2026 BIOMARKERS CONFERENCE AGENDA

PROCEEDING TOWARDS THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR ADVANCING CGP IN METASTATIC CANCER CARE: ALIGNING PATIENT, CLINICAL, AND POLICY PERSPECTIVES

TARGET AUDIENCE: Oncology Professionals, Pathologists, Patients and Caregivers, Advocates, Researchers, Policy Professionals, Industry

Goals: Education, Awareness, Advocacy

Steering Committee: Dr. Monika Krzyzanowska (Co-Chair), Dr. Shantanu Banerjee (Co-Chair), Dr. Mita Manna, Dr. Doha Itani, Don Husereau, Matthew Brougham, Dr. Georgia Balsevich, Katie Hulan

DAY 1: JUNE 18, 2026

LAYING THE FOUNDATION FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR CGP READINESS

Time	Session Title & Descriptions	Presenters/Speakers
9:30 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.	**Conference Day 1 Opening** CCRAN is a national, patient-focused advocacy group, dedicated to improving the longevity and quality of life for all cancer patients in Canada through their persistent efforts in support, education, and advocacy through equal and timely access to effective therapies. Our fourth annual pan-tumour Biomarkers Conference will build on the outcomes of past conferences. Over the course of two days, we will once again engage clinicians, pathologists, researchers, policy professionals, patients, and caregivers from within and outside Canada. Building on this foundation, the program will emphasize cross-sector dialogue to advance a more coordinated, pan-Canadian approach to comprehensive genomic profiling in metastatic cancer care. The discussions will explore how patient, clinical, and policy perspectives can be better aligned to support sustainable system-level progress.	*Conference Moderator:* **Cassandra Macaulay, B.Sc., MHS, RTNM** Chief Research Officer, CCRAN

9:45 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	**Welcome from CCRAN's President & CEO** A warm welcome and sincere thanks to all experts and participants. Key highlights in this session include: • A patient perspective, sharing their cancer journey • Exploring patient insights in advancing meaningful cancer care	**Filomena Servidio-Italiano, Hon B.Sc., B.Ed., M.A.** President & CEO, CCRAN *Patient* **Gary Puppa** Stage IV Colorectal Cancer Survivor; Patient Advocate
10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	**Key Learnings from CCRAN's 2025 Biomarkers Conference** The objectives and outcomes of CCRAN's 2025 Biomarkers Conference have been captured and summarized in a publication in Current Oncology. The lead author of the publication will present the key findings, themes and calls to action as highlighted in the paper.	*Presentation* **Dr. Stephanie Snow, MD, FRCPC** Medical Oncologist, QEII Health Sciences Centre; Professor, Dalhousie University
10:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.	**Economic and Health System Readiness: Leveraging Evidence to Support Comprehensive Genomic Profiling Integration Across Canada** To build a sustainable and equitable precision oncology framework, stakeholders require both a compelling economic case and a clear understanding of health system readiness for routine genome-based testing. This presentation draws on two complementary bodies of work, the comprehensive genomic profiling (CGP) cost and benefit analysis findings and the State of Readiness Progress Report II, which examines the conditions required to support the routine use of genomic testing across Canada. Together, these perspectives will highlight jurisdictional progress, persistent system gaps, and the role of real-world evidence to inform coordinated decision-making. The session will support a broader national conversation on how economic evidence and readiness assessment can guide CGP planning and alignment across provinces and sectors. This presentation will consider: • Reflections on economic evidence related to CGP and its relevance for health system planning and resource considerations • Perspectives on system readiness for routine genomic testing, including areas of progress and ongoing challenges across jurisdictions	*Presentation* **Don Husereau, B.Sc. Pharm, M.Sc.** Adjunct Professor of Medicine, University of Ottawa **Eddy Nason, MPhil, B.Sc.** Director, Health, Signal49 Research

