President and CEO Report to Members

June 1st, 2016

Fairmount Chateau Laurier Hotel
Ottawa
MISSION

To improve the health and prosperity of Canadians by championing Canada’s global leadership in health research.
PHILOSOPHY

Health Research is a shared benefit and a shared responsibility.
Role in the Sector

Research Canada is the health research advocacy’s lighthouse, calling all sectors to a common shore.
Members, Supporters and Partners

Research Canada has a stakeholder engagement model which includes Members, Supporters and Partners drawn from all sectors dedicated to increasing investments in health research and supporting a robust health innovation system. They include:

- Health research institutes
- Health charities
- Hospitals
- Regional health authorities
- Universities and their Faculties
- Health professional associations
- Companies
Why I Belong to Research Canada

• Strengthens my institution’s and the sector’s presence on Parliament Hill
• Fosters collaboration among all HIS stakeholders
• Communicates effectively and gives me access to a broad stakeholder network
• It uniquely focuses on educating the public, media and policy makers about health research
• Maintains a longitudinal view and stays the long-term advocacy course
• Builds a HIS framework for policy discussion
• Attracts talent and influence to the organization
New Members

- The Canadian Association for Neuroscience
- Hamilton Health Sciences
- IWK/Capital Health
- University of Alberta
- University of Calgary
- University of Saskatchewan
- Women’s College Research Institute at Women’s College Hospital
Your Candidates, Your Health was Research Canada’s election resource for both Advocates and Candidates during Election 2015

- Election Primer
- Advocates Campaign Kit
- Candidate Survey
- Patient Stories
- Campaign Blog by GR Expert
For Election Candidates

Health research and health care development

Canada’s many internationally-recognized health research and knowledge-based economy. Many of our health researchers, nurses, and other contributors, they are helping Canada’s leading academic health centres, universities, biopharmaceutical companies and others, doing on behalf of all Canadians. Ontario is poised to become a world leader in the development and development enterprise.

*Please fill out the Candidate Question

**Candidate Question**

If elected, would you make health R&D a priority?

- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No

Comment (optional):

[ ]

Name (optional):

[ ]

Done
Patient Stories

Cory Conacher
NHL Hockey Player’s Peak Performance aided by Medical Technology

Cory Conacher is living his dream of playing NHL hockey. At 5 foot 8 inches and born in December 1989, he was always the youngest and smallest on his team. At 8 years old, he was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes, which means his body doesn’t produce insulin. Nonetheless, he hasn’t let his size or...

Doug Curtis
New Research Provides Hope for Those with Parkinson’s

Doug was first diagnosed with Parkinson’s at the young age of 39. A trip to Prague with his wife Heather started the whole process. Doug was forever tripping on the cobblestone streets, and while at first it was chalked up to clumsiness, in the end Doug and Heather knew something wasn’t quite right. “I knew…

Shawn Sheheard
My life changed forever on Christmas Day 1997, the day I was diagnosed with type one, insulin dependent diabetes

Shawn Sheheard is a proud advocate for living well with diabetes, and is living his dream life. He is an internationally renowned inspirational speaker, author of Life is Sweet – Surviving Diabetes and a Whole Lot of Other Crazy Stuff, and is the host of the Sugar Free Shawn Show and The Diabetes Champions Network…

Maureen Smith
“I am proof of what research can do”

I am living proof that clinical trials change lives. I was diagnosed at the age of 8 with an ultra-rare disease, congenital panhypopituitarism, and in the 1960s, had the opportunity to participate in the first Canadian trial for human growth hormone.
Welcoming Parliamentarians to Ottawa

AstraZeneca is a global, innovation-driven biopharmaceutical business with a primary focus on the discovery, development and commercialization of primary and specialty care medicines that transforms lives. Our primary focus is on three important areas of healthcare: Cardiovascular and Metabolic disease; Oncology, and Respiratory, Inflammation and Autoimmunity.

AstraZeneca operates in more than 100 countries and its innovative medicines are used by millions of patients worldwide. In Canada, we employ roughly 690 employees across the country and our AstraZeneca Canada headquarters are located in Mississauga, Ontario.

For more information, please visit the company’s website at www.astrazeneca.ca.

As a global leader in medical technology, services and solutions, Medtronic helps to improve the health and lives of millions of people each year. We believe in deep clinical, therapeutic and economic expertise can help address the complex challenges—such as rising costs, aging populations, and the burdens of chronic disease—faced by families and healthcare systems today. But, we can’t do it alone. That’s why we’re committed to partnering in new ways and developing alternative solutions that deliver better patient outcomes.

Founded in 1949 as a medical repair company, we’re now among the world’s largest medical technology, services and solutions companies, employing more than 85,000 people worldwide, serving physicians, hospitals and patients in more than 160 countries.

