

MESSAGE FROM

John Corriveau **Members, 2025 PIP Working Committee**

My name is John Corriveau, and I'm honoured to serve as a patient partner with PIP: Patient Involvement in Research. PIP is a practical pathway for moving from consultation to co-creation. It equips patient partners with the tools, language, and confidence to engage at every stage of the research life cycle, and it challenges researchers to design **with—not for**—the communities they serve.



In practice, PIP supports partnership across protocol development, outcome selection, consent language, recruitment strategies, equity considerations, and dissemination plans. It helps us build a shared vocabulary, align on priorities, and make decisions transparently. Most importantly, PIP turns intention into infrastructure—so engagement isn't a one-off conversation, it's a consistent way of working.

Relationships are the engine of better science. Patients bring lived expertise that surfaces blind spots—what daily life with cancer looks like, which outcomes truly matter, and where barriers to access and trust still exist. Researchers bring the methodological rigor to transform those insights into robust studies and actionable evidence. When those strengths meet in true partnership, we ask sharper questions, design more inclusive trials, and produce findings that are more likely to improve lives. In 2016, I was diagnosed with stage 4 prostate cancer that had metastasized to my left hip and my spine. In 2025, a lymphoma tumor was found in my right armpit, unrelated to the previous prostate cancer. Today, after 6 bouts of chemotherapy I'm cancer-free, my journey included a variety medical of treatments, clinical trials and research studies. Along the way, I met fellow patients, support clinician, and researchers—many of whom I now proudly call friends. Thus, I have developed an appreciation and respect for our researchers. Consequentially, I have a deep passion for mentoring the next generation of researchers, mixing the insights of patients with the curiosity of young investigators to reshape cancer science from the ground up.

True mentorship isn't about handing someone a map. It's about lighting a torch. Mentorship isn't about giving answers; it's about sparking questions. What do you care about so deeply that time dissolves when you pursue it? What makes your spirit soar? By listening with genuine curiosity and sharing the lessons we've learned, we help mentees discover their own north star. When passion finds purpose, it becomes unstoppable.

As patient partners and researchers alike, we carry stories that can ignite that spark. When we mentor, we don't hand off solutions. Instead, we invite questions that lead to deeper understanding and extraordinary breakthroughs. This mindset prepares new researchers to engage patients not as subjects, but as essential collaborators.

Being a PIP member has shown me how patient voices and mentorship leave a legacy far beyond any single study. Let us commit to a future where every research decision reflects lived experience, where every young investigator finds a guiding spark, and where patient partnership is woven into the very fabric of cancer science.