	• Considerations for advancing CGP integration through collaboration across advocacy, clinical, policy, and research communities • Opportunities to align future efforts in support of sustainable, coordinated CGP implementation	
11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	***Health Break*** **Educational Videos** **Virtual Networking Room** (11:45 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.)	
12:30 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.	**CDA's Framework for Equitable Biomarker Access: Key Recommendations and Future Directions** The Canada's Drug Agency (CDA)–AMC Biomarker Assessment Framework represents a critical step toward improving equitable access to biomarker testing across Canada. This presentation will introduce the purpose and structure of the Framework, highlighting its potential to guide more consistent, evidence-informed decision-making and system-wide coordination. Attendees will hear from CDA about the Framework's objectives, including short- and medium-term strategies to support implementation and collaboration across jurisdictions. The discussion will also highlight opportunities for shared infrastructure, coordinated data access, and policy levers to enable broader uptake. Session objectives: • Introduce the CDA-AMC Biomarker Assessment Framework and its purpose in supporting equitable biomarker testing decision-making across Canada • Outline implementation timelines, early priorities, and mechanisms for interprovincial collaboration • Highlight opportunities for alignment and collaboration across provinces and sectors to enable shared infrastructure, data access, and assessment processes	*Presentation* **Dr. Laura Weeks, Ph.D.** Director, Health Technology Assessment, Canada's Drug Agency
1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.	**Stakeholder Reflections on CDA's National Biomarker Testing Framework: A Cross-Sector Dialogue** Following the presentation of the CDA Biomarker Assessment Framework, this multi-stakeholder panel will examine its practical implications and translational potential across jurisdictions. Panelists from clinical, regulatory, policy, and patient advocacy sectors will share diverse perspectives on the Framework's relevance, anticipated challenges, and opportunities for cross-sector alignment. The	*Moderator* **TBD**

	discussion will explore how a truly national approach to biomarker testing can be equitably implemented and sustainably scaled, with a focus on shared infrastructure, governance mechanisms, and meaningful integration of patient voice. Key objectives to be explored: • Reflect on the Framework through clinical, policy, regulatory, and patient lenses to identify shared priorities and sector-specific concerns • Outline approaches to harmonize biomarker access and funding mechanisms across provincial systems • Identify scalable strategies for long-term cross-sector coordination, data integration, and accountability • Examine how deliberative processes, including stakeholder inclusion, transparency of evidence, and procedural fairness, influence the consistency of biomarker funding decisions across jurisdictions	*Patient* **Dr. Catalina Lopez-Correa, MD, Ph.D.** Breast Cancer Survivor and Advocate; Co-Chair, Global Genomics Network for Education and Training (GGNET); Co-Chair, Patient Working Group, Marathon of Hope Cancer Centres Network *Panelists* **Cassandra Macaulay, B.Sc., MHS, RTNM** Chief Research Officer, CCRAN **Dr. Laura Weeks, Ph.D.** Director, Health Technology Assessment, Canada's Drug Agency **Dr. Sharlene Gill, MD, MPH, MBA, FASCO** Professor of Medicine, UBC; Medical Oncologist, BC Cancer - Vancouver; Medical & Scientific Advisory Board Co-Chair, Colorectal Cancer Resource & Action Network (CCRAN) *Additional experts to be confirmed*
2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	**The Patient Voice Amplified: CGP Making a Difference in the Canadian Cancer Care Landscape Across Tumour Types** As Canada considers broader implementation of comprehensive genomic profiling (CGP) in metastatic cancer care, patients remain a critical source of real-world insight. This session brings forward the voices of patients across tumour types who have directly benefited from CGP. Patients discuss the impact CGP had on treatment decision-making and overall patient experience. They also share perspectives on access to CGP, including how availability, timing, and integration into care shaped treatment options, communication with care teams, and their experience of living with advanced cancer. As system-level planning advances, these perspectives underscore the importance of timely and equitable access, consistent integration, and clear communication across the diagnostic and treatment continuum.	*Moderator* **Eva Villalba, MBA, M.Sc.** VBHC Green Belt; Executive Director, Quebec Cancer Coalition; President, VBHC Learning Community *Patient Panel* **Corri Desaulniers** Stage IV Cholangiocarcinoma Patient, FGFR2 Fusion; Patient Partner & Advocate, Canadian Cholangiocarcinoma Collaborative (C3) **Mariana Markovic, RN, MN, MHSC, CHE** Stage IV Colorectal Cancer Survivor; Healthcare Consultant, Independent Healthcare Consulting Inc.; Patient Advocate

