

## What is the Learning Institute?

The BioCanRx-Cancer Stakeholder Alliance Learning Institute brings together leaders from oncology patient communities (**patient scholars**) and BioCanRx Trainees (**academic scholars**) from the immunotherapy research community to engage in **interactive, collaborative, and bidirectional knowledge exchange** activities at the annual Summit for Cancer Immunotherapy. The overall aim of the Learning Institute is to ensure that novel cancer immunotherapy research is **accessible** to the cancer patient community.

### Goals

- ✓ Create a model of learning that encourages, supports and creates the integration of patient leaders into the scientific conference
- ✓ Integrate the patient/caregiver perspective to ensure cancer research is well-informed by the patient voice and lived experience
- ✓ Ensure that cancer immunotherapy research is accessible so that patients can be advocates to their community
- ✓ Bridge the knowledge gap between patients and researchers through bi-directional learning
- ✓ Connect patients and caregivers with researchers to facilitate patient involvement in cancer research projects

## The Five Main Components of the Learning Institute

### PRE-SUMMIT TRAINING



Familiarization of basic cancer biology and immunotherapy concepts in advance of the Summit for Cancer Immunotherapy.

### KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE SYSTEM



Buddy groups get together and discuss the research they have heard. After discussion, buddy groups present to the group and explain the key take-aways of the research.

### BUDDY SYSTEM



The buddy system involves pairing a technical expert (academic scholar) with people with lived cancer experience (patient scholars) for sharing of their respective expertise.

### DISSEMINATION REPORT



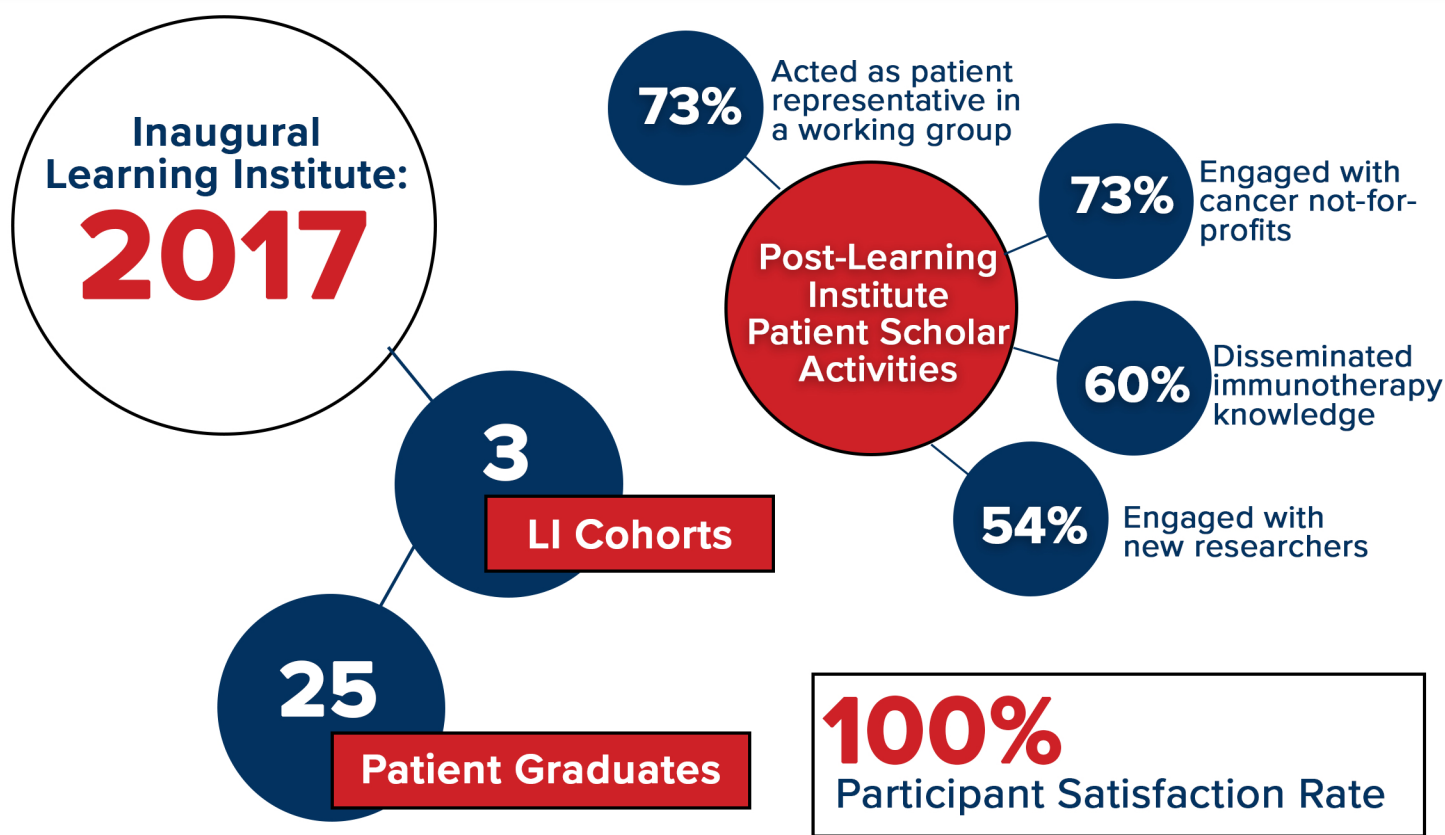
Co-authorship of a community dissemination report outlining key takeaways from the Summit. The report is available to the public and is written in lay language to make it accessible.



### PATIENT-RESEARCHER ROUNDTABLE

Learning Institute participants and BioCanRx funded investigators connect over lunch to discuss ongoing research projects.

## The Learning Institute Impact



## The Patient Experience

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The Learning Institute provided us with the tools and the resources necessary to acquire skills and knowledge that would otherwise be difficult to obtain....the many opportunities provided to connect with scientists and other patient advocates throughout the program allowed me to develop my networks and increase my resources, which will, in turn, allow me to better address the systemic and individual needs of cancer patients across Canada. I am a better patient advocate because of the Learning Institute, as I feel better equipped and prepared as I continue my contributions towards the improvement of cancer care in Canada.”

-Denis Raymond, 2019 Learning Institute Patient Scholar;  
Social Worker, Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada

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I believe we have created the start of something very valuable for patients and researchers alike. 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.”

-Louise Binder, BioCanRx CSA Working Group Chair, Health Policy Consultant, Save Your Skin Foundation

## Interested in Participating?

For more information please visit the BioCanRx website at <https://biocanrx.com> or email us at [info@biocanrx.com](mailto:info@biocanrx.com).