

**Ministry of Colleges and  
Universities**

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On behalf of the Government of Ontario, I would like to congratulate the Ontario Institute for Cancer Research (OICR) for another year of remarkable achievements.

OICR's strategic partnerships and worldwide network of researchers have proven to be invaluable in laying the foundation for new discoveries that can make a real difference in the lives of people with cancer.

A great example is a study that was launched by researchers at OICR, the University Health Network and the Hospital for Sick Children that is transforming cancer screening for people with Li Fraumeni Syndrome. Thanks to this landmark study, researchers have developed a new cutting-edge blood test that is simpler, quicker and more accessible than standard cancer tests. It can detect cancer *months* earlier than standard cancer testing — which is key in helping people get treated as quickly as possible.

I would also like to commend OICR for its commitment to improving cancer clinical trials. Since OICR helped create the Canadian Cancer Clinical Trials Network, recruitment for cancer clinical trials has increased by 130 per cent in Ontario. It is encouraging to see that several new programs are helping us address some of the gaps that exist in Canada's clinical trials landscape. This includes partnering with hospitals outside of Toronto to encourage greater participation in clinical trials. As a resident of eastern Ontario, I know that access to cutting-edge research and health care closer to home can truly improve the lives of Ontario families.

The unfortunate reality is that we all know someone who has been impacted by cancer — a friend, a family member, a neighbour or a colleague. That's why it's incredible to see OICR paving the way so we can more effectively detect, prevent and treat cancer in our province. Congratulations once again on your successes over the past year in leading high-impact research that benefits our economy and makes a real difference in the lives of so many Ontarians.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Nolan Quinn".

The Honourable Nolan Quinn  
Minister of Colleges and Universities