

Hello. Please find below the first issue for 2013 of Research Canada's On the Move newsletter with a message from Research Canada's Chair, Science Advisor and President and CEO about the year ahead in health research advocacy. Don't forget to add "dgordon@rc-rc.ca" to your email address book so we'll be certain that our newsletters land in your inbox.

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Research Canada's Health Research Advocacy Newsletter

January 2013

## Looking ahead for 2013

### *A Message from Research Canada's New Chair*



Ms. Maureen Adamson

Happy New Year to Research Canada's dedicated members, partners and supporters. If Research Canada's 2012 AGM this past November is any indication of the passion and commitment of the health research community to mounting an innovative advocacy campaign in 2013, then we are in for a dynamic and game-changing year ahead.

Why will this year be different for the health research community? Our renewed strategic plan that puts Canadians first will focus on better understanding the current federal vision for health research and health innovation and positively influencing this agenda. We will also do a better job of collectively and collaboratively articulating and demonstrating our value proposition as an enterprise, both in terms of impact on our health care system and the collateral economic benefits to all Canadians.

### **A Meeting of Minds**

I am encouraged by the wisdom our members imparted during our 2012 AGM's Meeting of Minds Session. They recognized the importance of carrying out a truly national health research advocacy program by taking our national alliance on the road and engaging provincial partners in an effort to organize at the sub-national level. A common message among diverse voices at both levels of government is simply irresistible to federal and provincial policy and decision makers. [READ MORE...](#)

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### **Message from Research Canada's Science Advisor**

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## Coming Event

**Parliamentary Briefing  
on Heart Health and  
Cardiac Research**  
May 6, 2013



Research Canada is pleased to announce that the next Parliamentary Health Research Caucus Kiosk Event will focus on Heart Health and Cardiac Research. Our thanks to members who forwarded ideas and recommendations to assist us in creating an educational and memorable event. Plans are now well underway for this special occasion, scheduled for May 6, 2013 in Ottawa on Parliament Hill. Details will follow shortly.

**2012 Annual**



Dr. Michael Julius

It's been an anxious year for Canada's health research community. Material, and I underscore much needed change is afoot. Often a bitter pill to swallow, in my view, the harbinger of our reality tomorrow is both a good start, and a good thing!

The material changes in how CIHR will be doing business in the future are initiating. Out of the gate a bit too hastily; CIHR has "heard us" both directly and through Research Canada's Leadership. It has slowed the pace of restructuring its extramural funding programs. Noteworthy is that the incoming funding schemes are not new, they've been and have adopted in both the European Union and to some extent and growing in the US. The model can work! While there remain a number of material ongoing concerns, most notable of which are affordability and ongoing sustainability, CIHR is explicitly dedicated to course corrections should they be required.

We must all appreciate that these changes are driven by the political science underpinning and predicating the ongoing support we all receive from the CIHR.

The critical driver has remained constant since the inception of CIHR: discovery health research and its translation into the Canadian healthcare system and beyond. [READ MORE...](#)

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### Message from Research Canada's President & CEO



Ms. Deborah Gordon-El-Bihbety

The global economic turndown a few years ago profoundly impeded investment capacity in our industry and while there has been a slow recovery and some encouraging signs of growth, our members are entrenched in cost saving measures and must demand value and return on every investment.

Recognizing the challenges our members were facing, over the past year, Research Canada offered legitimate discounts on membership fees based on Research Canada's sliding fee schedule, put in place for times like these. We also gave your institutions an opportunity to shine individually by presenting your researchers at Health Research Caucus events and profiling the unique and ground-breaking research being conducted at your institutions in our unique publication, *RC Update*, which every Member of Parliament is given personally by the Chair and the Vice-Chairs of the Health Research Caucus at party caucus meetings.

In 2013, we will continue to provide a venue for health researchers from our member institutions to present their research at our upcoming Health Research Caucus event on Cardiac Research and Heart Health in May 2013. We will also organize member institutional visits during parliamentary recesses for Health Research Caucus delegations. These visits, which often include interactions with

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### Welcoming our new members

- [Advanced Medical Research Institute of Canada](#)
- [Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of Canada](#)
- [Graham Boeckh Foundation](#)
- [Heart and Stroke Foundation](#)
- [Rosalind and Morris Goodman Cancer Research Centre, McGill University](#)

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patients, create a powerful association in MPs minds between health research and improving and saving real Canadian and constituent lives.

This year, Research Canada will enhance and fortify the way it represents our members' interests in two significant ways. [READ MORE...](#)

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