



CANFAR ANNUAL REPORT

2021/2022

OUR MISSION

HIV is now a preventable infection, yet the number of new cases in Canada only continues to climb with an increase of 11% in 2021.

It's estimated that four people acquire HIV each day - that's nearly one person every six hours in Canada.

The Canadian Foundation for AIDS Research (CANFAR) aims to end Canada's HIV epidemic by leading national strategies to increase prevention, testing and linkage to care as well as end HIV stigma.



A MESSAGE FROM OUR BOARD CHAIR

Dear CANFAR community,

When the Public Health Agency of Canada released its HIV/AIDS surveillance report for 2020 this summer, there was almost cause for optimism. It appeared new HIV cases were on the decline in Canada, that we were making some headway toward the 95-95-95 targets set forth by UNAIDS.

Unfortunately, that was not the case. Testing for sexually transmitted blood-borne infections – STBBIs – was down as much as 60 percent in jurisdictions across Canada because of COVID-19. Public health campaigns switched course to prevention of the novel coronavirus, while HIV and other STBBI awareness and prevention campaigns fell to the wayside.

We must continue to act swiftly and boldly and diversify our mission if we are to reach our goal of ending new HIV cases in Canada by 2025.

This past year was an incredibly impactful one for CANFAR's leadership in ending HIV/AIDS in Canada. CANFAR was engaged in and supported both Dr. Sean Rourke, CANFAR's Strategic Implementation Consultant, and his leadership of HIV self-testing initiatives as well as the community-driven work of Dr. Paul Sandstrom, a member of CANFAR's Scientific Advisory Committee

and Director at the National HIV & Retrovirology Laboratory.

Our first express testing laboratory officially opened at the new men's health clinic HQ Toronto, providing state-of-the-art machines for completely accurate and rapid HIV test results. Individuals diagnosed with HIV at HQ start treatment within 24 hours of diagnosis. The HQ clinic uses a status-neutral approach to care, meaning that all service users will be linked to appropriate treatment and services regardless of their HIV testing results.

But there's more to be done – and we can't do it alone. We need to accelerate progress towards reaching our CANFAR 2025 mission. We have all the necessary tools so we must be steadfast in fulfilling our blueprint to eradicate new HIV transmissions in Canada in the next three years, through our key areas of priority.

- **Support the roll-out of self-testing kits across Canada to all who need access**
- **Support the implementation of Rapid HIV Testing across Canada**

- **Engage with youth around HIV prevention and fighting stigma**
- **Support underserved and key affected communities, including Black, Indigenous and women**
- **Fund critical HIV research in Canada**

CANFAR will continue to support Canada's leading scientists as they break new ground on cutting-edge research with a global impact, advancing discoveries when it comes to prevention, testing, treatment and care. We are also funding more Indigenous and BIPOC researchers to conduct culturally appropriate studies.

We have come so far in the 35 years since CANFAR's inception. But we still have an uphill battle to fight to get our country's response to the HIV epidemic back on track after the coronavirus pandemic – so we can finally end new cases of HIV in Canada by 2025.

Andrew Pringle, CM
Chair, CANFAR Board of Directors

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Some of Canada's foremost leaders in the financial, legal, and philanthropic sectors sit on CANFAR's Board of Directors. The Board of Directors is responsible for establishing the mission, vision and direction of CANFAR, while representing the interests of the organization.

