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Lung Cancer Connection: Fall 2025 Newsletter

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Welcome to the Fall Edition of Lung Cancer Connection.

As we head into Lung Cancer Awareness Month, the pace — and purpose — pick up. This fall is about turning momentum into action, together.

We're proud to support the **Lung Cancer Action Plan launch** at the Canada Cancer Research Conference in Calgary on November 2nd. Our President, Dr. Rosalyn Juergens, will join the launch panel, ensuring the patient and clinician perspective is front and centre.

A few can't-miss dates:

- **November 6: Faces of Lung Cancer Briefing** — powerful stories and national insights that move us from awareness to impact.
- **November 18: Policy Forum (Session 3, Time to Patient)** — practical, collaborative steps to shorten the path from evidence to access.
- **November 23: Evening of Hope** — a celebration of courage, community, and the road ahead.

You'll also find a new **President's Blog** from Dr. Juergens on why 2025 demands collective action—and how we can align around faster, fairer care.

This issue marks the start of our **Strategic Planning Refresh**. We're inviting you—patients, caregivers, clinicians, partners—to help shape LCC's next chapter. As the only Canadian charity focused exclusively on lung cancer, we take that responsibility seriously, and we want your voice in the plan. Watch for quick ways to contribute through short surveys, interviews, and roundtables.

Inside, you'll find event details, stories, and simple actions you can take this month—share the Faces report, register for the forum, bring a friend to Evening of Hope, or add your perspective to our strategy work. Every action shortens the distance between evidence and access.

Thank you for being part of this community. Together, we're building a faster, fairer future for everyone affected by lung cancer.

With Gratitude,



The Pan-Canadian Lung Cancer Action Plan: A Shared Roadmap

Lung cancer remains Canada's leading cause of cancer death. Even with real progress in screening, diagnostics, and treatment, too many people are still diagnosed late and face uneven access — often compounded by stigma. The new 2025–2035 Pan-Canadian Lung Cancer Action Plan sets a clear direction: Transforming Lung Cancer Care for All, with a goal to reduce mortality by 30% within the next decade.

LCC has been involved from the outset, alongside initiative lead, the Canadian Cancer Society, and others, helping shape the plan with lived experience and frontline clinical perspectives and serving on the steering committee. On November 2 in Calgary, the plan will be officially launched at the Canadian Cancer Research Conference, and Dr. Rosalyn Juergens, LCC's President, will join the launch panel.

What the plan sets out:

The Action Plan calls for coordinated effort across prevention and exposure reduction, earlier detection and diagnosis, timely access to high-quality care (including navigation and supportive care), and a stronger research ecosystem—anchored by cross-cutting commitments to equity, stigma reduction, and implementation.

How LCC will contribute (at a glance):

LCC will focus on what we do best — bringing people together and keeping attention on what matters to those with lived experience and clinicians:

- **Convening & voice:** Center lived and living experience alongside clinical expertise, and keep equity at the core of decisions.
- **Policy & advocacy:** Support practical changes that move evidence into access and reduce delays across the pathway.

- **Awareness & stigma reduction:** Use storytelling and education to widen understanding and encourage earlier engagement with care.
- **Research & knowledge sharing:** Help connect insights to practice so improvements spread faster.
- **Transparency:** Share clear updates with our community as implementation progresses.

Stay connected!

This Action Plan is a starting line, not a finish. We'll keep you updated from the Calgary launch through the next phase of implementation — and we invite you to help make the goal real: 30% fewer deaths within a decade, with care that is timely, equitable, and compassionate for everyone in Canada.

From the President's Desk

Dr. Rosalyn Juergens

Reflections, updates, and insights



A Season of Awareness, Action, & Hope

As the leaves turn and fall settles in, we are reminded of cycles of change — and of renewal. For those living with lung cancer and their families, this season is also a time of reflection, connection, and action.

November marks Lung Cancer Awareness Month — a time to shine a national spotlight on the most fatal cancer in Canada, to honour those we have lost, to walk alongside those living with the disease, and to recommit ourselves to building a future where equity, access, and innovation are not privileges, but guarantees.

