

January 2, 2013

Highlight Motor Freight
500 Creditstone Rd
Concord ON L4K 3Z3

Dear Friend,

I'd like to take this moment to express my sincere gratitude for your support of The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society of Canada (LLSC). The extraordinarily high level of financial leadership you demonstrate not only helps us fund lifesaving blood cancer research, but provides free patient education and services to those who are living with leukemia, lymphoma, myeloma, or other blood cancers.

In fact, over the years, the kindness and generosity of such loyal and devoted friends as you have made it possible for us to award more than \$26 million in research funding for all blood cancers.

Believe it or not, when LLSC was founded in 1955, a diagnosis of leukemia, lymphoma or myeloma was almost always fatal. But today, thanks to innovative research funded in part by us, survival rates for some blood cancers have doubled – and some have even tripled.

Our efforts are making a big difference, but we're determined to work harder than ever to make sure we achieve our goals and successfully carry out our plans to create an even better future for blood cancer patients and their families.

That's why I'm writing to you today. I can't tell you how confident I am that we're going to defeat blood cancer once and for all. In the meantime, however, until that moment arrives, your support means everything to us and the approximately 100,000 Canadians who are living with blood cancers today. **Your generous gift of \$100 today will reinforce your commitment to our cause and serve as a strong symbol of your belief in our work to find a cure for blood cancer.**

Your support has already helped us accomplish a great deal, especially when it comes to funding those blood cancer research projects that offer the best chance of accelerating developments of new, promising treatment therapies.

Thanks to the generosity of people like you, we're providing the necessary funds to the

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best and brightest researchers in the field, those who are working tirelessly to help fulfill our mission. For example:

- **Dr. Shabbir Alibhai of the University Health Network** is conducting a study of younger and older adults with acute myeloid leukemia (AML) who are being treated with intense chemotherapy. This study is measuring quality of life and physical function at eight different time points over the course of one year, starting from diagnosis, in 240 patients. The results will provide important information to patients, families, doctors and researchers about long-term survivorship issues. The results will also help identify the most important areas in which to help patients with intervention studies such as exercise, occupational therapy, specialized counseling, or anti-cytokine drugs.
- **Dr. Raquel Aloyz of the Lady Davis Institute for Medical Research of the SMBD Jewish General Hospital** is working on an assessment of a telomerase inhibitor in chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL). Her research aims to find and exploit the “weaknesses” of cancerous lymphocytes to improve the efficacy of drugs used to treat the disease. The publication of this study’s results will hopefully lead to clinical trials aimed at developing new therapies for CLL.
- **Dr. Kevin Lin of the British Columbia Cancer Agency** is investigating the role of Ahi-1 oncogene in hematopoietic stem cell (HSC) development and leukemogenesis. Using a new mouse model, he and his team will examine what happens to the development and function of HSCs when Ahi-1 is absent, and identify how Ahi-1 is operating in HSCs and leukemic stem cells. The findings from this project will aid in developing better treatments and diagnostics for CML.
- **Dr. Li Zhang of the University Health Network** is looking into how to prevent acute myeloid leukemia (AML) relapse by targeting stem cells with double-negative T-cells (DNT). Her study will take leukemia cells directly from AML patients and recreate their growth in mice. DNT cells grown from the same patient or from healthy donors will also be tested for inhibiting the leukemia’s growth. More specifically, she and her team will measure the ability of DNT cells to kill AML cells, since this could have the greatest impact on reducing relapse in AML.

Progress like this is made possible through gifts like yours. With your ongoing support of The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society of Canada, you will continue to play an instrumental role in helping us advance even more projects and programs like those listed above that could lead to life saving treatments and even cures for blood cancer.

Sincerely,



Nancy Allen
President, Canadian Operations

P.S. If you can join the **Leadership Research Fund** with a generous gift of \$1,000 or more, we’d be thrilled. But if you can’t, please know that any size gift you make helps our research progress... and that we are so appreciative of your support at any level.