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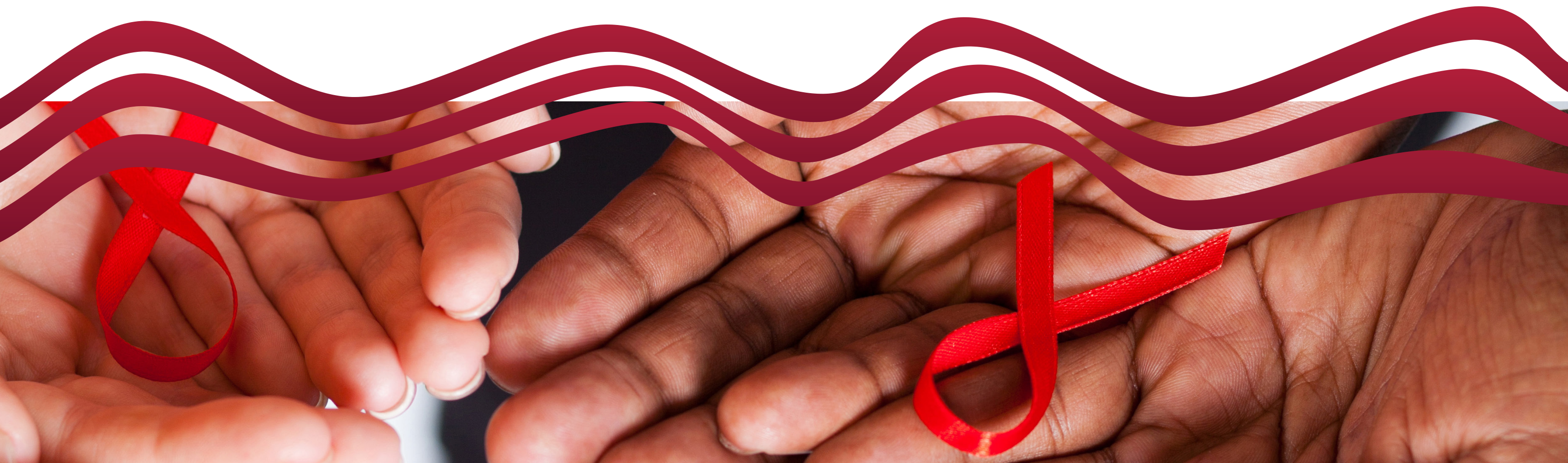
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CANFAR funds Canadian HIV/AIDS researchers who are selected by the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC), based on the excellence of their proposals.

As a committee, the SAC are ultimately responsible for selecting the most significant research projects from the many applications that they receive.

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CURRENT RESEARCH

HIV SELF-TESTING COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND LOCALIZED OUTCOMES (SOLO) STUDY

Funding: \$40,000 CANFAR Grant

Lead: WHIWH, REACH Nexus and the MAP Centre for Urban Health Solutions

Time Frame: On-going since October 2021

Description: The new HIV Self-Testing Community Outreach and Localized Outcomes (SOLO) Study contributed to improved access to HIV testing for Greater Toronto Area (GTA) African, Caribbean and Black (ACB) communities, and collected data on the number of new HIV infections that were discovered. SOLO also ensured connections to care for participants, and measured the degree to which the study's approach reduces stigma and health inequities.

While in-person visits and point-of-care testing for HIV remained limited (and in some cases nonexistent) due to COVID-19, to the SOLO team it was imperative to find new ways to get HIV testing methods to Toronto-area ACB communities.



2022 CAHR-CANFAR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH AWARDS

The CAHR-CANFAR Excellence in Research Awards are bestowed annually to mid-career researchers who while at the prime of their careers have achieved a track record of excellence and demonstrated a commitment to improving the lives of those living with HIV with or at risk. Awarded since 2017, the recipients are honoured each year at the opening ceremony of the CAHR Conference to highlight the achievements of investigators in all pillars of HIV research.

Those recognized for 2022:

Basic Sciences:

Mohammad-Ali Jenabian D.V.M., Ph.D., Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM)

Clinical Sciences:

Cecilia T. Costiniuk, Research Institute of the McGill University Health Centre (RI-MUHC)

Epidemiology-Public Health:

Dr. Angela Kaida, Simon Fraser University (SFU)

Social Sciences:

Adrian Guta, MSW, PhD, RSW, University of Windsor

Community-Based Research:

Claudette Cardinal, British Columbia Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS



CURRENT RESEARCH

2022 CTN POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP AWARDS PROGRAM

The CTN Postdoctoral Fellowship Awards Program was launched to collaborate with and nurture the next generation of top HIV and STBBI investigators. It provides an opportunity for early-career researchers to advance their experience and write a trial protocol, research program, and develop and run their own trial.