Progress and Possibility

Lung cancer is no longer the hopeless diagnosis it once was. Advances in precision medicine, biomarker testing, immunotherapy, and targeted treatments are transforming what is possible. More Canadians are living longer, fuller lives with lung cancer than ever before. These are breakthroughs worth celebrating.

But let us be clear: progress has not reached everyone. Too many Canadians are still diagnosed late. Too many face delays that cost them precious time. Too many never get access to biomarker testing or clinical trials that could extend and improve their lives. Behind every statistic is a family disrupted, a future cut short, a community left grieving.

This is why our work cannot wait.

Stories and Solutions That Drive Change

At Lung Cancer Canada, we know that change starts with stories — and stories must lead to solutions.

This November, our Faces of Lung Cancer Report will once again amplify the voices of clinicians and those with lived experience. Their stories are more than narratives — they are calls to action. They expose care gaps, challenge stigma, and inspire decision-makers to act.

Hand in hand with these stories, we are advancing system-level solutions through our 2025 Policy Forum Series. These national conversations bring together those with lived experience, clinicians, policymakers, and partners to confront urgent issues such as:

- Timely access to biomarker testing
- Precision medicine and equitable treatment access
- Accelerating innovation into patient care

Together, the report and the forums create a powerful cycle: lived experiences that humanize the challenges, and policy discussions that chart the path forward.

A Community in Action

As we move into Awareness Month, I am profoundly inspired by the strength of this community:

- Those with lived experience, sharing their journeys with extraordinary courage.
- Clinicians and researchers, pushing the boundaries of science and care.
- Volunteers and advocates, raising their voices and demanding change.
- Supporters and partners, helping to fuel the momentum that saves lives.

One of the most meaningful moments of the month will be our Evening of Hope on November 23, 2025. This annual gathering is more than a fundraiser. It is a night of remembrance, resilience, and resolve. Together, we will honour those we've lost, lift up those still fighting, and raise vital funds to fuel the advocacy, research, and support that patients and families urgently need.

It is a night that reminds us why we do this work — and what we can achieve, together.

Looking Ahead with Determination

Awareness Month is about action today — but also about preparing for tomorrow. As we look beyond November, Lung Cancer Canada is laying the groundwork for its next strategic plan. Built on the voices of those with lived experience, clinicians, and partners, it will chart our path forward and ensure we are ready to meet the challenges and opportunities ahead.

This fall, I invite you to stand with us:

- Read and share the upcoming Faces of Lung Cancer Report.
- Engage with our Policy Forum Series, helping to shape solutions at the national level.
- Be part of the Evening of Hope on November 23rd — a night that turns compassion into impact.
- Amplify the message that anyone with lungs can get lung cancer — and that everyone deserves access to earlier diagnosis, better treatments, and hope for tomorrow.

Every action matters. Every voice makes us stronger. Together, we are rewriting the story of lung cancer in Canada.

With deep gratitude and unshakable determination,

Dr. Rosalyn Juergens
President
Lung Cancer Canada



Help Shape LCC's Next Chapter!

Our Strategic Planning Survey is now live — closes Friday, December 5!

Every voice can change the future of lung cancer care. This fall, Lung Cancer Canada is launching a refreshed strategic planning process to set clear, ambitious priorities for the next few years—grounded in lived experience, clinical insight, and evidence. As Canada's only charity focused exclusively on lung cancer, we're inviting our whole community to help chart the path ahead.

Why your voice matters:

We're building a plan that turns momentum into impact: earlier detection, faster and fairer access to treatment, meaningful support across the journey, and research that moves from evidence to action. Your input will help us focus where we can make the biggest difference—especially for communities who face the steepest barriers.

What we're listening for:

- The gaps that delay diagnosis or treatment—and practical fixes
- Priorities for research, education, and advocacy that shorten "time to patient"
- Supports that matter most for people living with and beyond lung cancer
- How LCC can partner better—with those with lived experience, clinicians, and system leaders

Take the 5-minute survey!

Share your perspective today! Responses are confidential and reported in aggregate only.

Deadline: Friday, December 5, 2025 (11:59 p.m. ET)

Prefer a conversation? Email info@lungcancercanada.ca for a short interview.

