical manufacturing.
- BioCanRx will incorporate its Value-Engineered Translation (VET) assessment technology into all product development plans. This will help to produce unparalleled "data packages" attractive to the pharmaceutical industry and regulatory agencies as well as position products for maximum success, impact, and likelihood of uptake and reimbursement by health care systems.

BioCanRx

February-2015