Dr. Cara Spence has ample experience working with Indigenous communities on the diagnosis, linkage to care, and prevention of HIV, HCV, and other STBBIs in Saskatchewan, for close to 25 years.



the CTN
CIHR Canadian
HIV Trials Network

Working with Indigenous women who live with HIV or HCV, Dr. Spence will answer some of HIV's most pressing research questions by establishing a comprehensive clinical dataset to study care for the population and identify critical vulnerabilities for Indigenous women with HIV and HCV risk exposures.

INVESTMENT: HQ TORONTO

HQ TORONTO AT 790 BAY IS A CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE IN HEALTHCARE FOR GBMSM, 2-SPIRIT, TRANS & NON- BINARY PEOPLE

Title: CANFAR Rapid Testing Laboratory

Funding: \$500,000 CANFAR Grant

Time Frame: On-going since 2021

Description: Our first express testing laboratory officially opened at the new men's health clinic HQ Toronto, providing state-of-the-art machines for completely accurate and rapid HIV test results.

Since opening summer 2022, HQ Toronto has administered 1,096 HIV PCR tests, diagnosing 11 new HIV cases already. Individuals diagnosed with HIV at HQ started treatment within 24 hours of diagnosis – and HQ initiated HIV therapy in 26 individuals overall. The HQ clinic uses a status-neutral approach to care, meaning that all service users will be linked to appropriate treatment and services regardless of their HIV testing results.



NATIONAL YOUTH AWARENESS PROGRAMS

SPONSORS HIGHLIGHT

CANFAR's national youth awareness program would not be possible without the generous support from our Program Sponsors: **The P. Austin Family Foundation, The Slaight Family Foundation,** and **Canada Life.**

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SEXFLUENT.CA GROWS UP

Launched on July 16, 2021, Sexfluent is an online resource that provides youth with an inclusive space to explore topics on mental health, sexual health, gender identity and sexuality, and harm reduction. Inspired by findings collected from our 2019 National Youth Survey, we saw the need to modernize HIV prevention approaches to address gaps in sexual health education, mental health and harm reduction. We created Sexfluent, a national, first-of-its-kind, youth-driven resource that integrates topics on mental health and harm reduction with sexual health, and openly addresses stigmatized topics, such as HIV, STIs, testing, sexual pleasure, gender identity and sexuality, and substance use.

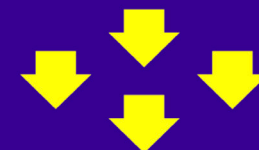
Originally soft launched on June 23, 2021, thanks to the support of the P. Austin Family Foundation, Sexfluent added a robust mental health section to the website, and completed the full website launch on April 13, 2022.



**YOU BELONG HERE
NO MATTER
HOW YOU IDENTIFY.**

**OUR SEXUALITY IS MORE THAN
WHAT WE DO WITH ANOTHER
PERSON SEXUALLY.
IT'S A NATURAL AND VITAL PART
OF WHO WE ARE.**

**BUT HOW DO YOU KNOW IF A
DECISION YOU'RE MAKING IS
RIGHT FOR YOU?**



THE SEXFLUENT SQUAD

Sexfluent's content is amplified and developed in collaboration with the Sexfluent Squad, a diverse group of young Canadian activists and influencers who share their own experiences on TikTok and Instagram. They come from across the country and vary in both their background and experiences, and touch upon Indigenous-, 2SLGBTQIA+, and HIV-related advocacy and health information. The Sexfluent Squad include:

Chelazon Leroux

TikTok @chelazonleroux, Instagram @chelazonleroux (Saskatoon, SK)

Jordy & Lamymy

TikTok @lamymyetjordy, Instagram @jordyyy.x & @lamymyyy (Montréal, QC)

