



## Division of Pediatric Hematology / Oncology / Bone Marrow Transplant

Medical Director  
Paul C. Rogers  
MB, FRCPC, MBA

Mason C. Bond  
MD, FRPCP

Jeffrey H. Davis  
MD

David B. Dix  
MBChB, FRCPC, FAAP

Christopher Fryer  
MD, FRCPC

Juliette Hukin  
MBBS, FRCPC, FAAP

Sheila Pritchard  
BM, BS, FRCPC

Rod Rassekh  
MD

Kirk R. Schultz  
MD

Evan Shereck  
MD

Caron  
Strahlendorf  
MB, BCh, FCP

John K. Wu  
MBBS, MSc, FRCPC

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To BCCCPA,

Parents of a child with cancer undergo an awful journey from time their child is diagnosed, through the aggressive treatments utilized, and then the never ending wait of whether the treatments have been successful or not. The importance of a parent support group to one another to endure that journey cannot be underestimated. The formation of BCCCPA has been a milestone that is significant not only to the parents and families but also to us as the staff in the pediatric oncology program at BC Children's Hospital. There are many functions that BCCCPA has and can undertake. Not only is their support to one another an essential component but the importance of advocacy within the hospital and outside the hospital is essential in order to tell the story about children with cancer and what is required to overcome the many challenges that the children and their families must face. I wish to acknowledge the important contribution that you are making to the program and to all the families across British Columbia. There is a need to develop satellite support groups in many communities in British Columbia. It is not only the children on treatment but also the many survivors of pediatric malignancies who need your support and advocacy. To improve the outcomes of childhood cancer, quality of life and to help families undertake this arduous journey we pledge our support to you and wish you all the best in all your endeavors.

Yours sincerely,

Paul C. J. Rogers, MB, FRCP (Lond), FRCPC, MBA  
Clinical Professor & Head  
Division Pediatric Hematology/Oncology/BMT  
email: [progers@cw.bc.ca](mailto:progers@cw.bc.ca)