

SUMMARY OF JANUARY 20TH, 2017 THINK TANK OUTCOMES

On Friday January 20th, WCRG hosted the fourth Cancer Research Think Tank. **The objective of the Think Tank is to present and discuss 3 cancer research topics of interest and identify collaborative teams that can work together to bring these projects forward for funding.**

Number of participants: 31

Institutions Represented: University of Windsor, Dalhousie University, Windsor Regional Hospital, Cross Border Institute, GLIER, ITOS Oncology, Schulich School of Medicine and Dentistry and Henry Ford Health System.

Disciplinary Backgrounds: Biological Sciences, Nursing, Psychology, Sociology, Chemistry and Biochemistry, Medical Oncology, Physics, Pathology, Geospatial Learning and Engineering , Clinical Research Management

Think Tank Outcomes

Goal #1: Lisa Porter, WCRG Translational Research Director opened the Think Tank by welcoming all attendees. She provided an overview of the Agenda (see Appendix A), highlighted some upcoming funding opportunities, reminded participants about the Nucleus survey that will be circulated soon and requested input from previous Think Tank presenters on the successes that have come out of previous Think Tanks. She announced to attendees that a summary of all Think Tank results can now be found on the [WCRG website](#).

Goal #2: Project leaders presented 3 potential project ideas for future submission, which included:

- Cell Survival Factors for Late Stage Gliomas
Presenter: Otis Vacratsis, PhD, Chemistry and Biochemistry, UWindsor
- Diversity and Cancer Outcomes in Windsor
Presenters: Caroline Hamm, MD, Windsor Regional Hospital; Richard Low and Sanam Gurm, Schulich School of Medicine and Dentistry
- Geospatial Modelling and Health Outcomes
Presenter: Alice Grgicak-Mannion, Geospatial Learning Specialist, Earth and Environmental Sciences, UWindsor

Goal #3: Project leads were identified for each proposed project and participants expressed their interest to be included on specific project teams.

Goal #4: Moving forward, each Think Tank will provide an opportunity for project leads in selected areas to present a brief overview of their general research topic. Projects will be selected based on the results of previous Think Tanks and people's willingness to present their ideas. We will track ideas that emerge and re-visit at future Think Tanks.

Participants were asked to provide feedback on the Think Tank. The feedback summary indicates that all participants thought the goals of the Think Tank were achieved and that they found the opportunity to collaborate very useful. In particular, they appreciated interacting with others and exploring new and interesting ideas.

Thank you to Think Tank participants for their on-going commitment to building collaborative research in our region. Sincere appreciation to **Ingrid Qemo**, **Bre-Anne Fifield** and **Rosa Ferraiuolo** for their brilliant note taking - knowledge capture is a key component of the Think Tank success. And thank you to our WCRG Volunteer **Melanie Grondin** for ensuring registration went smoothly. We couldn't have done it without you!

If you are interested in learning more about the research topics discussed at this Think Tank or have a research topic idea you would like to present and discuss at the next Think Tank, please contact Karen Metcalfe at karenmet@uwindsor.ca