Kairyn Potts

TikTok @ohkairyn, Instagram @ohkairyn (Edmonton, AB)

Myles Sexton

TikTok @mylessexton, Instagram @mylessexton (Toronto, ON)

Tyra Blizzard

TikTok @tblizzy, Instagram @tyrablizz (Ottawa, ON)

Brogan Marshall

Instagram @brogan (Saskatoon, SK)

Hayley Robinson

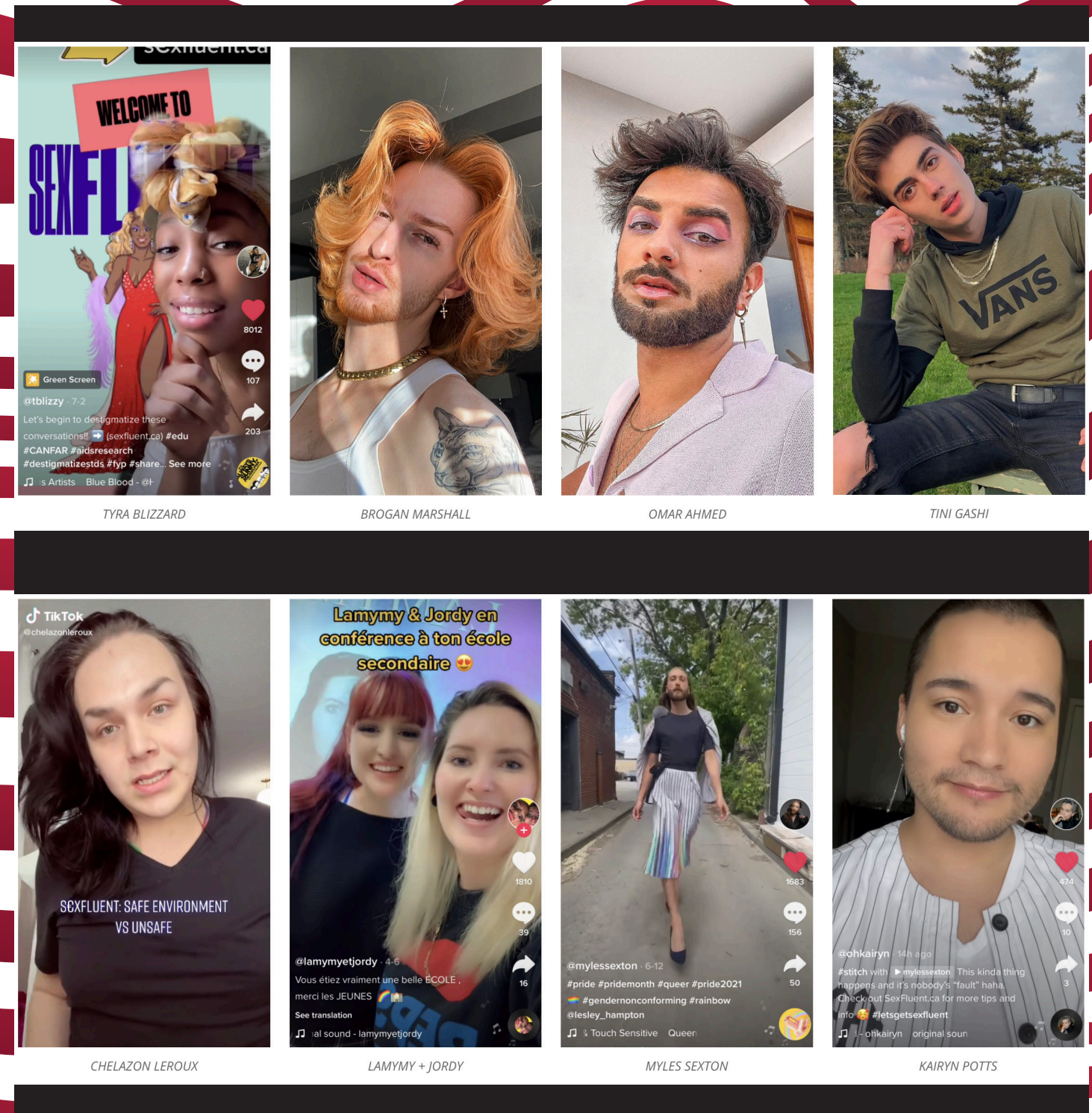
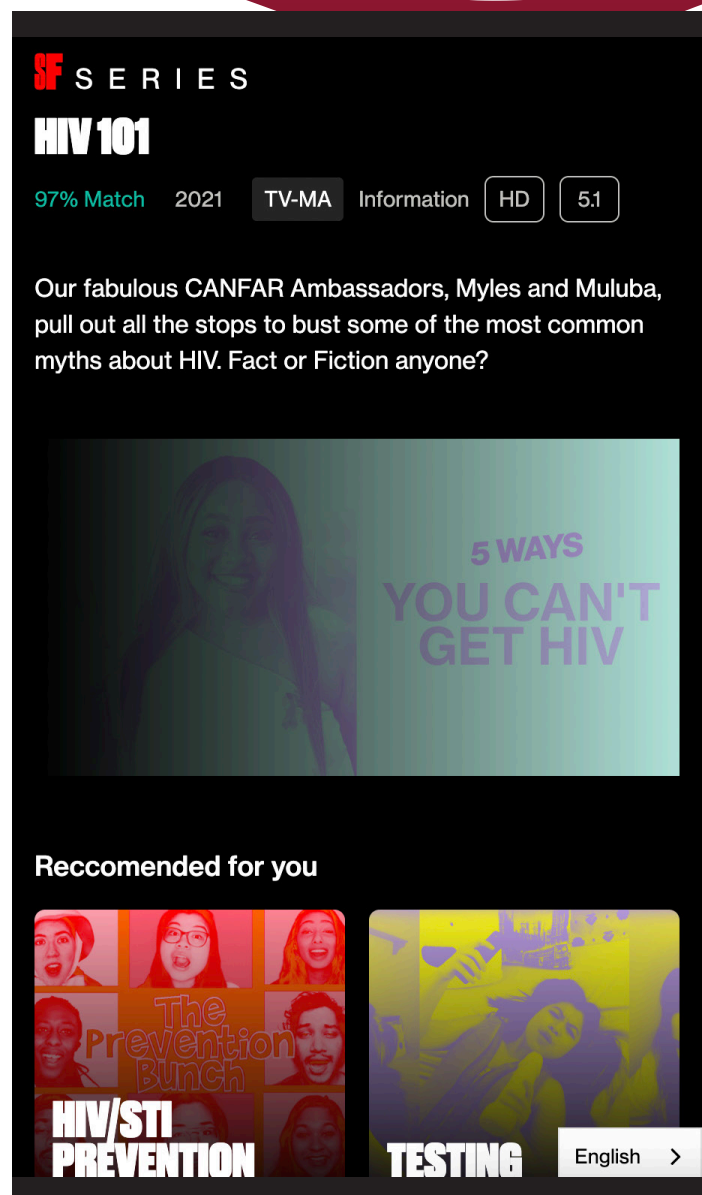
TikTok @og.robinson, Instagram @og.robinson10 (Calgary, AB)

