RESOURCES FOR HAIR LOSS & APPEARANCE CHANGES

Cancer treatments can cause temporary hair loss that may affect the way you look and feel. The following resource information might help in making choices that are right for you.

INFORMATION CENTRES & WORKSHOPS

BCCA Cancer Information Centres:

Pamphlets and videos are available at each Cancer Centre, on coping with hair loss and skin changes as well as tips on head wraps, hats and scarf tying

Look Good, Feel Better (LGFB) Workshop:

LGFB workshops help women living with cancer learn special cosmetic techniques and tips on wigs and head coverings in order to help cope with the appearance-related side effects of cancer treatment. Sessions are usually once a month at a local venue or in your Cancer Centre. LGFB offers workshops one time only per person at no cost. In addition, a wig consultation and stylist service may be available at the session. To learn more or find a workshop in your area, call 1.800.914.5665 or visit their website www.lgfb.ca

WIGS & HEAD-COVERINGS

No cost head coverings and wigs may be available at your Cancer Centre or at a Canadian Cancer Society (CCS) location near your Cancer Centre.

- Abbotsford Centre - Cosmetic Counseling Room located on the main floor signup sheet available at BCCA main reception desk
- Centre for the North (Prince George) - CCS Kordyban Lodge (next to the Centre) 250.562.3535
- Fraser Valley Centre (Surrey) - “The Living Room” located on level 1
- SAH Centre for the Southern Interior (Kelowna) - CCS Rotary Lodge (next to the Centre) 250.712.2203
- Vancouver Centre - CCS Jean C. Barber Lodge (next to the Centre) 604.879.9121
- Vancouver Island Centre (Victoria) CCS Lodge, 2202 Richmond Road 250.592.2662

WIG BOUTIQUES & HAIR SALONS

Check in the Yellow Pages under Wigs & Hairpieces or Beauty Salons for listings in your area or refer to CCS website under Supports & Services > Community Service Locator

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The cost of a wig may be a burden to you. You may or may not be eligible for compensation but here are some things to consider:

- Ask your physician to provide you with a ‘prescription’ for a wig. This prescription should indicate that you need the wig for medical reasons
- Financial re-imbursement for medical expenses including wigs may be available when filing your Income Tax Return - contact Canada Revenue
- If you are a member of First Nations Non-Insured Benefits Program, contact them prior to purchasing a wig and make sure you have a prescription from your physician - call 1.800.317.7878 (BC Region)
- If you have Extended Health Benefits through an employer or through a service group, you may be eligible for reimbursement. Check with the plan or
CCS may have a local unit office in other communities that offer a selection of donated wigs and head-coverings.

All donated wigs have been cleaned and professionally styled and borrowed wigs must be returned after use.

For more information or to find a CCS in another community refer to www.cancer.ca under Support Services or call the Cancer Information Line at 1.888.939.3333.

DONATING HAIR FOR WIGS

BC Cancer Agency Centres do not accept any hair donations. If you wish to donate your hair for use in making wigs, the following B.C. companies do accept hair donations.

Eva & Co Wigs
Unit 107, 950 W. Broadway,
Vancouver, B.C.
V5Z 1K7

Send acceptable hair by regular mail only. Address to "Hair Donation Program". Hair should be a minimum of 8” (20cm) in length. Do not braid your hair.

Havana Technical Hair Design
4889 Slocan Street
Vancouver, B.C.
V5R 2A2

Send acceptable hair by regular mail only. Address to "Hair Donation Program". Hair should be a minimum of 9” (23cm) in length. Do not braid your hair.

- Please visit the Canadian Cancer Society (CCS) website under Hair Donations to find a location in other areas.
- It is not possible to meet the recipients of the finished wigs. Include your name and address in the envelope, acknowledgements may be issued.
- Hair, not used to make a wig, will not be returned.

If you require the services of a counsellor, contact Patient & Family Counselling Services. Visit www.bccancer.bc.ca for Centre contact information.

NOTE: Hair swept off the floor is not usable