Thank you for lending your voice. Together, we can build a plan that is bold, practical, and deeply human.

Take the 5 Min Survey

LUNG CANCER CANADA POLICY FORUM

Bridging the Gap: Precision Medicine in Lung Cancer Diagnosis and Treatment

A three-part forum examining the systemic delays that lung cancer patients face from diagnosis to treatment.

Moderated by Dr. Stephanie Snow

Diagnostic Delays & Biomarker Testing
October 7 - 2:00-3:30 PM EST

Treatment Access & Drug Approval Processes
October 28 - 2:00-3:30 PM EST

Collaborative Strategies for Reducing Delays
November 18 - 2:00-3:30 PM EST



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2025 Policy Series: It's Time to Get Serious About Lung Cancer

Session 3 - Collective Actions to Shorten Time to Patient

Tuesday, November 18 2:00–3:30 PM EST | Virtual

Moderator: Dr. Stephanie Snow

After tackling diagnostic bottlenecks (Session 1) and treatment access & drug approval (Session 2), our final session pulls it all together. Closing the Gap: Collective Actions to Shorten Time to Patient focuses on the cross-sector moves that turn evidence into access—consistently and fairly—across Canada.

We'll explore pragmatic, shared actions: harmonized criteria, parallel review models, time-limited/conditional funding with real-world evidence, service-standard timelines, and tighter linkage between diagnostics and treatment readiness.

Panelists:

- Dr. Judith Glennie — Health policy/HTA expert
- Dr. Sandeep Sehdev — Medical Oncologist, The Ottawa Hospital; Co-Chair, Cancer Clinician Advocacy Forum
- Laura Greer — Executive Vice President, Health & Wellness, and Global Client Lead, Burson
- Zahra Akbar — Senior Policy Analyst, Innovative Medicines Canada

Why attend?

- Turn policy and clinical insight into coordinated actions across regulators, HTA/pricing bodies, provinces, and care teams
- Learn where time is lost—and how to fix it together
- Leave with a short list of 90-day moves you can implement in your setting
- Engage in a live Q&A to surface roadblocks and solutions

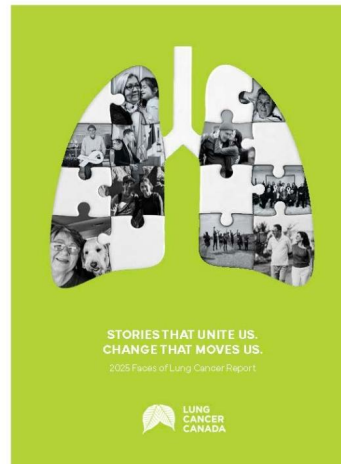
This capstone closes our 2025 series, Bridging the Gap: Precision Medicine in Lung Cancer Diagnosis and Treatment. Add your voice — and help deliver the right test, right treatment, right time for every person in Canada.

**Register
now!**

Lung Cancer Awareness Month **LCAM**



November 6th
12:00 PM - 1:30 PM EST



2025 Faces of Lung Cancer Report Briefing: Stories That Unite Us. Change That Moves Us.

Wednesday, November 6, 2025 | 12:00–1:30 PM EST | Virtual

This year's Faces of Lung Cancer Report moves beyond awareness and access to focus on impact and transformation — amplifying the voices of those with lived experience and clinicians who are changing what it means to live with lung cancer in Canada. Join us for a national briefing that connects powerful stories to practical steps for earlier detection, faster access, and fairer care.

