



## **Groundbreaking Research Partnership Launched at Terry Fox Event**

**CALGARY – August 25, 2008.** At a gathering August 27 to celebrate the arrival of Terry Fox's van in Calgary, representatives of the Terry Fox Research Institute (TFRI) and the Alberta Cancer Board (ACB) will announce a new partnership designed to support translational cancer research in Alberta.

The goal of translational research is to fast-track discoveries made in the laboratory into practical measures that will improve outcomes for cancer patients – as well as those at risk of developing cancer. The new partnership builds upon the scientific and clinical strengths of the Alberta Cancer Board's researchers at the Tom Baker Cancer Centre in Calgary and the Cross Cancer Institute in Edmonton, who will work closely alongside their colleagues in Alberta's universities. The Terry Fox Research Institute contributes to this partnership through the involvement of researchers based at other leading cancer care and research institutions across Canada.

TFRI Scientific Director Dr. Victor Ling will be joined by Calgary research team leader Dr. Peter Forsyth to discuss the new partnership and several upcoming research studies. Scientists from the province's leading hospitals will be working together on projects that will lead to more personalized – and therefore more effective – cancer care. The partnership between ACB and TFRI represents an investment of \$20 million into translational research over five years.

"Our institution is dedicated to keeping Terry Fox's dream alive – bringing people together to produce results that will improve the health of people touched by cancer," said Dr. Ling. "The Alberta Cancer Board shares the same goal, and we are thrilled to be working with them to fund research that we expect will deliver significant advances in the way that individual cancers are treated in future."

"Our partnership with the Terry Fox Research Institute will enable us to pursue research programs that will accelerate the pace of progress across the entire cancer research continuum," said Dr. Cyril Kay, vice-president of research for the Alberta Cancer Board. "Unfortunately, translational research has been underfunded in the past. The Terry Fox Research initiative will enable us to accelerate the advent of new strategies to prevent, detect and treat cancer."

Dr. Ling and Dr. Forsyth will be available to take media questions following the announcement. The event takes place at the Calgary offices of Scotia McLeod, Suite 300, 119-6th Ave. SW., from 3-6 p.m. on Wednesday, August 27, 2008.

### **About the Terry Fox Research Institute**

The Terry Fox Foundation has established the Terry Fox Research Institute (TFRI) as a not-for-profit federal corporation with a mission to work collaboratively to ensure that today's best science becomes tomorrow's affordable medicine. The TFRI is a national organization with a network of interactive translational cancer research centres across the country. This includes centres in Alberta, British Columbia, Ontario and Quebec, with additional sites planned for the near future.

### **About the Alberta Cancer Board**

The Alberta Cancer Board (ACB) co-ordinates and funds collaborative cancer research and provides evidence-based prevention, screening, diagnosis, treatment and care for the residents of Alberta. ACB has developed the Alberta Cancer Research Institute (ACRI) to enhance Alberta's internationally recognized position as a leader in cancer research through the provincial co-ordination of cancer research programs across the cancer control continuum that includes prevention, detection, diagnosis, treatment, health services and palliation.

For more information: [www.tfri.ca](http://www.tfri.ca) or [www.cancerboard.ab.ca](http://www.cancerboard.ab.ca).

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