

Western University's Research Parks are very proud to serve as the home for the many clinicians, scientists, researchers and developers who dedicate each day to improving our lives and world around us.

# TRANSFORMING RESEARCH

## EATING DISORDERS FOUNDATION OF CANADA

In addition to building businesses and advancing research, tenants of Western's Discovery Park advocate for a wide range of social needs including diseases such as mental illness. The Eating Disorders Foundation of Canada (EDF) is one of those organizations that works to raise awareness, reduce stigma and ensure that all who suffer with an eating disorder such as bulimia, anorexia and Binge Eating Disorder have equal access to quality care.

Dr. Robbie Campbell, President of the EDF, says the statistics are grim. "Nearly 4% of young women in our region, between the ages of 15-24, suffer from this disease," he says. "And anorexia has the highest mortality rate of any illness for this group."

He says one problem is the lack of public outpatient care and transitional facilities in Canada. And when inpatient treatment is over, many patients do not get the support they need to stay healthy. In 2012, the EDF played a lead role in the development of a new eating disorder treatment team and program at the London Health Sciences Centre and partnered with WOTCH Housing to assist with the design of the eight-bed residential treatment component. "It is a terrific model, unique in the country," he says.

Dr. Campbell, an associate professor for the Department of Psychiatry, Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry, says the Discovery Park is an excellent place to network for fundraising and to work on his outpatient research initiatives, particularly the use of technology for on-going, cost-effective care and support. "Our research is about providing telepsychiatry and home care monitoring," he says. "There has to be structure when you leave an inpatient program. And you must do intervention early."

Western's Discovery Park is proud of Dr. Campbell's research and advocacy and proud of the many Park clinicians, scientists and researchers who work to improve the lives of others and truly make the world a better place.



^ Eating Disorders Foundation  
Dr. Robbie Campbell