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To all members of the NCIC CTG Community

It would be an understatement to say that Ralph Meyer will be missed at Queen's University and the NCIC Clinical Trials Group (NCIC CTG). Dr. Meyer's contributions here since arriving in 2006 have been multi-faceted and significant. As the holder of the Edith and Carla Eisenhower Chair and Director of the NCIC CTG, Dr. Meyer has helped to advance the scientific agenda on cancer research in this country through his wise leadership and as an eminent scholar. Ralph Meyer is also a respected educator at Queen's, cross-appointed to the Departments of Medicine and Community Health and Epidemiology.

Looking forward, Queen's University recognizes the unique privilege and responsibility associated with being the home of the NCIC Clinical Trials Group's Central Office since the Group was established 33 years ago. We are acutely aware of the importance of NCIC CTG as a national research organization and to the collaborative mission of cancer investigators based at institutions across Canada. We also recognize NCIC CTG's position as a Canadian Cancer Society Research Institute national program and the alignment of the Group's missions and goals with those of the Canadian Cancer Society. Furthermore, we understand how NCIC CTG is integrated with international cancer clinical trials organizations, including those associated with the National Cancer Institute Cancer Therapy Evaluation Program in the United States.

The Director of the NCIC CTG is an important position within the Faculty of Health Sciences at Queen's University. We take our responsibility for selection to this national leadership position very seriously. Iain Young (Executive-Vice-Dean), Roger Deeley (Vice-Dean Research) and myself are actively working with very senior personnel in the oncology community to effect a smooth transition phase for NCIC CTG. In the coming weeks, I will initiate an international search process for a new Director and will be working with Dr. Christine Williams, Vice President - Research of the Canadian Cancer Society, to obtain input from the NCIC CTG national network.

While Ralph's presence on our campus will be missed - all of us in the Faculty of Health Sciences extend our deep thanks for his contributions over the past seven years, and wish him well in his new role with Hamilton Health Sciences and Cancer Care Ontario.

Sincerely,

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