

The WMFC Needs Your Help!

The WMFC, as the only organization in Canada that is focused solely on WM and WM patients, is asking for your support for our end of year appeal.

COVID-19 has made 2020 a different and challenging year. The WMFC has tried to adapt to provide the services our members need. Through it all, we have held regular Zoom meetings for support groups, and on October 21st we held our third national support group meeting with guest, Dr. Steve Treon. When COVID-19 first broke, we distributed masks free of charge to members who requested them (about 15% of us).

This spring, we undertook our most ambitious research project to date, committing \$200K US to a Dana-Farber project we believe will revolutionize WM treatments in the future. A layman's version of this research project is available at the end of this note.

We are working hard to complete a new website to make it easier for WMFC members to stay connected and get the information they need. We hope to launch this site later this month or in early December.

We appreciate all the support we have received. We would like to be able to continue supporting all WMers in Canada and help them find the very best treatments. All donations make a difference and we ask you to please consider making an end of year gift. You can contribute a gift by donating online through the [website](#). All donations which are received and/or postmarked on or before December 31 will receive a CRA-approved tax receipt for 2020.

Thank you for your help once again. We are here for you.



Paul Kitchen
WMFC Board Chair

IWMF-FUNDED RESEARCH: NEW 2020 GRANTS

**Dr. Zachary Hunter, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute,
Harvard University, Boston, Massachusetts, USA**

***Multioomic analysis of DNA, RNA, and epigenomic networks for prognostication
and novel target identification of WM***

The Waldenstrom's Macroglobulinemia Foundation of Canada (WMFC) is pleased to provide funding to co-sponsor the research work of Dr. Zachary Hunter at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. Dr. Hunter's group will integrate many different molecular tests to look at WM in a more comprehensive way, using samples they have collected from 300 WM patients. Dr. Hunter has built powerful collaborations with some leading computer groups, which will use newly developed artificial intelligence methods to uncover how the molecular changes interact in networks, both within the WM cells and between WM cells and nearby normal cells. There are an increasing number of drugs in use for WM, and more on the way. Analysis of interactive molecular changes will hopefully aid in understanding differences among WM patients and how to use these differences to personalize the best treatment for each patient.