What you'll experience:

- Real stories from people with lived and living experience — hard, hopeful, and action-oriented
- Clinician insights on diagnostics, treatment readiness, and survivorship
- Clear takeaways you can bring to your clinic, program, or community

Featured speakers:

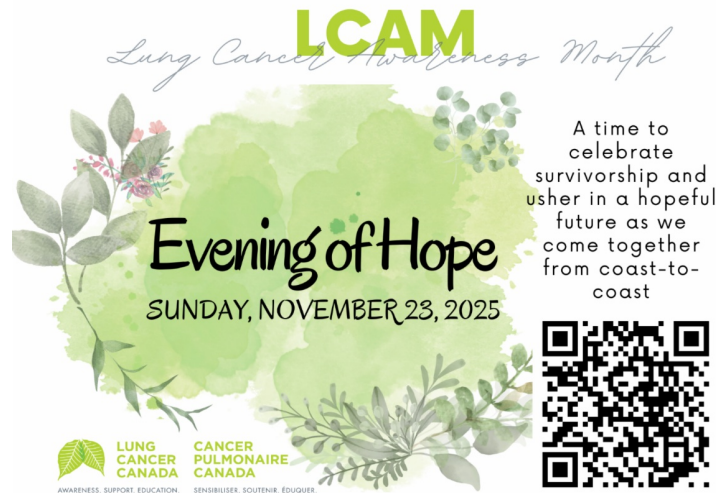
- Dr. Rosalyn Juergens — Medical Oncologist, Juravinski Cancer Centre; President, Lung Cancer Canada
- Dr. Brandon Sheffield — Pathologist, William Osler Health System
- Bonnie Leung — Nurse Practitioner & Clinician Scientist, BC Cancer
- Dr. Lorraine Bell, Judy Hollingsworth, Aurica Runcan, Scott Lanaway — patients, caregivers, and advocates

Why it matters:

The Faces of Lung Cancer is more than a report—it's a platform for change. This year's edition spotlights where systems stall and how to fix them, centring equity so progress reaches every community.

Who should attend:

Those with lived experience, clinicians and navigators, policymakers and administrators, researchers, industry partners, and anyone committed to faster, fairer lung cancer care.



An Evening That Lights the Way Forward: Join Us for the 2025 Evening of Hope!

Sunday, November 23, 2025

Every story. Every life. Every moment of courage.

This fall, be part of something extraordinary. Lung Cancer Canada's Evening of Hope is a national, multi-city gathering that celebrates strength, resilience, and the community that carries us forward. We'll come together in Toronto, Montreal, Halifax, Calgary, Edmonton, Vancouver, and through a national online experience so no one is left out.

Why it matters:

Lung cancer remains the leading cause of cancer death in Canada and is too often underfunded and stigmatized. The Evening of Hope is our answer to that silence: a night that lifts up the stories that matter, honours the lives that inspire, and shines a light on the future we're building together.

What to expect

- Connection and remembrance — space to honour loved ones and celebrate survivorship
- Voices from across Canada — people with lived experience, caregivers, and clinicians
- Community in action — a united message that lung cancer is a priority, and no one faces it alone

Register now for Evening of Hope!

Advancing Lung Cancer Research: Innovation, Equity, Impact

Research sits at the heart of Lung Cancer Canada — because research saves lives.

Breakthroughs in diagnostics and personalized therapies are reshaping care, but lung cancer remains Canada's leading cause of cancer death and is still underfunded and overlooked. As the only Canadian charity focused exclusively on lung cancer, we invest where research can move the needle fastest.

Our approach is patient-partnered and practice-oriented. We back studies that close real-world gaps—speeding imaging and pathology, expanding biomarker testing, improving navigation, and translating evidence into access across communities.

In 2025, we've already awarded over \$150,000 to Canadian teams advancing discovery across the continuum—from diagnostics and treatment to access and patient navigation—with more to come.

2025 Lung Ambition Award Recipients and new applications opening soon!

In partnership with AstraZeneca and the Lung Ambition Alliance, Lung Cancer Canada is proud to co-lead this national research awards program focused on improving the patient pathway. We are proud to announce the recipients of the 2025 award:

- Dr. Emilian Olteanu (BC Cancer): Investigating the use of bronchoalveolar lavage (BAL) fluid to detect tumour DNA in early-stage lung cancer. This less-invasive method could improve diagnosis, especially for tumours located in hard-to-reach areas of the lung.
- Dr. Antoine Desilets (CHUM, Montreal): Advancing a next-generation liquid biopsy using whole-genome sequencing to identify tumour DNA through blood samples — with the potential to enable faster, earlier diagnosis and more personalized treatment for patients with early-stage lung cancer.

