



WMFC News - May 2020

Dear <<First Name>>,

I hope everyone is staying safe. The WMFC has still not had any reports of Canadian WMers contracting COVID-19. I hope it stays that way and that our information is correct. If not, please let us know as Dr. Treon from the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute is trying to follow any WMer with COVID.

WMFC Funding

At our last Board meeting there was a lot of discussion on fundraising and the mass soliciting of donations being made by various organizations. As we all know, this can become overwhelming and, although there are many good causes, it can get tiresome with appeals coming from so many direction so often.

The WMFC has reacted and developed a policy and strategy to try to not be an irritant or one of those programs that continually have their hands out. The WMFC policy is to make two financial donation requests each year. One will be for specific research that the WMFC is supporting. We will designate a "research month" each year and solicit donations to our designated research project. The second request will be made at the end of the calendar year which will be to keep our organization functioning. The WMFC was extremely well supported at the end of 2019, and that support allows the WMFC to operate. The WMFC Board knows not every WMer in Canada can afford to make a donation, but everybody remains a member and has our support regardless of their contribution to the WMFC. There are some though who can contribute and we thank them for their consideration and generosity.

Support Groups

Our seven support groups around the country have incorporated Zoom into their get-togethers. But, there are a number of Canadians who have not been able to be a part of a support group because of geography. For those WMers and anyone else who would like to join a Canada-wide virtual support group chat, we have scheduled one for Saturday, June 20, at 4:00 pm

Toronto time (the rest of Canada can figure anything out from Toronto time). We would be delighted to have you join us. Below is the Zoom invitation. If you need help connecting to Zoom, just drop me a line at paul.kitchen@wmfc.ca. Anyone who doesn't have a camera on their computer can still join the meeting, but will be in voice contact only.

Betty McPhee is inviting you to a Zoom Chat

Topic: Canada wide Saturday Chat for WMers

Time: Jun 20, 2020 04:00 PM Toronto Time

To join the Zoom meeting click on the link below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8573940250?pwd=eWhMZjZhd2paMDJRSGxWM3RzOEhqdz09>

Meeting ID: 857 394 0250

Password: Rothesay

Masks

The WMFC continues to have masks made for any member or their spouse who needs one. To date, we have distributed 50 masks across the country. If you need one, just drop me a line at paul.kitchen@wmfc.ca, and we will have one sent out immediately. Our loyal volunteer seamstresses are waiting for your order.

Website

The WMFC is reviewing and renewing our website. We hope by mid-summer it will be up and functioning and a little more convenient for our members to use. If you have any suggestions for what you would like to see on the new website, we would be pleased to hear them. Cam Fraser in Calgary is leading the charge on this project. Please feel free to send in your suggestions and ideas to Cam cam.fraser@wmfc.ca or to me.

Dr. Jorge Castillo's "Ask the Doctor Session"

The IWMF website has posted information about the Philadelphia WM Support Group's Zoom conversation with Dr. Jorge Castillo, Clinical Director of the Bing Center for Waldenström's Macroglobulinemia at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute as follows: "They had a plethora of pre-submitted questions answered, learned more about WM and Covid-19 and enjoyed seeing each other's smiling faces during this stressful time of sheltering in place".

The WMFC is excited to share a link to this meeting with you and hopes that you enjoy watching this remote Zoom meeting and feeling the warm connection to your fellow WMers!

Click here for the link to the recording [HERE\(link is external\)](#) and the Password is **9s#joc.\$**

**Please note, there is a zero after the j in the password and a period before the \$ sign. We also*

recommend manually entering in the password.

<https://www.iwmf.com/news-and-events/news/watch-dr-jorge-castillo%E2%80%99s-engaging-%E2%80%9Cask-doctor%E2%80%9D-session-link-previously>

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul', enclosed in a white rectangular box.

Paul Kitchen

WMFC Board Chair