

HISTORY OF TOM BAKER CANCER CENTRE

CELEBRATING CANCER CARE
1981 - 2011





ALBERTA CANCER BOARD (ACB) HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

Alberta's leadership in cancer services commenced in 1940 with the enactment of the Cancer Treatment and Prevention act that established the first cancer services program for Albertans. The purposes of the program were to alleviate the economic hardship of cancer patients through payment of their medical expenses, provide centralized radiation and statistical services and a variety of services relating to early diagnosis and follow-up. Organized programs in prevention, education and research did not exist at that time.

Cancer services were administered by the Department of Health of the Provincial Government from 1940 until 1967 when the Provincial Cancer Hospitals Board was established and assumed responsibility for operating cancer treatment and research facilities in Alberta. In 1982 the Cancer Treatment and Prevention Act was replaced with the enactment of the Cancer Programs Act and the renaming of the governing body to the Alberta Cancer Board. Revisions to the Cancer Programs Act were made in 1983, 1984 and in 1992. The 1984 amendment to the act established the Alberta Cancer Foundation, a charitable organization with the mandate to solicit and receive donations to support the purposes of the Alberta Cancer Board in the prevention, detection and treatment of cancer and cancer research.



ALBERTA CANCER BOARD: HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

Vision

- Excellence in cancer control

Mission

- Reduce the burden of cancer through prevention, screening, diagnosis, treatment, palliation, education and research.

Guiding Principles

- The following principles guide the provision of cancer services in Alberta and support those identified in the business plan of Alberta Health and Wellness.
- Cancer Care programs will be conducted to achieve continuous improvement in patient outcomes and efficient resource utilization.
- Cancer Research is the foundation upon which high quality programs in cancer treatment, prevention and education continue to be built.
- Cancer Prevention, Detection and Education. The Alberta Cancer Board is committed to work with others to ensure that Albertans receive consistent and accurate messages which empower them to minimize their own risks for developing cancer.



Keep The Flame but Retired the Name

“To remember the route taken to become what we are today as the Alberta Cancer Board and remind ourselves just how much can be achieved when likeminded people act together”.
Dr. Peter Craighead

In 2009 the Alberta Cancer Board was officially replaced by Alberta Health Services.



Our Vision

To become the best-performing, publicly funded health system in Canada.

Our Mission

To provide a patient-focused, quality health system that is accessible and sustainable for all Albertans.

Our Values

Our [core values](#) drive and sustain all Alberta health Services activities.

Our History

The creation of AHS was announced on May 15, 2008, by Ron Liepert, Minister of Health and Wellness.



90 YEARS OF CANCER CARE IN CALGARY, ALBERTA

November is a month of celebrations for the Tom Baker Cancer Centre. The Tom Baker Cancer Centre, an internationally acclaimed site for cancer treatment and research with the latest technology and resources at its fingertips is just the latest facility to offer outstanding treatment in a long standing tradition of quality cancer care in Calgary. Professionals in Calgary have been pioneers in research and treatment for cancer for over 90 years giving us a long and rich history to learn from and be proud of.

Cancer care in Alberta during the first half of this century consisted mostly of surgery and some radiotherapy. Albertans went to the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, for specialized cancer treatment.

WHERE IT ALL STARTED....

1918-1920

Departments of Radiation Oncology and Medical Physics was located on 7th Avenue on what is now the site of the Hudson's Bay Company parkade in downtown Calgary.



WHERE IT ALL STARTED...

1918-1920

Dr. W.H. McGuffin started the clinic. A Canadian pioneer in radiology and a ranking authority on the treatment of cancer by X-ray. The McGuffin Radium and X-Ray institute was established in the treatment of cancer with the use of X-rays and intracavity radiation treatment (brachytherapy). Cancer patients were treated by their family doctors and often were sent to the Institute for X-ray treatment.

1940-1941

On December 10, 1940, the provincial government acknowledged the far reaching effects that cancer had on Albertans and passed legislation known as the “Cancer Treatment and Prevention Act” with this legislation, Alberta became one of the first jurisdictions in North America to provide free cancer diagnosis and treatment to its citizens. The immediate result of this legislation was the opening of the cancer clinics in Calgary and Edmonton in early 1941.

The Calgary Cancer Clinic first location



The Calgary Cancer Clinic was located in an unused operating room on the third floor of the Holy Cross Hospital. It ran as an out patient department with clinics being held twice a week. The only three recognized forms of treatment at the time were surgery, x-ray therapy and radium therapy. Those patients requiring x-ray or radium therapy were referred to the Institute on 7th Avenue.

1943-1946

The Institute had grown with the demands placed upon it with the opening of the cancer clinic and in 1943 started an on the job training program for Radiation Technologists, the graduate from this program being Beth Parton who graduated in 1946.

