

## Marlene Driscoll

### Patient & Family Advisor

I am retired Nurse and Educator.

My husband & I are cancer Thrivers. This photo captures a moment in which we celebrated with our family, upon my first birthday after intensive cancer treatment. I am beautifully attired in my new wig for the party.



**I was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2008. I also have an unrelated bone marrow condition which has compromised my health throughout my life & predictably affected me during Chemotherapy.**

My hematologist sent a report to the Tom Baker suggesting a class of medication to stimulate the bone marrow during Chemotherapy. The report could not be found & as a result, I developed serious infection along the vein in my arm. I was sick and required intravenous antibiotics.

As cancer patients, we must feel confident that our cancer team meets and works together in **a space visible to us and our families**. We want to be involved with the team and we need an **integrated communications network**.

I want the new cancer centre to have **convenient space where we are protected from infection while waiting for outpatient appointments and Chemotherapy**.

Cancer control extends throughout a lifetime. A **welcoming place of recovery** in our new cancer centre will help us **regain our lives** when we may feel at a low point. Please consider **long distance patients and families** and **bring them into healing** classes by the **wonders of technology**.

The greatest gift to a cancer patient is HOPE. The heart that I wear, given to me by my husband at the beginning of my cancer journey, symbolizes his unrelenting support and HOPE.

It is my wish that the new cancer centre by its' **design and vision of care** will **extend HOPE to all who enter its' doors of care**.