



## The Canadian Stem Cell Strategy & Action Plan

- Canadians first discovered stem cells in the 1960s, and Canada stands among the top 2-3 countries in the world in the field.
- Stem cells have cured thousands of people suffering blood-based cancers via bone marrow transplants. They are the next frontier in medicine, enabling us to cure many diseases – not just treat their symptoms.
- Canadian researchers are poised to deliver cures for devastating conditions like diabetes, heart disease, cancer, autoimmune disorders like MS and Crohn's, and neurological conditions like Parkinson's, stroke and spinal cord injury.
- The Canadian Stem Cell Strategy & Action Plan is a private sector-led plan to deliver up to 10 new curative therapies within 10 years by aligning the key players in the field.
- We need these cures. In 2014, Canada spent \$214 billion on health care, two-thirds of which went to the direct costs of treating incurable diseases.
- Other countries are investing heavily in their own stem cell sectors. If Canada does not act now, we will be left behind.
- We are calling on the Government of Canada and all political parties to commit to contributing just one-third of the investment, about \$50 million annually over 10 years.

## The Canadian Stem Cell Strategy & Action Plan will:

- coordinate and harness existing and new stem cell assets (discoveries, technologies, intellectual property and networks);
  - target diseases that are a priority to Canadians;
  - align private and public sector investments; and
  - ensure accountability — so that milestones are met and results are achieved.
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