



## Letter from the President and Chair of the Board of Directors

This has been a year of significant and unexpected changes. As we pause and look back over the many cancer research successes at OICR in the year 2019-20, it is difficult not to also reflect on the huge health and economic sacrifices that have occurred because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

We remain confident that scientists will quickly find ways to better understand, treat and prevent COVID-19 (some of that work is [being done by OICR cancer researchers](#) who are using their expertise to help in this effort). Long after the threat of this virus has receded, the very real impact of cancer on the lives of people around the world will continue to grow, as the number of cases of cancer diagnosed in Canada is estimated to rise by 40 per cent between 2015 and 2030. With the burden of cancer increasing, there is a great urgency for solutions to better treat, prevent and control the disease.



Dr. Laszlo Radvanyi | Mr. Tom Closson

This reality underscores the critical importance of OICR's research today and it helps us to focus our efforts for the future. Our work is having tangible health impacts for people in Ontario and around the world and the jobs and investment linked to OICR research will help to drive economic recovery in Ontario. We continue to help prepare the province for new challenges by supporting innovative research that will have a lasting impact for the people of Ontario.

We thank the Government of Ontario and the Ministry of Colleges and Universities for their strong support for cancer research and translation over the past year and their commitment to improving the lives of all Ontarians. We thank our collaborators in Ontario, Canada, and around the world who have worked together with us in tackling ever-greater challenges in cancer research. And finally, we thank our staff, who have continued their work this year even as the world has changed so fundamentally around us, adapting to new conditions and never wavering in their commitment to improving the lives of cancer patients.

When reading through this report and the many milestones in cancer research reached by our scientists this year, we remain extremely optimistic about our ability to impact cancer and change lives for the better. OICR will continue to work together with partners in Ontario and around the world to improve the lives of people affected by cancer and to bring the economic benefits of this work to the people of Ontario.

Let's continue to solve cancer together.

**Dr. Laszlo Radvanyi**  
President and Scientific Director

**Mr. Tom Closson**  
Chair, Board of Directors

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