

JOIN US ON FEBRUARY 28 TO CELEBRATE INTERNATIONAL RARE DISEASE DAY!

This year, we celebrate progress while acknowledging the journey ahead for rare disease patients in Canada. From the government's \$1.5 billion National Rare Disease Drug Strategy to breakthrough initiatives across the country that are finding and treating rare disorders every day using new AI tools and comprehensive care approaches. But there's so much more to be done. This is where you come in.

CORD is hosting a special webinar on **Friday, Feb 28 from 12:00 - 1:00 pm EST** so that everyone from across Canada can tune in and help put that funding to work.

Experts will showcase innovative models that improve patient care and reduce strain on provincial healthcare systems. We'll also launch a new research program that we need you to participate in – a survey of rare Canadians – so that policymakers and health system leaders understand the burden and costs of diseases and the benefits of early diagnosis and treatment. We need you to participate and spread the word!

Here's what we'll discuss:

- Ending the diagnostic odyssey with CHEO's ThinkRare: **Dr. Kym Boycott, CHEO**
- Treating and tracking rare diseases at BC Cancer: **Dr. Maryam Soleimani, BC Cancer**
- Caring for complex kids and adults: **Dr. Tom McLaughlin, BC Children's Hospital**
- The challenge of treating adults with SMA in Manitoba: **Jeremy Bray**
- Measuring the socioeconomic impact of rare diseases on families and health systems: **Dr. Deborah Marshall, University of Calgary**