



Today's Discoveries Support Tomorrow's Health Care

September 2013

Back to work. Back to school. Back to parliament?

Our political leaders will face a number of challenges upon their return to the nation's capital - some political, some fiscal, others institutional and close to home. Though they'll have some extra time to prepare.

Parliament will resume on October 16th and the unofficial race to 2015 will speed up as the Conservative government outlines its priorities in the ensuing throne speech. Some see the ongoing Senate scandal as a policy distraction. Others believe it is putting pressure on the government to shift the focus to a priorities and policy agenda. Only time will tell.

Regardless, Research Canada has planned a number of initiatives to continue building strong support for health research on the Hill.

A strong voice for health research advocacy in Canada

After connecting with members over the summer months, we are looking forward to one-on-one meetings with key government officials, facilitating parliamentary visits to several member institutions and organizing a **Health Research Caucus** luncheon for select MPs and Senators featuring **Dr. Kym Boycott** and her groundbreaking work on rare diseases.



We will also be hosting our **Annual General Meeting, Harnessing a New Era of Partnerships and Networks in Health Innovation**, on November 27th, 2013 at the Fairmont Chateau Laurier in Ottawa.

Our 8th AGM will draw a unique roster of Canadian and U.S. panelists to discuss how to build stronger **industry partnerships** and more active **online communities** of health research advocates. Our Health Research Caucus chaired by Senator Kelvin Ogilvie is also proud to welcome **Dr. Andres Lozano** and his patient, Kim Rollins, for a discussion on **deep brain stimulation** and how it can change the lives of those suffering from anorexia, depression, Parkinson's disease, Huntington's disease and Alzheimer's.

Mark your calendars and join us for one of Canada's premier health research and innovation events. Visit our website to learn more and to view the **day-at-a-glance**. Registration opening soon!

Upcoming parliamentary meetings and next steps

Research Canada will be meeting with MPs and Health, Finance and Industry officials, including the new **Minister of Health Rona Ambrose**, to discuss the critical role health research plays in reinventing the future of

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

Upcoming parliamentary meetings and next steps

A global research alliance

News from Research!America

NEWS & EVENTS

Ottawa Heart Institute names new president

Friesen prizewinner Dr. Harvey V. Fineberg speaking in Ottawa on September 18, 2013

Calling all orthopaedic researchers! Deadline for award and grant applications is October 31, 2013

SAVE THE DATE

Research Canada's 8th **Annual General Meeting**

Chateau Laurier, Ottawa **November 27th, 2013**

Registration opening soon!

Interested in sponsorship opportunities? Email: r chopra@rc-rc.ca

AN INTERESTING AND TIMELY READ

The Economist recently reviewed "The Entrepreneurial State," a new book by Mariana Mazzucato of Sussex

health care and health innovation in Canada.

Research Canada is also concerned about the **cancellation of Statistics Canada surveys** that measure the **commercialization of university research** and the management of intellectual property by federal departments, and will be raising this issue with senior officials.

Health research is the cornerstone of a sustainable, evidence-based health care system. It also fuels innovation and leads to tangible economic benefits for Canadians. That's why, in addition to strengthening our federal advocacy efforts, we will be helping **provincial policy makers** more effectively translate research into new treatments and improved patient care in their communities.

Building a global research alliance

Earlier this year Research Canada spearheaded a landmark agreement with **Research!America**, **Research Australia** and **Research!Sweden** to pool resources, strengthen collaboration and create a global alliance to advocate for increased and sustainable health research funding.

Deborah Gordon-El-Bihbety recently spoke to *International Innovation* about this agreement and how it's shaping Research Canada's global health agenda.

[Read the full interview on our blog.](#)

News from Mary Woolley at Research!America

Congress returns this week to looming fiscal deadlines, including budget resolutions, the debt ceiling, tax and entitlement reform, and the future of sequestration.

A continuing resolution extending FY13 budgets looks likely and given that the Budget Control Act mandates less discretionary spending in FY14 than in FY13, agencies such as the National Institutes of Health (NIH) will almost certainly be prompted to further decrease their spending. Does this mean "a dark future for science?"

Mary Woolley is the president of Research!America. [Read her full message to research advocates here.](#)



University in England.

Ms Mazzucato argues that the entrepreneurial state does far more than just make up for the private sector's shortcomings: through the big bets it makes on new technologies...it creates and shapes the markets of the future. [Read more](#)

"Ramping up federally supported research is not a panacea for our fiscal challenges, but it should be part of the solution. The R&D-based industry thrives when...academic research thrives."

- Mary Woolley,
Research!America

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