With a presence since 1968, we are proud to employ over 1,500 people in Canada. Join us in our
Welcome Reception
Parliamentary Health Research Caucus

Vaccine Development in Canada
Parliamentary Health Research Caucus

GLOBAL HEALTH RESEARCH & INNOVATION
May 11, 2015
Ottawa
• Paediatric Research and Child Health in Canada
• Frailty Among the Aged in Canada
Paediatric Research and Child Health in Canada

- Genetics of Rare Diseases
- Child and Youth Mental Health
- Healthy Active Living & Obesity
- Acute Care/Trauma
- Complex Care
- Chronic Care
Frailty Among the Aged in Canada
October 24, 2016

- The Science of Frailty
- How to Identify Frailty
- Frailty and our Healthcare System
- Societal Impact of Frailty
- Prevention
Membership Service
Research Canada

Publications

Welcoming Members of Parliament

Liberal Members of Parliament—all 181—are in Ottawa this week for the 1st session of the Parliament of Canada. They are joined by 96 Conservative and 44 NDP Members of Parliament. Out of these 223 MPs, 214 are new to Parliament. The key government players for the health research and health innovation sectors will be the Honourable Jane Philpott, Minister of Health, the Honourable Kirsty Duncan, Minister of Science, the Honourable Navdeep Bains, Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development.

The Liberals have signed their intention to play a stronger leadership role in health and are already demonstrating, at the recent health ministers meeting in Vancouver (January 24), a willingness to collaborate with the provinces on this front. They are engaging stakeholders and experts in consultations and have stated their preference for evidence-based decision-making.

What the means for Research Canada and our sector as a whole is an opportunity to have meaningful input into health research and health innovation policy decisions. That said, the new government faces the same fiscal pressures, and competition for resources will be fierce. The right framing of issues will be imperative.

Our challenge will be to position health research and health innovation on a competitive policy landscape aligning our messaging with the values of the new government and making the economic and social case for health research. We need to weigh in now on who the National Science Advisor should be and what role she should play and we need to engage newly elected champions for health research.

Calling All Champions for Health Research!

We are developing a list of key Members of Parliament who may be health and/or health system professionals or who may have a special interest in the field. We encourage our members to contact and/or meet these Members of Parliament—especially if you are in any of these fields. Read more.

Opposition Parties play a critical role in advocating for health research and health innovation. It is equally important to meet and solicit support from Members of Parliament from the Conservative and NDP parties. We will undertake a review of the backgrounds of the opposition MPs in the future. Here is a list with whom you can begin your outreach efforts:

Maxime Bernier (Cons)

Crisis – Innovation, Science and Economic Development

(Diane Finley)

Dr. Kuhl Lechth (Cons)

Crisis – Health

University of Saskatchewan researchers develop diagnostic test for asthma in children

Researchers at the University of Saskatchewan (U of S) are developing a new diagnostic and monitoring test for children with asthma.

Asthma is the most common chronic disease in children; it affects at least 12 percent of our children and is a major cause of hospitalization (Statistics Canada). Treating asthma is a key goal, but differentiating it from other breathing disorders in children is a challenge due to the symptoms such as viral bronchitis and Cystic Fibrosis that share similar symptoms. Adding to the challenge – doctors are unable to measure lung function or airway inflammation accurately in clinical settings – making diagnosis and monitoring exacerbations very difficult in children.

Dr. Darcy Adolphi, a Pediatric Pulmonology Specialist at the U of S and a collaborative team of researchers from across the globe are investigating how urine metabolites – molecules generated from cellular metabolic activity – can lead to the detection of asthma in children. People with asthma have different types of urinary metabolites. Our general hypothesis is that the presence of disease induces cellular stress and a change in cellular metabolism,” says Adolphi.

Urine is excellent for metabolomic studies due to the richness of its chemical composition and ease of collection. “Asthma has negative effects within the body and results in prolonged distress for children and their families. What is needed is a simple, non-invasive tool for primary care doctors,” explains Adolphi. Progress so far is encouraging; the team has developed methods for analysis of multiple metabolites in urine that have not been previously perfected and the data gleaned from hundreds of urine samples could soon be translated into a commercially viable diagnostic test.

University of Saskatchewan

The University of Saskatchewan is a member of the U15, a group of top research universities in Canada. The U of S houses two unique national research facilities – the Canadian Light Source, which is one of the world’s leading synchrotron facilities, and NRC-Vetmed, a world leader in developing vaccines and technologies to fight infectious diseases in humans and animals. More than 10,000 students from around the world study at the U of S and over 14,000 alumni are spread across the globe.
Social Media Activity
Research Canada is a significant player!

Over 800 Facebook likes
100% increase in last year

Over 4,800 Twitter followers
20% increase in last year
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