



WMFC News - January 2020

Dear Raffaela,

Welcome to 2020! If one's life is going to be interrupted by WM, 2020 is the best year ever to have this interruption. The prospects for WM patients and their families seem to get better all the time. New treatments are on the horizon and are being readily communicated and shared amongst WM researchers and clinicians around the world. Here's a little WM news.

Upcoming presentation on "new treatments"

The WMFC is holding a special event in Vancouver on March 15. [Dr. Steven Treon](#) from the Dana Farber Cancer Institute will be speaking about "new treatments" for WM patients. It takes place at the [Holiday Inn, 711 Broadway](#). Registration starts at 10:30am, and Dr. Treon will begin his presentation at 11:00am. Online registration will be available shortly on the WMFC website.

Dr Steven Treon spoke in Montreal on Nov 7, 2019 on updates on the genomics and treatments of WM. [Here is the link to this presentation](#).

Support Group Meetings

The following support group meetings are coming up:

- **Montreal** - January 20
- **Calgary** - January 26
- **Vancouver** - February 13
- **Ottawa** - February 20
- **Toronto** - February 26
- **Truro, NS** - June 13th

If you are close to one of these areas, please join in and be part of the group. Support Group meetings have made such a positive difference for both Liz and me. The locations and times of

all [support group meetings](#) are available on the [WMFC website](#).

We are fortunate to have dedicated Support Group Leaders. The WMFC would like to thank and recognize our Support Group Leaders across the country:

- **Halifax** - Jim Mason, Ron Ternoway
- **Montreal** - Danielle Gagnon, Paul Cadrin
- **Ottawa** - Janet Parcher Cherry, Janelle Jones
- **Toronto** - Betty McPhee, Raffaella Mercurio
- **Oakville** - Arlene Hinchcliffe
- **Calgary** - Cam Fraser, Stu Boland
- **Vancouver** - Catherine Schindell

The WMFC is looking for opportunities to set up more support groups across the country. If you are interested in helping set up a new support group on the prairies, or Edmonton, or New Brunswick or Nunavut or anywhere else, please let us know. [Betty McPhee, our Support Group Liaison](#), will reach out. One of our primary objectives at the WMFC is to find ways to help develop support groups and assist those that are long standing.

IWMF Annual International Conference

The [IWMF](#) is holding their annual [International Conference](#) in Renton, WA, just outside Seattle, very close at hand for those living in lower BC. I have attended the last two IWMF International Conferences which were excellent and proved informative and helpful to my wife Liz as the caregiver and for me as the patient. We are attending again this year and would like to organize a small gathering of Canadians attending the event. It is seldom this event is held as close to the Canadian border as it is this year. So please see it as an opportunity to invest in your health and understanding of WM. If you have any questions, [please contact me](#). The meeting is June 5-7, and you can [easily register on the IWMF web site](#). I look forward to seeing a group of Canadian WMers there.

The IWMF has produced the first 2020 edition of the Torch. [Here is the link](#). We appreciate the IWMF's willingness to share so much with us.

Survey from Lymphoma Coalition

Every two years, the Lymphoma Coalition conducts a global survey of all lymphoma patients. There has always been an extremely high response rate from WMers. I hope Canadian WMers will again answer the survey. [Here is the link](#). I completed it, and it only took a short time.

As you can see, there is lots going on in the WM world. We will continue to try and keep you up to date. We would appreciate any feedback you have for us.

Wishing you all a happy and prosperous 2020.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul". The letters are cursive and fluid, with a large initial "P" and a smaller "a" and "l" following.

Paul Kitchen
WMFC Board Chair