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Working Together From Strength to Strength: The Canadian Prostate Cancer Network Becomes Prostate Cancer Canada Network

"It's a new day for prostate cancer support groups across Canada," remarks Bob Shiell, president of the Canadian Prostate Cancer Network (CPCN). "What makes this day different from other days is that CPCN is no longer alone in its mission," he continues. "We have amalgamated with [Prostate Cancer Canada](#), formerly known as the Prostate Cancer Research Foundation of Canada." The result? Ultimately, the benefit to men newly diagnosed with prostate cancer will be a coast-to-coast network of strengthened support groups that will have more and better tools and training.



Bob Shiell with Steve Jones,
President & CEO of Prostate
Cancer Canada

Since its inception on Remembrance Day 1995, the Canadian Prostate Cancer Network has moved from strength to strength. The organization speaks for thousands of men who, each year, are diagnosed with prostate cancer, the most common cancer among Canadian men. Each week, an average of 490 Canadian men are diagnosed with this disease.

"Through our affiliated support groups across Canada, CPCN has been able to reach out to these men and their families, helping them cope by providing up-to-date medical information and individual support," says Wally Seeley, executive director of CPCN. "We have also run wonderfully successful public awareness campaigns promoting early detection, and we've lobbied for increased funding to combat prostate cancer through improvements in research, treatment facilities, and programs," he adds.

The amalgamation with [Prostate Cancer Canada](#) will build on these strengths, says Seeley, who plans to retire at the end of June after many years of noble service.

Although the work of CPCN will continue, and even increase, its name will change. "Our new name is Prostate Cancer Canada Network (PCCN)," Shiell reports. PCCN will work as a division of [Prostate Cancer Canada](#) (PCC). To further ensure an unbroken pursuance of the enduring goals of the Network, the current board of CPCN will form an advisory board and appoint two of its members to [Prostate Cancer Canada](#) Board of Directors. Bob Shiell will be Managing Director, PCCN, as well as Vice-President, [Prostate Cancer Canada](#).

PCCN is lucky to have an individual with so much experience and vision at the helm during this time of transition. Shiell is president of Calgary's prostate cancer support group ProstaId, he has served as president of CPCN since 2001, and he is a founding member of the World Wide Prostate Cancer Coalition (WWPCC).

[Prostate Cancer Canada](#) is dedicated to the elimination of this disease through research, education, advocacy, survivorship support, and awareness. "PCC's scope, like CPCN's, is national, so the fit is very

good," says Shiell about the upcoming amalgamation.

The future does indeed look promising. "Prostate Cancer Canada Network, working as a division of [Prostate Cancer Canada](#), will have stable funding, access to administrative staff, higher visibility, and the support of an established player in the prostate cancer arena," Shiell comments.

"Working together, we will be able to go from strength to strength to benefit Canadian men and their families on their journey with prostate cancer.

For more information on [Prostate Cancer Canada](#), please visit www.prostatecancer.ca