



February 24, 2016

To Honourable Members and Senators:

On behalf of AbbVie, I would like to congratulate you on your election to the 42nd Parliament. I would also like to offer an especially warm welcome to the 200 Members of Parliament elected to parliament for the first time – we look forward to working with each and every one of you in making a remarkable impact on patients' lives by supporting innovative health research and improving health care delivery for all Canadians, from coast to coast to coast.

AbbVie is a global, research-based pharmaceutical company formed in 2013 following separation from Abbott Laboratories. We use our expertise, dedicated people and unique approach to innovation to develop and market advanced therapies that address some of the world's most complex and serious diseases. With 28,000 employees globally, and over 500 employees in Canada, we are proud of our presence in the Canadian health care system.

Across our currently approved therapies and our medicines under development – including in the areas of advanced Parkinson's Disease, Crohn's Disease, Endometriosis, hepatitis C, prostate cancer, Psoriasis, Respiratory Syncytial Virus, Rheumatoid Arthritis and Ulcerative Colitis – as of 2014, over 11,000 Canadians have participated in an AbbVie clinical trial, either as part of 68 local trials or 58 global trials conducted in Canada. These trials represent significant investment supporting researchers in Canadian life sciences sector – investment that directly benefits patients in need of new therapeutic options. Unfortunately, clinical trial investment is just one of many types of innovative biopharmaceutical industry investment that is not accounted for in the Patented Medicine Pricing Review Board (PMPRB) annual report on R&D investment.

Additionally, we are proud to have partnered with the community, government, health care professionals and people living with chronic disease to advance standards of care and create shared value. Some projects we are particularly proud of include the following:

- AbbVie Care, our patient support program that is available to our immunology and hepatitis C patients, currently provides services to over 30,000 Canadians – one of the largest programs of its kind in the world. AbbVie Care provides core medical services for patients as they manage their disease, including nurse home injection services, adherence coaching, help obtaining reimbursement and home delivery of medicine. As part of this program, over 2,500 Canadians receive compassionate access to their medications.
- Relatedly, the University of British Columbia Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences and AbbVie have partnered to create the AbbVie Professorship in Medication Adherence, designed to research and share



best practices to mitigate increased health care costs related to poor health outcomes from inconsistent adherence to long-term therapies.

- Responding to a survey conducted by Crohn's and Colitis Canada that found 69 percent of young people with Crohn's disease or ulcerative colitis delayed completing their post-secondary education due to their disease, we created the AbbVie IBD Scholarship Program, which has awarded 34 scholarships to date.
- With Dr. Evelyn Sutton, head of Rheumatology at the Nova Scotia Rehabilitation Centre, AbbVie led a collaborative initiative to reduce wait times for 3,500 patients without access to care because they did not have a rheumatologist. Through a series of joint efforts with health care professionals, a cross-functional team was able to design new approaches to move patients more rapidly to appropriate care.

AbbVie is pleased to partner with Research Canada in support of its work with the Health Research Caucus. Much work remains to be done to ensure Canada is at the forefront in the development of new medicines, and in ensuring these innovations are delivered to Canadians who need them. We support Research Canada's vision of a robust Canadian life sciences research and development sector, and at AbbVie, are particularly pleased to partner with research institutions and governments to support a strong health research ecosystem, as well as innovative models of care, across the country.

I encourage you to connect with Research Canada and to attend Health Research Caucus events during the 42nd Parliament to stay informed about ground breaking health research initiatives taking place across the country. By working together, I am certain we will continue to deliver a remarkable impact in patients' lives.

We wish you much success in this parliamentary session. Please keep in touch.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Lassignardie', is written over a horizontal line.

Stéphane Lassignardie
General Manager
AbbVie Corporation