	Areas of focus: • Illustrate how CGP influenced treatment selection and patient-reported outcomes across tumour types • Explore patient perspectives on access to CGP, including gaps related to availability and integration into care planning • Examine how communication with care teams, shared decision-making, and emotional preparedness shaped patients' experiences with CGP • Reinforce the critical contribution of patient experience in informing CGP-related policies, infrastructure, and clinical practice	**Dr. Christine Qiong Wu, M.Sc., Ph.D.** Stage IV Lung Cancer Patient; Professor of Engineering, University of Manitoba **Laura Greer** Patient Expert; Executive Vice President and Global Client Lead, Health & Wellness, Burson Canada; Breast Cancer Advocate *Additional experts to be confirmed*
3:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.	***Health Break*** **Educational Video: Second Look Cancer, Clinical Trial Matching Tool** **Founded by Dillan Eisenhaur**	
3:15 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.	**Molecular Tumour Boards in Practice: Advancing Standardization and System Readiness** Molecular Tumour Boards (MTBs) play a pivotal role in translating complex genomic and molecular testing results into clinical decision-making. As the use of comprehensive genomic profiling (CGP) and other advanced molecular diagnostics expands across Canada, MTBs are increasingly central to ensuring consistent interpretation and equitable access to precision oncology expertise. Yet MTB structure, availability, and functionality vary widely across jurisdictions. This session will examine how MTBs contribute to standardizing interpretation of CGP and other advanced diagnostic approaches, while exploring emerging models that promote equity, consistency, and scalability. As molecular testing becomes more complex, the discussion will also consider the importance of clinician education and ongoing knowledge support in strengthening genomics literacy and enabling effective interpretation of increasingly detailed molecular reports, particularly in settings where formal MTB infrastructure may be limited. Key topics of discussion include: • The evolving role of MTBs in standardizing CGP interpretation and other advanced molecular diagnostics, supporting consistent clinical decision-making	*Moderator* **TBD** *Patient* **TBD** *Panelist* **Prof. Arndt Vogel, MD, Ph.D.** Clinician Scientist, Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, Toronto General Hospital & Medical Oncology, Princess Margaret Cancer Centre; Professor of Medicine, University of Toronto **Dr. Erin DeBruin** Manager, Professional Education and Implementation, Genome BC *Additional experts to be confirmed*

	• Interprovincial variation in MTB models, including emerging collaborative practices and jurisdictions where formalized MTBs are not yet established • Persistent challenges to MTB integration across jurisdictions, including limited resourcing, variable clinical engagement, and data-sharing barriers • The importance of clinician education and knowledge sharing to support interpretation of complex molecular reports	
4:45 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.	**Driving Access Through Partnership: The Role of Industry in Canada's Precision Oncology Landscape** As Canada advances toward more coordinated and equitable access to comprehensive genomic profiling (CGP), industry partners play an important role in helping address longstanding barriers related to infrastructure, education, turnaround times, and system capacity. This session will explore how thoughtful and transparent collaboration across public and private stakeholders can help strengthen CGP readiness across provinces while supporting a patient-centred and evidence-informed approach to precision oncology. Through a national panel discussion, experts will examine opportunities to align industry innovation with oncology system priorities, enhance cross-sector coordination, and contribute to sustainable models that support equitable access to CGP across Canada. This session will explore: • How industry partners can support the advancement of CGP within Canada's evolving precision oncology landscape • Opportunities for collaboration across industry, policy, clinical, and patient communities to strengthen support coordinated approaches to CGP • Considerations for fostering responsible and sustainable partnerships that align with health system priorities and patient needs	*Moderator* **Dr. Georgia Balsevich, Ph.D.** Senior Sector Innovation Manager, Genome Alberta *Patient* **Christopher Mammoliti, BComm (Hons)** National Patient Programs Manager & Young Adult Cancer Coach, CCRAN; EAOC Patient Expert; Thyroid Cancer Survivor & Late-Stage Colon Cancer Survivor *Industry Panel* **André Galarneau** Executive Director, Oncology, Merck **Paul Krzyzanowski** Medical Director, Precision Medicine, Johnson & Johnson
5:45 p.m. – 5:50 p.m.	**Glance at Day 2. Closing Remarks from CCRAN's President & CEO.**	**Filomena Servidio-Italiano, Hon B.Sc., B.Ed., M.A.** President & CEO, CCRAN

