

# BioCanRx

Canada's Immunotherapy Network  
Le réseau canadien d'immunothérapie

## Annual Report 2018-2019



# A Message from the BioCanRx Network

*We are pleased to present this report on BioCanRx's accomplishments in 2018-2019 – the network's fourth full year of operation.*

BioCanRx, Canada's Immunotherapy Network, moved forward in 2018-19 with its mandate to accelerate the translation of mature Canadian technologies from the lab into early phase clinical testing. Eight new collaborative research projects were funded this year. Since 2015, 45 research projects have been funded. Of these, thirteen projects are completed and are advancing along the development pipeline. This year, BioCanRx continued to fund five core facilities and 70 researchers across the country. 100% of our research dollars have now been committed and we are pleased to share that \$62.1M is estimated in partner matching funds in Cycle 1 (2015-2020).

Since BioCanRx and its partners announced funding in 2017 for CAR T manufacturing in Canada, significant capacity-building activities have developed the necessary infrastructure and operating procedures to manufacture and deliver a Canadian-made CAR T cell product for the first Canadian academic-led CAR T clinical trial. Health Canada approved this trial in January 2019, and it is expected to open in early fiscal 2019-20. This new capacity will pave the way so researchers can clinically develop next generation CAR Ts in Canada. BioCanRx continues to gain recognition by regulators on the implementation of this ground-breaking therapy, implementing Health Canada recommendations of 'built-in' early HTA for early state trials in the current CAR T trial.

Along with engaging the expertise in Canada's academic community, BioCanRx continues to build partnerships with industry. We are proud to have contributed funding and expertise to researchers who have created two new start-up companies – Empirica Therapeutics Inc. in Hamilton and Virica Biotech Inc. in Ottawa. A key goal of BioCanRx is to develop the translational ecosystem and help build the biotech sector in Canada. Additionally, Knowledge and Technology Exchange and Exploitation activities among our network included five new products or innovations, eight patent applications, one license granted under negotiation, 196 publications and numerous speaking engagements.

BioCanRx is committed to training the next generation of cancer immunotherapy researchers and addressing training gaps in clinical translational research. This year, our Highly Qualified Personnel (HQP) grew to 379 members across Canada. BioCanRx offered its HQP numerous learning opportunities, internships, travel awards, lab exchanges and avenues to engage with patients such as the Learning Institute at the annual Summit for Cancer Immunotherapy (Summit4CI). The latter experience has been extremely rewarding to both the Cancer Stakeholder Alliance (CSA) participants and participating HQP as can be gauged from the [2018 Community Dissemination Report](#).

Patient engagement continues to be at the heart of BioCanRx to ensure our research works towards meeting the unmet needs of the cancer patient community. Our CSA members from health charity, patient and caregiver communities, provide the network with advice on strategy and research priorities. In addition to the Learning Institute, BioCanRx also holds a Patient-Researcher Roundtable at the Summit4CI.

In October, BioCanRx President & CEO, Dr. Stéphanie Michaud, was invited to speak about patient-researcher engagement at the World Cancer Congress in Kuala Lumpur. In March, BioCanRx Scientific Director, Dr. John Bell, received the inaugural European Society for Gene and Cell Therapy (ESGCT) Public and Patient Engagement Award. This is the first-ever honour of its kind offered by ESGCT. The award recognizes outstanding contribution to, and participation in, public and patient stakeholder engagement.

***Translating cancer  
immunotherapy innovations  
for the benefit of patients.***

BioCanRx's success is made possible by the commitment of many people and organizations. We would like to acknowledge the funding support of the Government of Canada's Networks of Centres of Excellence program. We thank the Ottawa Hospital Research Institute for hosting BioCanRx and for its continued commitment to cancer immunotherapy research. Thanks also are owed to BioCanRx's Board of Directors, Research Management Committee, network members, researchers, HQP, the CSA membership, our many partners and the network's administrative staff.