1949

The Hudson's Bay Company required land to build their parkade and the institute moved to the Medical Arts Building on 6th Avenue and 3rd Street SW. Calgary

1948-1959



The Calgary Cancer Clinic was also growing and in 1948 it moved to larger quarters in the basement of the Holy Cross. In 1959 the Cancer Clinic moved again when the Alberta government build a building on the property of the Holy Cross Hospital. It was in this building that all branches of Calgary cancer care first came together under one roof as the Radium and X-ray Institute closed and its staff also moved in the new clinic.

1950 – The Cancer Registry was formed and enlarged by the Division of Epidemiology, Prevention, and Screening.

1950 – The Alberta Cancer Foundation was also formed.

In **1950** - Shortly after moving to the new building, a group of women from the surrounding community who served tea to patients awaiting treatment formed the Ladies Service Group which later became known as Volunteer Services.

THE SIXTIES AND SEVENTIES WERE A TIME OF MAJOR GROWTH

1963-1978

- **1963** – Cliff Walls began the machine shop.
- **1966** – Dr. E.R. Smith and Beth Parton began the School of Radiation Therapy as we now know it.
- **1966-1969** – Pat Fisher took over the training responsibility until 1969. The first graduate of the school, Sharon Moorhead who worked in Radiation Therapy.
- **1967** – Dr. Ian Scott Brown became the Director of Radiation Oncology.
- **1967** – The Provincial Cancer Hospital Board with Dr. Tom Baker as the Chair of the Board.
- **1976** – Dr. Keith Arthur joined as a Radiation Oncologist.
- **1976** – Pediatric Oncology program was established jointly with the U of C, Faculty of Medicine and Alberta Children's Hospital
- **1977** – Dr. L.M. Jerry became the Director of the centre.
- **1977** – Mr. Wally Foster became the first Administrator of the Calgary Cancer Clinic.

1977-1981

1977 - Dr. Peter Geggie was recruited to establish the Medical Oncology department, also he established the Clinical Trials Group.

1978 – Medical Day Care opened on October 11, 1978 with Dr. P. Geggie, Dr. J. Russell, Fay Gatercole, and Nancy Grainger now Westmore working together to administer a new type of cancer treatment, Chemotherapy.

NEW CANCER LOCATION

The new centre located in the Special Services building of the Foothills Hospital. Dr's Arthur, Brown and Jerry worked hard to ensure that this facility would provide multidisciplinary care to all the citizens of Southern Alberta. Months before the move the new location, the new centre was named the Tom Baker Cancer Centre after Dr. Tom Baker in recognition of his contribution to cancer care in Alberta as he acted as chairman of the board from 1967-1981.





1981

The Tom Baker Cancer Centre opened its doors in October 23, 1981 as a complete multidisciplinary centre with the following departments:

- Radiation Oncology
- Medical Oncology
- Medical Physics
- Bone Marrow Transplant
- EPI and Prevention
- Gynecological Oncology
- Surgical Oncology
- Pathology Department
- Nursing
- Outpatient Unit
- Day Care Unit
- Library
- Volunteer Services
- Operating Room
- Nutritional Services

The Tom Baker Cancer Centre also had a full Psychosocial Services department, one of the first of its kind on all of North America. The Psychosocial developed into an academic department.



1990

By 1990, Research and Teaching were enhanced by inception of the Heritage Cancer Research Fund, the Department of Oncology (1990) and the building of the Alberta Heritage and Medical Research, and SACRI, ACCRU.

In the last decade has been a vast expansion of coordinated partnerships which have always been a core element of service development in Calgary. The Alberta Cancer Board, Calgary Health Region, Palliative Care Network, Community Cancer Care Network, Associate Cancer Centres (Lethbridge and Medicine Hat), the CPM/ICCN initiative, University of Calgary are examples of the complex interactions.

As the Tom Baker Cancer Centre leaps into the 21st Century with new technology and research in search for better treatments, and possibly a cure, it has behind it a solid and proud history built by men and women who strived to work by a motto which is inscribed upon a plaque at the main door: *“To cure Sometimes, To Relieve Often, To Comfort Always”*.

1992

The Department of Oncology within the Faculty of Medicine was formalized in 1992.

1995

Expansion of 2 Radiation Therapy vaults.

1998-2001

New expansion at the Tom Baker Cancer Centre to meet growth until 2010.



2004

April 2004 marked the beginning of exciting new changes for the TBCC patients and staff. Four programs have moved to their new facility at the Family Medicine Building at the ACB's Holy Cross site – Screen Test, Population Health Programs, Cervical Screening, and Psychosocial Resources.



2005-2007

Expansion to Phase 2-3 at the Holy Cross to support growth until 2012-2013. A Master Plan is underway for a new building for the Cancer Care to be built in Calgary. In 2007 these plans for a New Cancer Institute was put on hold.

2010

On December 9, 2010 the Minister of Health and Wellness Gene Zwozdesky announced Cancer treatment capacity in Calgary will expand as a result of \$141 million cancer infrastructure plan. This is to support integrated and comprehensive cancer care, and the demands of a growing and aging population.