2026 BIOMARKERS CONFERENCE AGENDA

PROCEEDING TOWARDS THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR ADVANCING CGP IN METASTATIC CANCER CARE: ALIGNING PATIENT, CLINICAL, AND POLICY PERSPECTIVES

DAY 2: JUNE 19, 2026

ADVANCING THE VISION: LEVERAGING CLINICAL EVIDENCE AND THE PATIENT VOICE

Time	Session Title & Descriptions	Expert Speakers
9:30 a.m. – 9:40 a.m.	**Conference Day 2 Opening** A brief recap of sessions from day one: • Key take-aways from presentations and panel discussions • Conference objectives, day 2	*Conference Moderator:* **Cassandra Macaulay, B.Sc., MHS, RTNM** Chief Research Officer, CCRAN
9:40 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	**Welcome to Day 2 from CCRAN's President & CEO** A warm welcome and sincere thanks to all experts and participants. Key highlights in this session: • A patient perspective, sharing their cancer journey • Exploring patient insights to help advance meaningful cancer care	**Filomena Servidio-Italiano, Hon B.Sc., B.Ed., M.A.** President & CEO, CCRAN *Patient* **TBD**
10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	**A National Conversation on CGP Becoming a Standard of Care** As provinces across Canada work to advance access to comprehensive genomic profiling (CGP), clinical teams are navigating varying system conditions, infrastructure, and expectations. This national roundtable will bring together frontline clinicians to build clinical consensus that CGP *should* be established as a standard of care, and to identify the conditions needed to support equitable, informed clinical decision-making across Canada.	*Moderator* **Dr. Monika Krzyzanowska, MD, MPH, FRCPC, FASCO** Co-Chair, Expert Steering Committee; Chief & Medical Oncologist, Odette Cancer Centre, Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre; Regional Vice President, Ontario Health (Cancer Care Ontario); Professor of Medicine, University of Toronto

	Panelists will reflect on their jurisdictional contexts, identifying shared challenges and enablers related to team capacity, informatics, turnaround times, and lab resources. Rather than prescribing a uniform approach, the session will focus on identifying where alignment is most needed, across care settings, provinces, and specialties, to advance CGP in a way that is both scalable and responsive to local needs. Key objectives: • Surface frontline clinical perspectives on the role of CGP as a standard of care in metastatic cancer across diverse provincial settings • Identify critical system conditions required to support CGP-informed care, including lab capacity, team models, and informatics • Highlight opportunities for clinical alignment, particularly in practice expectations, referral pathways, and decision supports	*Patient Perspective* **TBD** *Clinician Roundtable* **Dr. Mita Manna, MD, FRCPC** Medical Oncologist, Saskatoon Cancer Centre; Associate Professor, Department of Oncology, University of Saskatchewan **Dr. Stephanie Snow, MD, FRCPC** Medical Oncologist, QEII Health Sciences Centre; Professor, Dalhousie University **Dr. Rebecca Auer, MD, M.Sc., FRCSC, FACS** Executive Vice-President, Research & Innovation, The Ottawa Hospital; CEO & Scientific Director, Ottawa Hospital Research Institute; Professor, Departments of Surgery, Biochemistry, Immunology & Microbiology, University of Ottawa **Dr. Shantanu Banerji, B.Sc. (Med), MD, FRCPC** Director of Precision Oncology and Advanced Therapeutics, CancerCare Manitoba Clinical Perspective: Sarcoma **Dr. Yoo-Joung (Yooj) Ko, MD, MMS, M.Sc.** Medical Oncologist, St. Michael's Hospital, Unity Health; Medical Director, Cancer & Endoscopy Program, Unity Health
11:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.	***Health Break*** **Educational Videos**	

