

## SUMMARY OF JULY 15, 2016 THINK TANK OUTCOMES

On Friday July 15<sup>th</sup>, WCRG hosted the second Cancer Research Think Tank sponsored by the University of Windsor's Office of Research and Innovation. **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:** 25

**Institutions Represented:** University of Windsor, Windsor Regional Hospital, Cross Border Institute, ITOS Oncology and Henry Ford Health System.

**Disciplinary Backgrounds:** Biological Sciences, Nursing, Computer Science, Psychology, and Chemistry and Biochemistry.

### Think Tank Outcomes

**Goal #1:** To kick off the inaugural Think Tank, Lisa Porter, WCRG Translational Research Director provided an overview of the Agenda, shared information on upcoming funding opportunities, reminded participants about the comprehensive list of funding opportunities that can be found on the WCRG website and shared some successes that came out of the April 15<sup>th</sup> Think Tank.

**Goal #2:** Project leaders presented 3 potential application ideas for future submission. The areas of focus for this Think Tank were:

- Cell Cycle Targeting in Multiple Myeloma  
Presenter: Indryas Woldie, MD, Oncologist, Windsor Regional Hospital
- Neurotransmitter receptors in Brain Cancer  
Presenter: Huiming Zhang, PhD, Biological Sciences, UWindsor
- Survivors' experience as they return to work  
Presenters: Debbie Kane, RN, PhD, & Dale Rajacich, RN, PhD, Faculty of Nursing, UWindsor

**Goal #3:** Project leads were identified for each proposed project and participants expressed their interest to be included on specific project teams. Think Tank evaluations showed that participants found the opportunity to collaborate very useful.

**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. 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 participants thought the goals of the Think Tank were achieved. In particular, they appreciated the opportunity to network and meet future collaborators.

Thank you to:

- **all attendees** for taking the time to participate in the second WCRG Cancer Research Think Tank. Your commitment, enthusiasm and willingness to provide constructive feedback to ensure this Think Tank approach continues to be a success is appreciated.

- **Ingrid Qemo, Bre-Anne Fifield** and **Jessica Dare** for their brilliant note taking at each group - knowledge capture is a key component of the Think Tank success and you made this look effortless.
- To WCRG Volunteers **Melanie Grondin** and **Alexander Rodzinka** for ensuring registration went smoothly and the day was captured in pictures. 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](mailto:karenmet@uwindsor.ca)