We are proud of our accomplishments this year and look forward to continuing to find new ways for the body's immune system to outsmart and kill cancer and to support the translation of cancer immunotherapy innovations for the benefit of Canadian patients.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ken Newport'.

**Ken Newport**  
Chair, Board of Directors  
Le président du conseil



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Bell'.

**John C. Bell, PhD**  
Scientific Director  
Le directeur scientifique



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Michaud'.

**Stéphanie Michaud, PhD**  
President and CEO  
La présidente-directrice  
générale

# Our Research

BioCanRx, Canada's Immunotherapy Network, is dedicated to accelerating to the clinic Canada's most promising and innovative cancer biotherapeutics designed to save lives and enable a better quality of life for patients.

**5** CORE FACILITIES

**8** RESEARCH PROJECTS

**20** NETWORK MEMBERS

**70** FUNDED NETWORK INVESTIGATORS

**\$31,642,721** PARTNER FUNDS LEVERAGED



## Knowledge & Technology Transfer



**2** NEW SPINOUT COMPANIES

**5** NEW PRODUCTS/ INNOVATIONS

**LICENSES:**  
**1** GRANTED IN NEGOTIATION

**196** PUBLICATIONS

**8** PATENT APPLICATIONS FILED

## HQP Training Program



**220** FUNDED HQP

**15** WORKSHOPS

**15** SUMMER STUDENTSHIPS



“The opportunity given by BioCanRx will provide me with many opportunities to get involved with the hospital network, collaborate with peers, and learn from my mentors. Furthermore, this position will allow me to develop relevant research skills that I will be able to use while pursuing my Master's degree.”  
-Analyssa Cardena, HQP

## Patient Engagement

“It is important to remember that patients have a lot to teach others about the cancer landscape and this initiative helps the patient voice be heard. I want to thank and commend BioCanRx for being so committed to patient engagement in cancer research.”

-Louise Binder, Cancer Stakeholder Alliance Working Group Member, Health Policy Consultant, Save Your Skin Foundation



Dr. John Bell

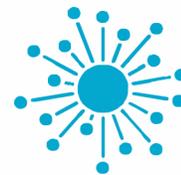
Public & Patient Engagement Award



EUROPEAN SOCIETY OF GENE & CELL THERAPY



Presentation given on the Learning Institute concept



SUMMIT FOR **CANCER** IMMUNOTHERAPY

**100** TRAVEL AWARDS

**310** SUMMIT ATTENDEES

**38** SUMMIT SPEAKERS

**100%** OF 2018 EXHIBITORS ACHIEVED GOALS



# Financial Statements for Fiscal Year 2018-19

## États financiers pour l'exercice 2018-19

Statement of Financial Position  
MARCH 31, 2019

BILAN  
31 MARS 2019

	2019	2018	
<b>ASSETS</b>			<b>ACTIF</b>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			<b>ACTIF À COURT TERME</b>
Cash	\$ 4,965,080	\$ 7,552,403	Encaisse
Amounts receivable (Note 8)	42,793	141,949	Comptes à recevoir (note 8)
Prepaid expenditures	39,867	88,481	Dépenses payées d'avance
	5,047,740	7,782,833	
<b>PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT (Note 2)</b>	15,897	35,824	<b>IMMOBILISATIONS (note 2)</b>
<b>CASH - EXTERNALLY RESTRICTED</b>	-	340,000	<b>ENCAISSE - AVEC RESTRICTIONS EXTERNES</b>
	\$ 5,063,637	\$ 8,158,657	
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>			<b>PASSIF ET ACTIFS NETS</b>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			<b>PASSIF À COURT TERME</b>
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (Notes 8 and 10)	\$ 95,005	\$ 44,062	Comptes fournisseurs et charges à payer (notes 8 et 10)
Government remittances payable	204	-	Remises gouvernementales à payer
Research grants payable	-	656,792	Subventions de recherche à payer
Deferred revenue	-	10,000	Revenus perçus d'avance
	95,209	710,854	
<b>DEFERRED CONTRIBUTIONS (Note 3)</b>	4,448,345	7,133,319	<b>APPORTS REPORTÉS (note 3)</b>
<b>DEFERRED CAPITAL CONTRIBUTIONS (Note 4)</b>	10,500	28,500	<b>APPORTS REPORTÉS AFFÉRENTS AUX IMMOBILISATIONS (note 4)</b>
	4,458,845	7,161,819	
<b>NET ASSETS</b>			<b>ACTIFS NETS</b>
Invested in property and equipment	5,397	7,324	Investis dans les immobilisations
Unrestricted	504,186	278,660	Non affectés
	509,583	285,984	
	\$ 5,063,637	\$ 8,158,657	