12:15 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	**Unlocking the Research Pipeline: Bridging Clinical Trials and Real-World Genomics** As comprehensive genomic profiling (CGP) moves toward standard of care, the ability to translate genomic data into actionable evidence becomes increasingly critical. This session examines how real-world CGP data and coordinated genomic infrastructure can strengthen Canada's research ecosystem, particularly where traditional trial evidence is limited. By focusing on data integration, evidence generation, and national coordination, the discussion will consider how genomics can better inform research, regulatory, and system-level decision-making, and support a more connected, pan-Canadian approach to precision oncology innovation. This session will explore: • Persistent gaps in clinical trial inclusion for metastatic cancer patients eligible for CGP, and how these gaps impact innovation and access • The role of real-world genomic data, including CGP, whole genome sequencing, and other advanced molecular diagnostics, in informing drug development, regulatory decision-making, and health technology assessment • Collaborative research models that integrate CGP into clinical and translational studies • How national genomic repositories and data-sharing platforms can support a more coordinated, pan-Canadian research and innovation strategy	*Moderator* **Dr. Stéphanie Michaud, Ph.D.** President and CEO, BioCanRx *Patient Perspective* **TBD** *Panelists* **Dr. Yvonne Bombard, Ph.D.** Canada Research Chair, Genomics Health Services & Policy; Professor, University of Toronto; Director & Scientist, St. Michael's Hospital; Co-Founder & CEO, Genetics Adviser **Dr. Jim Woodgett** President and Scientific Director, The Terry Fox Research Institute (TFRI) **Dr. Arvind N. Dasari, MD** Director of Clinical Research, Dept. of GI Medical Oncology, University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, USA *Additional experts to be confirmed*
1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	**Patient Group Reflections on the Case for CGP Investment** As health systems across Canada consider the integration of CGP into standard cancer care, patient groups play a critical role in highlighting access gaps and articulating priorities for investment. This roundtable brings together patient organizations from across tumour types to reflect on their experiences advocating for CGP within diverse health system contexts. The discussion will explore how patient groups identify unmet needs, coordinate advocacy efforts, and define what meaningful CGP investment looks like from a patient and community perspective. The discussion will also include early reflections on CCRAN's CGP Phase II Research Initiative, focusing on how real-world evidence can help inform future decision-making and support more consistent implementation of CGP across Canada.	*Moderator* **Filomena Servidio-Italiano, Hon B.Sc., B.Ed., M.A.** President & CEO, CCRAN *Patient Group Roundtable* **Ayelet Borgida, M.Sc.** Director of Medical and Health Initiatives, Pancreatic Cancer North America