Omar Ahmed

Instagram @omarahmed.co

Tini Gashi

TikTok @tinigashi, Instagram @_tinigashi_ (Toronto, ON)



SIGNATURE FUNDRAISING EVENTS

AIDSBEAT 25

Date: Friday, June 3, 2022

Location: El Mocambo

Attendance: Over 400 guests

The 25th anniversary of AIDSbeat – put on in collaboration with Toronto’s legal community – was nothing short of ICONIC. Hosted at the historic El Mocambo, AIDSbeat had four different lawyer bands showcasing epic musical moments as well as special performances by Slaight Music’s performers.

Over 400 guests packed the venue to listen to eclectic covers of everything from John Lennon’s Imagine to Adele’s Hello. Blind Trust, Call to the Bar, A Cute Risk and the Mant Band, and DAVIES’ The Amended and Restated Insecurities all brought their best to the stage and engulfed the audience in non-stop performances. We were also treated to original compositions by Theo, Jillea and Rolsyn that won’t soon be forgotten. And AIDSbeat co-chair Nicole Sigouin not only took the mic to share some words with the crowd alongside co-chair David Palumbo and honorary chair Patricia Olasker, she also joined Blair Purdy Music to showcase her exceptional pipes with renditions we want to hear again and again.



BLOOR STREET ENTERTAINS 25TH EDITION

Date: Thursday, November 30th, 2021

Location: Bloor-Yorkville

Attendance: Over 850 guests

On November 25th, 2021, CANFAR hosted the 25th edition of its milestone fundraising event, Bloor Street Entertains (BSE), raising an impressive \$1.1M for HIV research thanks to the generous support of our donors.

More than 850 guests attended the event, marking a return to in-person dining at prestigious locations in Bloor-Yorkville. Presented by Signature Partner, BMO Financial Group, and chaired by The Hon. Scott Brison, Vice-Chair, Investment & Corporate Banking at BMO, this 25th anniversary edition of BSE honoured long-time CANFAR partners and patrons, as well as paid tribute to healthcare communities, including Canadian HIV research scientists who have been hard at work fighting two pandemics these past 18 months, COVID-19 and HIV.



CAN YOU DO LUNCH? 2022

RECOGNIZING WOMEN IN HIV

CANFAR hosted our 10th anniversary of one of our milestone events, Can You Do Lunch? (CYDL?) on April 28th, 2022 at The Four Seasons Hotel in Toronto. The event was co-chaired by CYDL? Founder Janice O'Born and CANFAR's National Spokesperson Valerie Pringle.

Paying tribute to prominent women who have been at the forefront of fighting and ending HIV in Canada and celebrated key people from the scientific and medical community as well as philanthropists and community leaders.

Among medical and research experts, dedicated to the fight against HIV, CANFAR honored Dr. Hélène Côté, Dr. Lisa Barrett, Dr. Bluma Brenner, Dr. Louise Charest, Dr. Marianne Harris, Dr. Marina Klein, Dr. Mona Loufty, Dr. Anita Rachlis, Dr. Cécile Tremblay, and Dr. Sharon Walmsley.

Philanthropists and community-builders honored included Muluba Habanyama, Notisha Massaquoi, Patti MacNicol, Sylvia Mantella, Marvelous Muchenje, Ashley Rose Murphy, Patricia Olasker, Magaret Kisikaw Piyesis, Nada Ristich, and Leeanne Weld.



LEGACY PROJECT LAUNCHES IN OTTAWA

On World AIDS Day 2021, Legacy Project Ottawa was reborn.

Presented and sponsored by ViiV Healthcare Canada, CANFAR's Legacy 2.0 Group exists as a social network for encouraging and supporting community, information, initiatives, and fundraising to foster awareness and prevention of HIV for at-risk youth ages 15 to 29.

The re-launching of CANFAR's Ottawa Chapter of Legacy 2.0 is part of a strategic effort to maximize funding for research, education and social programs dedicated to youth HIV prevention and awareness. Currently, CANFAR's Legacy 2.0 Chapters support CANFAR's newest, comprehensive youth HIV resource, Sexfluent.ca.



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³Sponsors are individuals or corporations that have made a non-philanthropic contribution to CANFAR between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022.

