
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**Alzheimer's partnership to contribute up to \$5M to boost dementia research in Alberta**

The Alzheimer Society of Alberta and Northwest Territories partners with Campus Alberta Neuroscience to launch funding competition for innovative research

Calgary/Edmonton/Lethbridge, August 11, 2022 – Neuroscience researchers at three Alberta universities will see a new source of funding for innovation in dementia knowledge and practice, thanks to a partnership between the Alzheimer Society of Alberta and Northwest Territories (AS AB/NT) and Campus Alberta Neuroscience (CAN). A new research competition will launch in September 2022, providing up to \$1 million annually into high priority areas concerning Alzheimer's and dementia. This initiative will have a significant impact on dementia in Alberta, and beyond.

"This is a great example of the work happening every day in our health system to develop better treatments and give patients a higher quality of life, with the support of groups like the Alzheimer Society. Thank you to the Society for this initiative and all the work they do on behalf of patients and families, and I'm proud to support this initiative and many others through Campus Alberta Neuroscience."

- Jason Copping, Alberta Minister of Health

This partnership amplifies research and its impact in Alberta by connecting CAN's network of neuroscientists from the Universities of Alberta, Calgary and Lethbridge with AS AB/NT's investment capacity. AS AB/NT is committing up to \$5 million over five years, distributed through an annual research competition administered by CAN.

"We all know someone whose life has been affected by dementia, including Alzheimer's disease. Nobody wants to fade away or have a loved one forget who they are, but so far we haven't been able to stop these dementias. Investing in research offers our community improved quality of life and hope for the future, gives dementia the attention it deserves and moves us one step closer to finding a cure for this dreadful disease."

- George Andrews, CEO of Alzheimer Society of Alberta and Northwest Territories

Investment into dementia research increases the potential to improve the lives of the more than [58,000 Albertans](#) living with dementia. Without the knowledge gained from research, dementia will continue to disrupt the lives of many more Albertans - [up to 1 in 30 by 2043](#).

"Research funding is critical for advancing scientific discoveries and breakthroughs, and creates a brighter future for Canadians who are impacted by or at risk of Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia. This partnership reinforces and empowers CAN's commitment to helping Alberta researchers do outstanding work to improve the lives of Canadians."

- Dr. Svenja Espenhahn, Executive Director of Campus Alberta Neuroscience

The funding competition will launch September 21, World Alzheimer's Day, as part of the Hope for Tomorrow campaign and will support Alberta-based researchers to progress the development of more effective treatments and build pathways to a cure.

"Alzheimer's is a disease for which there is currently no effective treatment. By forming these strong partnerships, pooling resources, and providing funding into science, both of our organizations are more effective. This partnership enables not just extensive research into Alzheimer's disease, it also connects this research with the community that needs it, resulting in a better quality of life for Canadians."

- Dr. David Park, Director of Hotchkiss Brain Institute and Chair of the Campus Alberta Neuroscience Advisory Committee

To determine priority research areas, AS AB/NT and CAN are asking interested parties for input, including researchers, people with lived experience, community groups and any other stakeholders. To participate, [complete the survey linked here](#) before August 31.

About AS AB/NT

The Alzheimer Society of Alberta and Northwest Territories is working to change the face of dementia and improve the quality of life for those with the disease. Serving Alberta and the Northwest Territories, the Society offers a network of educational and support services for people diagnosed with dementia and their care partners, builds partnerships with health professionals and the community and advances research into effective treatments and finding a cure for this devastating disease. To learn more about Alzheimer's, dementia, and the work done by AS AB/NT, please visit alzheimer.ab.ca.

About CAN

Campus Alberta Neuroscience, established in 2012 with support from the Government of Alberta, is a province-wide neuroscience network connecting the Universities of Alberta, Calgary and Lethbridge to increase the impact of neuroscience and mental health research, education and translation, developing the province as an epicenter for neuroscience excellence. Through collaborative partnerships with researchers, government and health system stakeholders, industry and community organizations, CAN supports and accelerates innovative brain and mental health advances that improve brain health, patient care and quality of life in Alberta and beyond. For more information, please visit albertaneuro.ca.

Media Inquiries:

Holli Bjerland, MA, CFRE
Acting Provincial Lead, Philanthropy
Alzheimer Society of Alberta and Northwest Territories
#306 10430-61 Ave.
Edmonton, AB. T6H 2J3
Direct: 587-635-0804
1-866-950-5465
www.alzheimer.ab.ca | www.asantcafe.ca

Lucy Escott
Communications Coordinator
Campus Alberta Neuroscience
University of Calgary
abneuro@ucalgary.ca
www.albertaneuro.ca
1-403-220-2422