This announcement is a milestone for our commitment to maintaining and expanding a world-class cancer care program in Alberta.



Dr. Thomas Davidson Baker



Dr. Thomas D. Baker
Chairman, Alberta Cancer Board
1967-1981

Dr. Thomas Davidson Baker was a pioneer educator, a humanitarian, health care, a man who made our city and province a better place to live. He was an outstanding leader and one of the great men of Alberta.

Born in Coutbridge, Scotland in 1910. Tom emigrated to Canada at the age of 12. Graduated from the Calgary Normal School in 1928. He taught in public school in Calgary and Edmonton.

Dr. Tom Baker had a tremendous impact on the establishment of diagnostic and treatment services throughout Alberta. For 17 years he served as chairman of the Provincial Cancer Board. In 1981, Dr. Tom Baker received a high tribute as a new health care facility in Calgary was named the Tom Baker Cancer Centre.

TBCC Wall of Fame



Dr. Robert C. Riley
Director 1941-1957



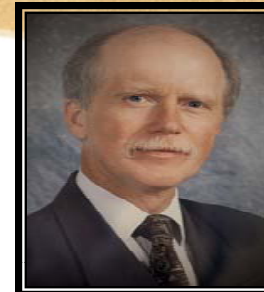
Dr. Thomas Melling
Director 1957-1967



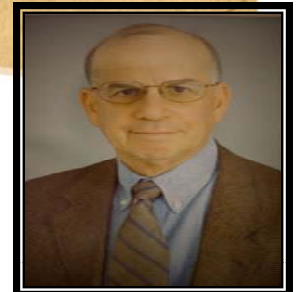
Dr. James R. Francis
Director 1967-1977



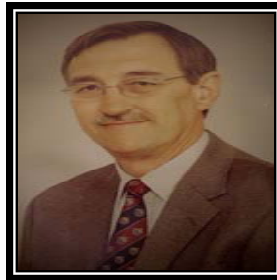
Dr. L. Martin Jerry
Director 1977-1991



Dr. Gavin C.E. Stuart
Director 1992-2003



Dr. George P. Browman
Director 2004-2006



Dr. Peter S. Craighead
Director 2007-2009

Do you remember...a few names from the past

- Dr. Fred Alexander
- Dr. Keith Arthur
- Dr. Michael Barnes
- Dr. Ian Scott Brown
- Dr. Martin Jerry
- Dr. Kam Jugdev
- Dr. Tom Ringrose
- Dr. Gavin Stuart
- Dr. Keith Arthur
- Dr. E. Rapp
- Dr. A.R. McClelland
- Dr. Marianne Krahn
- Dr. Heather Hicks
- Dr. A. Chan
- Dr. Heather Bryant
- Dr. Trudy Cabtree
- Dr. Colum Smith
- Dr. Catherine de Metz
- Dr. Trey Petty
- Dr. Bob Pow
- Dr. Bob Ruether
- Dr. Alfred Wong
- Dr. Helen MacRae

- Jackie Appleton
- Pauline Ashley
- Isabella Barnowski
- Bonnie Corradetti
- Wally Foster
- Faye Gathercole
- Glen Higgs
- Ian and Sue Hudson
- Lorraine Johannson
- Agnes Kennedy
- Jan Koopmans
- Fern Marks
- Carole May
- Joyce Ohr
- Harry Plummer
- Kathy Rasmussen
- Dorothy Schumaker
- Liz Tapley
- Cheryl Wares
- Dan Worden
- Jack Weaver
- Millie Shyba
- Kathryn Keresztesi

- Lori Letwin
- Karen Powell
- Linda Rempel
- Eve Lee
- Karen Chromik
- Mary Bennett
- Lois Dumenko-Russell
- Betty Wagner
- Susan Price
- Diane Hanslip
- Ann Pelletier
- Betty Pow
- Sharon Young
- Angelika Gordon
- Alix Souloudre
- Pat Berg
- Heather Davie
- Karen Powell
- Nancy Westmore
- Pina Giuliano
- Lida Dobni
- Dorothy Shumacher
- Pauline Scott

Tom Baker Cancer Centre – A Centre of Hope
Leading Research. Proud to Care

VISION – Cancer Free Future

MISSION – Reduce the burden of cancer for Albertans.

We believe that cancer can be beaten and we are ready to be a major player in the fight.



Tom Baker Cancer Centre



FORZANI & MACPHAIL COLON CANCER
SCREENING CENTRE



September 11, 2011
THE OVARIAN
CANCER CANADA
WALK OF HOPE

HPV vaccine and pap
smear program

Supportive Care and
Psychosocial Oncology



kids
cancer care

Expert surgery and gynaecology

End of life care,
palliation

We will:



- Reduce the incidence of cancer
- Reduce the mortality from cancer
- Reduce suffering to Albertans diagnosed with cancer.
- Working to expand cancer facility in Calgary to meet the needs of the future!