

## Learning Institute 2022 Program Details – Patient Scholars

### **What is a Patient Scholar?**

A patient scholar is defined as anyone who has lived experience with cancer, either as a patient, caregiver, family member or support person. The patient scholar perspective is essential to improve understanding of how research can and should be conducted to best create positive impacts.

### **Eligibility**

Current and previous patients and caregivers from across Canada are invited to apply. We are looking for individuals who currently are involved or intend to get involved with the broader cancer research or advocacy community.

Individuals are encouraged to apply if they:

- Actively or would like to support cancer research through policy advocacy, research advocacy and/or community outreach or
- Are currently in, or would like to be in a position to communicate (i.e., disseminate) the knowledge gained from the Learning Institute to colleagues and/or constituents and have access to avenues for disseminating this information or,
- Are engaged or have interest in engaging as a patient partner on a cancer research project within the next couple of years

### **What will you do?**

- Receive training in the scientific fundamentals of cancer biology and immunotherapy
- Attend a national cancer immunotherapy scientific conference (Summit4CI) with internationally recognized speakers, presentations, poster sessions and more!
- Listen to talks from leading scientists on the cutting-edge research across a broad range of cancer immunotherapy topics
- Learn how to break down complex scientific topics and distill key messages through oral and written communication
- Build connections and network with researchers, academics, students, patients, and other like-minded individuals in the cancer immunotherapy community

### **What are the expectations?**

By participating as a member of the Learning Institute, you will be expected to:

- Attend an Orientation webinar in early November (1 hr) \*VIRTUAL\*
- Take part in two introductory informational webinars in advance of the Summit4CI in November (Cancer Biology 101 and Immunotherapy 101) (2 x 1.5 hrs) \*VIRTUAL\*
- Participate in a science communication activity with Academic Scholars in November (0.5 hr) \*VIRTUAL\*
- Attend the Summit4CI at the Fairmont The Queen Elizabeth in Montréal, Québec for the duration of the conference (November 19-21, 2022) and attend all related Learning Institute activities ([click here for draft agenda](#)) including:
  - Meet and Greet (1 hr)

- Knowledge Exchange Sessions (2 x 1 hr sessions in person, 1 hr session post-conference virtual)
- Patient-Researcher Roundtable (2 hrs)
- Assist in co-authoring the dissemination report following the Summit4CI along with academic scholar partners
- Have a willingness to participate as a patient partner in cancer research, whether funded by BioCanRx or other funding bodies

*If selected as a participant, BioCanRx will reimburse travel, hotel and registration associated with the Summit4CI conference*

"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 collaborative approach between patients and researchers involved with the Learning Institute ensured a process that would be tailored to the overarching goal of creating capable patient advocates who can engage with the larger scientific community. 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."

- 2019 Patient Scholar

You can learn more here:

1. [Learning Institute Webpage](#)
2. [2021 Dissemination Report](#)
3. First-hand stories from [2017](#), [2018](#) and [2019](#)

Calls for Participation will be reviewed by the BioCanRx Learning Institute Working Group, and invitations will be based on:

- Alignment with BioCanRx's mission and research priorities, and
- Interest in learning about cancer immunotherapy research and plans to use the training in dissemination, research engagement or both.

Please note that new participants will be given preference. BioCanRx informs all applicants of the decision regarding their involvement in the Learning Institute.

[Click here for the link to the SurveyMonkey Call for Patient Scholars form](#)  
[A document version can be downloaded here](#)

**NOTE: You can NOT save your form in SurveyMonkey – we recommend you draft your responses in a word document and then copy them over.**

Do not hesitate to contact Mackenzie Huckvale (mhuckvale@biocanrx.com) for further information.