



Winter 2019 Newsletter

New Zealand Cancer Action Plan 2019-2029

On the 1st September, the NZ Government announced a new cancer action plan with four main goals: 1) New Zealanders have a system that delivers consistent and modern cancer care; 2) New Zealanders experience equitable cancer outcomes; 3) New Zealanders have fewer cancers; and 4) New Zealanders have better cancer survival.

Rolleston Talks

At the Cancer Society Information evening on August the 14th, the Mackenzie Cancer Research Group presented 'What's new in cancer research?' at the new high school in Rolleston. The eight lay talks were centred around the Cancer Society Tissue Bank, a biorepository that has collected cancer samples from over 12,000 patients since 1996. The audience was captivated by the latest information on immune therapy and vitamin C, followed by breast cancer



genetics and obesity, ending with gynaecological cancers. Feedback from the public was very positive and further outreach events are planned for next year.

University of Otago, Christchurch D.A.R.E Showcase.

The event – named D.A.R.E (Discover, Achieve, Research and Engage) Otago - involved staff and students from the campus sharing their career and study stories and demonstrating the full breadth of health science pathways. Many of the talks were given by some of the campus' more than 700-strong postgraduate student population. Secondary students from almost 30 schools were also introduced to the many different areas of health research at the University of Otago, Christchurch, through interactive displays.



New University of Otago, Christchurch Building

Planning is well underway for the new \$150 million University of Otago Christchurch Building which is scheduled for completion in 2023. The new six story building will be located in the Health Precinct on a site overlooking the river on Oxford Terrace. There has been significant consultation with staff from different departments to ensure the building will contain state-of-the-art research laboratories and will promote collaboration between researchers.