OUR FINANCIALS

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	2022	2021
ASSETS		
CURRENT		
CASH	\$ 1,122,137	\$ 1,921,675
SHORT-TERM INVESTMENTS	80,241	113,035
ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE	20,606	14,337
HST RECOVERABLE	111,079	51,712
PREPAID EXPENSES	28,698	42,957
	1,362,761	2,143,716
CAPITAL ASSETS	39,622	88,150
INVESTMENTS	586,914	586,914
	\$ 1,989,297	\$ 2,818,780
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT		
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND ACCRUED LIABILITIES	\$ 131,328	\$ 77,506
GRANTS PAYABLE	331,268	100,001
	462,596	177,507
DEFERRED CONTRIBUTIONS	259,609	1,296,861
LOAN PAYABLE	60,000	60,000
	782,205	1,534,368
FUND BALANCES		
GENERAL	620,178	697,498
ENDOWMENT	586,914	586,914
	1,207,092	1,284,412
	\$ 1,989,297	\$ 2,818,780

STATEMENT OF REVENUE, EXPENSES
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES

	GENERAL FUND		ENDOWMENT FUND		TOTAL	
	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021
REVENUE						
DONATIONS AND BEQUESTS	\$ 1,456,621	\$ 1,422,709	\$ –	\$ –	\$ 1,456,621	\$ 1,422,709
FUNDRAISING AND AWARENESS EVENTS	1,492,209	553,695	–	–	1,492,209	553,695
GOVERNMENT WAGE SUBSIDY	15,102	202,218	–	–	15,102	202,218
INVESTMENT INCOME	21,853	63,210	–	–	21,853	63,210
	2,985,785	2,411,832	–	–	2,985,785	2,241,832
EXPENSES						
FUNDRAISING	714,005	225,777	–	–	714,005	225,777
GENERAL	736,061	661,117	–	–	736,061	661,117
GRANTS AWARDED	512,534	357,500	–	–	512,534	357,500
PROGRAM AND AWARENESS	1,100,505	944,824	–	–	1,100,505	944,824
RESEARCH ADMINISTRATION			–	–		
	3,063,105	2,189,218	–	–	3,063,105	2,189,218
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	(77,320)	52,614	–	–	(77,320)	52,614
FUND BALANCES, BEGINNING OF YEAR	697,498	644,884	586,914	586,914	1,284,412	1,231,798
FUND BALANCES, END OF YEAR	\$ 620,178	\$ 697,498	\$ 586,914	\$ 586,914	\$ 1,207,092	\$ 1,284,412

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

	2022	2021
CASH PROVIDED BY (USED IN)		
OPERATIONS		
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	\$ (77,320)	\$ 52,614
ITEMS NOT AFFECTING CASH		
AMORTIZATION	63,504	65,906
LOSS (GAIN) ON SALE OF INVESTMENTS AND CHANGE IN UNREALIZED FAIR VALUE ADJUSTMENT	(42,695)	(55,472)
RECOGNITION OF CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED IN PRIOR YEARS (NOTE 5)	(1,214,332)	(947,404)
	(1,270,843)	(884,356)
CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED IN ADVANCE OF EXPENDITURE (NOTE 5)	177,080	1,509,981
GRANTS PAID	(231,267)	(375,000)
NET CHANGES IN NON-CASH WORKING CAPITAL		
ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE	(6,269)	5,663
HST RECOVERABLE	(59,367)	10,512
GRANT APPROVED	462,534	125,000
PREPAID EXPENSES	14,259	93,161
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND ACCRUED LIABILITIES	53,822	14,260
	(860,051)	499,221
INVESTING		
PROCEEDS ON SALE OF SHORT-TERM INVESTMENTS	151,368	139,529
PURCHASE OF SHORT-TERM INVESTMENTS	(75,879)	(118,330)
PURCHASE OF CAPITAL ASSETS	(14,976)	(84,087)
	60,513	(62,888)
INCREASE IN LOANS PAYABLE	-	20,000
NET CHANGE IN CASH	(799,538)	456,333
CASH, BEGINNING OF YEAR	1,921,675	1,465,342
CASH, END OF YEAR	\$ 1,122,137	\$ 1,921,675



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