

# PATIENT AND FAMILY ADVISORY COUNCIL

Cuthbert Lab & Oncology Outcomes

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## WELCOME

Our research teams are busy preparing for Fall grant season with several projects currently being developed in the areas of gender concordance, rare cancer survivorship, tai chi, and patient engagement.

We plan to reach out to PFAC members to assist with certain aspects of the grant development process as we continue flushing them out over the summer. We are hopeful we will be as successful with this latest round of applications as we were in our previous grant cycle in the Spring.

Our next meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, July 12 from 4:00-5:30pm. A zoom link will be sent closer to the meeting. Please save the date!

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# Study Recruitment

Ongoing Recruitment

We continue to actively recruit participants for several studies right now, including:

- Healthcare Provider and Patient Views on Prescribing Opioids for Cancer Patients
- Patients Perspectives of Value Frameworks Used to Guide Oncology Treatment Decisions

If you think the studies might be relevant to your contacts, please feel free to share the website links.

Details of each study can be found at:  
<https://www.cuthbertlab.com/news>



## 02 Updates

Developing a Live Dashboard for Colorectal Cancer Activity in Alberta



The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the value of up-to-date information and timely access to health-related data. Availability of high-quality data is of critical value for making both health policy and clinical decisions. Despite the rich data available in the Canadian cancer registries, the lengthy collection and reporting process limits their utility and prohibits real-time actionable interventions and timely information.

The study aims to create a near real-time Colorectal Cancer Activity Dashboard that will enable stakeholders to develop, plan, and design evidence-driven mitigation strategies to improve participation of both the screened and under-screened eligible populations and redirect efforts to areas impacted most by the pandemic in the province of Alberta.

This study has been approved by Health Research Ethics Board of Alberta: HREBA.CC-22-0087.

## Cuthbert Lab Updates

We are hiring two new positions!

**Research Associate:** the incumbent will focus on studies examining the health outcomes and biopsychosocial health impacts of cancer on patients and their families. [Click here for more info.](#)

**Postdoctoral Associate in Adult Cancer Survivorship:** The postdoctoral scholar will use mixed methods research to evaluate health outcomes of cancer survivors using administrative health data, conduct patient-oriented research focused on pancreatic cancer, and evaluate decision making along the cancer trajectory using scoping reviews and/or surveys and focus groups. [Click here for more info.](#)

# Member Spotlight

Learn more about council member Ingrid Nijssen

True to my Dutch heritage I love to play with plants. I am particularly obsessed with tomato varieties and have 17 different types this year. That is not including the tomatillos. I also have every imaginable color of carrot, white beets, and pink potatoes to name a few of the odd ball veggies that can be found in my yard.



I am a mediocre painter of watercolors but I enjoy it so who cares. The day I went for my first chemo there was a beautiful sunrise that reflected on the side of the Cross Cancer Institute building turning it orange. I did a small painting of that. I found it to be a hopeful sign to have such a beautiful start on that day.

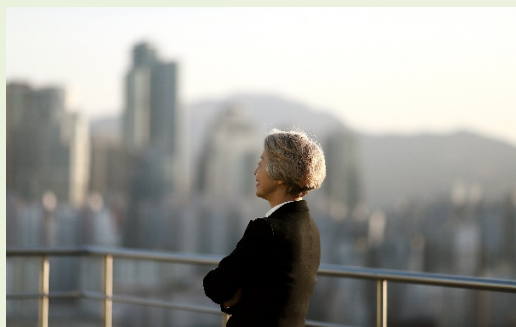
I am very skilled at sewing, quilting, and knitting. My goal now that I have retired is to sew a quilt for each of my nieces and nephews.

Back to my Dutch heritage I am moderately fluent in the Flemish version of Dutch, with good understanding along with an ability to read and speak, however my writing skills are about grade 1 level. I grew up with Dutch cuisine (two words that should never be used together). It is basically tasteless food that is very overcooked. In self defense, I taught myself to cook other food and would say foods from Mediterranean countries are my favorite. I also am very good at soups. I currently have asparagus in the garden, and I have most recently been having asparagus soup.

Most of my travels have been in Canada and Western/Northern Europe. Travel is always fun, but my favorite was a trip to Iceland and the Faroe Islands in 2014. I am still hoping to go to the Scottish Highlands and the Shetland Islands.

Prior to retirement I worked for 45 years as a registered psychiatric nurse, mostly in the area of addictions and rural mental health. I retired in March of 2022.

## Coming Up



Our next PFAC meeting will be Tuesday, July 12 from 4:00-5:30pm. A zoom link will be sent closer to the meeting. Please save the date!

The next newsletter will release in July 2022.

Previous issues of the PFAC newsletter have been posted online: <https://www.cuthbertlab.com/advisory-council>

If you would like to include or update your contact information on the attached public directory, please email Christie