	Speakers will elaborate on the following topics: • How patient groups are engaging stakeholders to shape priorities and inform decision-making • Barriers to achieving consistent access and standardization of CGP testing across jurisdictions • Strategic approaches to strengthen advocacy impact across jurisdictions • The role of real-world evidence in informing CGP implementation	**Lindsay Timm** Executive Director, Canadian Cancer Survivor Network (CCSN) **Winky Yau** Manager, Medical Affairs, Lung Cancer Canada **Teresa Norris** Sexual Health Specialist; Founder & President, HPV Global Action **JK Miller** Health Policy & Advocacy Lead, Canadian Breast Cancer Network **Laz Bouros** President, Thyroid Foundation of Canada **Austin Zimmer, B.Sc., M.Sc.** Support Services Manager & Research Coordinator, Prostate Cancer Foundation Canada *Additional experts to be confirmed*
3:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.	***Health Break*** **Educational Videos**	
3:15 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.	**Scaling What Matters: Building on Economic Evidence to Help Inform Policy** As Canada progresses toward a more aligned approach to comprehensive genomic profiling (CGP) in metastatic cancer care, economic evidence is emerging as a central lever for advancing shared understanding across clinical, policy, and patient communities. This session will explore how the cost and benefit findings can clarify the value of CGP from multiple vantage points and support a more coordinated national dialogue. Panelists will reflect on how economic insights can be translated into strategic, scalable insights to inform future system planning. The discussion will emphasize where	*Moderator* **TBD** *Patient Perspective* **TBD** *Panelists* **Eddy Nason, MPhil, B.Sc.** Director, Health, Signal49 Research

	stakeholder priorities converge and how economic considerations can be used to inform coordinated CGP planning across provinces. Guiding objectives include: • Highlighting key takeaways from CCRAN's CGP initiative, including economic and real-world evidence, and how they inform next-stage decision-making • Engaging multi-stakeholder voices in discussing what is needed to support this transition from research to national alignment • Demonstrating how collaborative models can support the system-wide adoption and integration of CGP across Canada, ensuring readiness for scale-up in clinical, policy, and operational domains	**Matthew Brougham** Senior Global Consultant, Certara Evidence & Access; President & CEO, Brougham Consulting Inc. **Dr. Steven Narod, MD** Senior Scientist, Women's College Hospital Research Institute; Professor, Dalla Lana School of Public Health and Department of Medicine, University in Toronto *Additional experts to be confirmed*
4:15 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.	**From Laboratory Readiness to Patient Impact: Why CGP Falls Short and What Must Change** While comprehensive genomic profiling (CGP) remains a central focus in metastatic cancer care, broader genomic technologies, including whole genome sequencing and other advanced molecular diagnostics, are increasingly shaping precision oncology infrastructure requirements. As CGP demonstrates clear clinical and economic value, persistent implementation barriers continue to limit its consistent funding and delivery across Canada. While many centres have developed strong genomic capabilities, implementation remains variable across jurisdictions. This session examines the most pressing constraints preventing CGP and related advanced genomic testing from becoming routine practice, with a particular focus on laboratory capacity, diagnostic workflows, and system readiness conditions. The discussion connects system-level barriers, such as variable testing criteria, turnaround times, and fragmented diagnostic pathways, to their broader impact on patient care. The session will examine how these system constraints affect the timing and quality of treatment decision-making within cancer care. By examining system and policy considerations through a real-world patient lens, the session aims to clarify where breakdowns occur and what is required to move CGP and advanced genomic testing from inconsistent access to sustained, reliable integration within routine cancer care.	*Moderator* **TBD** *Patient Perspective* **TBD** *Panelists* **Michelle Hoad** CEO, Medical Laboratory Professionals Association of Ontario (MLPAO) **Andrea Beharry** Clinical Service Manager, Advanced Diagnostics, William Osler Health System **Prof. Brenda Gamble, Ph.D.** Associate Professor, Faculty of Health Sciences and Program Director, Bachelor of Health Administration & Allied Health Sciences, Ontario Tech University

	This multi-disciplinary panel will explore: • Lab-level and diagnostic system barriers that continue to impede consistent CGP and advanced genomic testing funding and delivery • How these constraints translate into delays in treatment initiation, uncertainty for patients awaiting results, and missed opportunities for timely access to targeted therapies • Practical levers and readiness conditions needed to support routine, accountable CGP and broader genomic testing implementation	*Additional experts to be confirmed*
5:15 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.	**Day 2 Closing Remarks and Conference Adjournment.**	**Filomena Servidio-Italiano, Hon B.Sc., B.Ed., M.A.** President & CEO, CCRAN