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# National Colorectal Cancer Screening Network established

The Canadian Partnership Against Cancer's Screening Action Group is pleased to announce the formation of the National Colorectal Cancer Screening Network. Its membership comprises representatives from across Canadian jurisdictions and key cancer control community partners.

The network is chaired by Dr. Heather Bryant, Vice-President, Cancer Control, CPAC.

The network's objectives are to:

- Provide a national forum to review, discuss and take action on matters of mutual interest or concern related to colorectal screening.
- Foster the development of high quality, organized colorectal screening programs in Canada.
- Facilitate the use of best practices in colorectal screening and program assessment.

- Assess colorectal cancer screening in Canada using a set of recognized criteria.
- Identify and where necessary create, evidence and data sources to support the development of colorectal screening policy.
- Identify priorities relating to colorectal cancer screening that would benefit from collaborative action.
- Effectively communicate responses to the latest research, policy and practice changes, harmonizing key messages with other partners and networks.

The inaugural network meeting was held Dec. 4-5, 2007. The network's direction was charted including plans to develop a national database for colorectal cancer screening and the need to identify key quality assurance performance indicators.

Members of the network include representatives from all provinces as well as the Canadian Cancer Society, the Canadian Cancer Action Network, the Colorectal Cancer Association of Canada, the Canadian Association of Gastroenterology and the Public Health Agency of Canada.

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