The next application cycle for the Lung Ambition Awards will be opening up on November 3rd, 2025 until February 20, 2026. For more information on how to apply, [visit our website here](#).

Give a Breath Research Award

Funded through the Give a Breath 5K, this new award supports innovative projects for patients living with advanced or metastatic lung cancer — particularly after first-line therapy.

Applications are now closed for the 2025 cycle. The next round of applications will open in June 2026, stay tuned for more information!

To learn more about this award opportunity, [visit our website here](#).



Geoffrey Ogram Memorial Research Award

Founded in honour of lung cancer advocate and former Lung Cancer Canada Board member Geoffrey Ogram, this award funds high-impact projects focused on early detection, prevention, and disparities across populations.

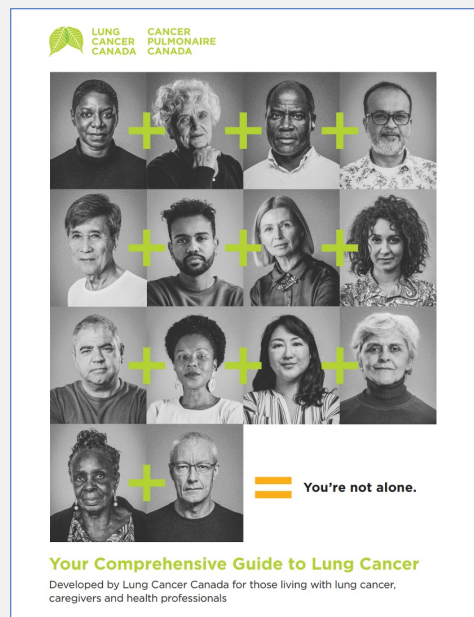
Applications are now closed for the 2025 cycle. The next round of applications will open in Spring 2026, stay tuned for more information!

To learn more about this award opportunity, [click here!](#)

Through continued investments like these, Lung Cancer Canada is helping to close the research gap — one that has long left lung cancer behind.

Thank you to the donors, research teams, and partners who make this progress possible. Together, we're building a future where breakthroughs are not the exception, but the expectation — and every Canadian affected by lung cancer has hope, options, and time.

Stay tuned for more announcements and impact stories in the months ahead.



Your Comprehensive Guide to Lung Cancer

Available in print or download — English & French

When lung cancer touches your life, information shouldn't be hard to find — or hard to understand. Your Comprehensive Guide to Lung Cancer is Lung Cancer Canada's plain-language handbook for patients, families, and care teams. It's designed to help you navigate every step of the journey with confidence.

And for our Chinese community, please stay tuned for the simplified Chinese version of the Comprehensive Guide, coming later this fall!

What's inside:

- Understanding lung cancer: types, staging, biomarker testing
- Treatment options: surgery, radiation, chemotherapy, targeted therapy, immunotherapy
- Making decisions: questions to ask, second opinions, clinical trials
- Supportive care: symptom and side-effect management, nutrition, mental health
- Living with and beyond cancer: survivorship, palliative care, advance care planning
- Practical help: navigating the system, financial and workplace considerations, travel and accommodation tips
- Tools & checklists: appointment prep sheets, medication trackers, glossary of terms
- Resources: national and provincial supports, patient organizations, credible websites

Who it's for:

- People living with lung cancer who want clear, up-to-date information
- Caregivers and families looking for practical guidance and support
- Clinicians and navigators seeking an easy resource to share with patients

Get your copy now!

- Download here (PDF): [English](#) or [French](#)
- Order print: Individual copies or clinic bundles

Why this guide?

As the only Canadian charity focused exclusively on lung cancer, Lung Cancer Canada created this guide with those with lived experience and clinicians to ensure it's accurate, accessible, and truly useful in real life. Use it to prepare for appointments, track decisions, and share information with the people supporting you.

Have questions or need help ordering? Contact us at info@lungcancercanada.ca



Lung Cancer Canada is the country's only national charity dedicated exclusively to lung cancer — and we rely on the generosity of donors like you.

Your gift powers vital programs, trusted information, patient support, advocacy, and research that turn evidence into access for people and families across Canada.



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