Commitments (Note 5)  
Economic dependence (Note 9)  
Financial instruments (Note 10)

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:

 , Director  
 , Director

For full financial disclosure information:  
<https://biocanrx.com/new-events/publications>

Engagements (note 5)  
Dépendance économique (note 9)  
Instruments financiers (note 10)

AU NOM DU CONSEIL

 , Administrateur(trice)  
 , Administrateur(trice)

Afin de recevoir l'information financière:  
<https://bit.ly/2Nobe2V>

**STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND  
EXPENDITURES**

**YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2019**

**ÉTAT DES RÉSULTATS**

**EXERCICE TERMINÉ LE 31 MARS 2019**

	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>	
<b>REVENUE</b>			<b>REVENUS</b>
Networks of Centres of Excellence grant (Note 3)	\$ 5,262,473	\$ 6,563,944	Subvention des réseaux de centres d'excellence du Canada (note 3)
Contributed services in-kind (Note 8)	66,000	66,000	Apports en nature (note 8)
Recognition of deferred capital contributions (Note 4)	18,000	18,000	Apports reportés afférents aux immobilisations constatés (note 4)
Partner funding (Note 3)	-	99,757	Financement de partenaires (note 3)
Sponsorship and event registration fees	214,962	190,610	Frais d'inscription aux événements et commandites
Miscellaneous (Note 8)	63,475	62,483	Divers (note 8)
	<u>5,624,910</u>	<u>7,000,794</u>	
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>			<b>DÉPENSES</b>
Mission Fulfillment:			Réalisation de la mission:
Research grants (Note 6)	3,877,653	5,301,372	Subventions de recherche (note 6)
Research travel	5,406	20,058	Frais de déplacements pour la recherche
Training (Note 6)	200,662	127,295	Formation (note 6)
Cancer summit (Note 6)	618,663	516,005	Sommet sur le cancer (note 6)
Communications (Note 6)	156,404	138,772	Communications (note 6)
Knowledge mobilization (Note 6)	20,675	91,143	Mobilisation des connaissances (note 6)
Commercialization core facility (Note 6)	3,000	44,606	Centre de commercialisation (note 6)
	<u>4,882,463</u>	<u>6,239,251</u>	
Governance and Administration:			Gouvernance et administration:
Amortization	22,875	24,691	Amortissement
Networking	39,230	54,585	Réseautage
Operating (Note 8)	111,145	105,686	Opérations (note 8)
Professional and consulting fees	49,939	40,137	Honoraires professionnels et de consultation
Salaries and benefits (Notes 6, 7 and 8)	277,154	311,545	Salaires et avantages sociaux (notes 6, 7 et 8)
Subcontractors	-	1,920	Sous-traitants
Recruiting	426	2,679	Recrutement
Travel	18,079	23,490	Déplacements
	<u>518,848</u>	<u>564,733</u>	
	<u>5,401,311</u>	<u>6,803,984</u>	
<b>EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$ 223,599</b>	<b>\$ 196,810</b>	<b>EXCÉDENT DES REVENUS SUR LES DÉPENSES</b>

**For the latest BioCanRx news and network activities:**  
Pour les dernières nouvelles et activités du réseau BioCanRx:



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[info@biocanrx.com](mailto:info@biocanrx.com)

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