

Advocacy Program 2017



RESEARCH  
CANADA

An Alliance for Health Discovery



In 2017, Research Canada held six Parliamentary Health Research Caucus (HRC) Receptions. The first was a luncheon held in February and focused on Neuroscience Research in Canada, which featured Guest Speakers, Dr. Beverley Orser from Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre and Dr. Charles Bourque from McGill University.

# Neuroscience Research in Canada

## The Parliamentary Health Research Caucus

Dr. Beverley Orser  
Sunnybrook Health  
Sciences Centre



Dr. Charles Bourque  
McGill University

Co-hosted by



**CAN-ACN**  
CANADIAN ASSOCIATION FOR NEUROSCIENCE  
ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE DES NEUROSCENCES



# INDIGENOUS CANADA HEALTH RESEARCH

The second event was our Reception on Indigenous Health Research in Canada, which brought together over twelve Indigenous and four non-Indigenous health researchers from Research Canada Member organizations across the country. The event was presided over by Minister Carolyn Bennett and attended by Minister Jane Philpott and close to 100 Members of Parliament.

## The Parliamentary Health Research Caucus

Dr. Carolyn Bennett PC MP  
Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs



Dr. Carrie Bourassa  
Chair of Northern & Indigenous Health at Health Sciences North Research Institute  
Scientific Director of the Institute of Aboriginal Peoples' Health, CIHR



A Parliamentary Health Research Caucus Luncheon on the occasion of Research Canada's AGM featured Research Canada's 2016 Leadership Award recipients, Drs. Julio Montaner and Grant Pierce. The luncheon was presided over by Minister Jane Philpott.



**AGM**

**2017**  
June 6 juin

**AGA**

Dr. Jane Philpott, PC MP  
Minister of Health

LEADERSHIP IN HEALTH RESEARCH AND  
HEALTH RESEARCH ADVOCACY

Dr. Grant N. Pierce

## Parliamentary Health Research Caucus Luncheon



The Honourable Jane Philpott, P.C., M.D.,  
MP (Markham–Stouffville)  
Minister of Health

Dr. Julio Montaner  
MD, FRCPC, FCCP, FACP, FRSC  
Director of British Columbia Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS (BC-CFE)

Dr. Grant N. Pierce  
PhD, FACC, FAHA, FAPS, FIACS, FISHR, FCAHS, FRSM (London), FRSC  
Executive Director of Research at St Boniface Hospital and a Professor of Physiology and Pathophysiology at the University of Manitoba

Dr. Julio Montaner

biotechnology  
in  
health research



les biotechnologies  
dans  
la recherche en santé

In October a reception on Biotechnology in Health Research was held featuring both researchers and CEOs of biotech companies. We were pleased to have our highly-valued Member, BIOTECCanada as co-host for this event.

## The Parliamentary Health Research Caucus

Andrew Casey  
President and CEO,  
BIOTECCanada



Parliamentary  
Health Research  
Caucus



Dr. Robert McMaster  
Chair of Research Canada

Dr. Michael Duong  
Director, Evidence Generation, Medical  
Affairs, Hoffmann-La Roche



Co-hosted by





**gairdner**  
LES PRIX CANADA GAIRDNER AWARDS

Luncheon  
in Honour of  
Gairdner Awardees

2017

Dr. Cesar Victora



Mr. John Oliver, MP (Oakville) and  
Chair of the Health Research Caucus



Dr. Antoine Hakim

Later in October we were pleased to co-host a Luncheon with the Gairdner Foundation in the Parliamentary Restaurant with Members of Parliament to celebrate this year's Gairdner awardees. Dr. Antoine Hakim, winner of the 2017 Canada Gairdner Wightman Award and Dr. Cesar Victora, the 2017 John Dirks Canada Gairdner Global Health Award winner joined us for this celebration of Canadian and international talent in biomedical research.



## Stem Cell Research and Regenerative Medicine

La recherche sur les  
cellules souches au  
Canada

On December 5, we held a Stem Cell Luncheon with special guest Speakers Dr. Lauralyn McIntyre of the Ottawa Hospital Research Institute and Dr. Timothy Caulfield of the University of Alberta and Alberta Health Services. Parliamentarians were treated to two special presentations focused on a multi-site clinical trial on treating sepsis and stem cell tourism and the marketing of unproven treatments.

Dr. Lauralyn McIntyre Ottawa  
Hospital Research Institute



## The Parliamentary Health Research Caucus



Dr. Timothy Caulfield  
Alberta Health Services





In October we undertook a social media campaign, using the hashtag #Support4Research. The campaign had a broader focus on research to align with the Naylor Panel funding recommendations for research. Research Canada's Board deemed it was important to also include the patient voice in this broader campaign. Patients talking about the importance of health research to their health care gave our campaign a greater dimension and provided context and personalized the message. You win hearts first, minds later with politicians!

Ken Hardie MP @KenHardie  
 Heard about some great research underway at our leading hospitals in Canada...worthy of more support.

Nafisa Jadavji, PhD @Nafisa\_10 #Canada needs to invest more into #research @JustinTrudeau. #Support4Research

## #Support4Research Social Media Campaign

Rotman Research @rotmanresearch By studying #memory and the #brain, we hope to identify potential predictors of age-related brain disorders #Support4Research #research

57 users sent 123 posts, with a potential 239,264 impressions for the #support4research hashtag

Michael M. Pumpkins @michaelhoffman  
 Let's make our scientific research a source of national pride. Put gas in the tank. @JustinTrudeau @telfordk @gmbutts #Support4Research

The Royal @TheRoyalMHC  
 We can't fix what we can't see. #Research makes the invisible ~visible~. We need serious investments. #Support4Research

Michener Institute @MichenerInst  
 #Support4Research matters because it informs how we educate and turn research innovation into patient care



Over the last year, Research Canada's social media reach has increased substantially and we have a much greater following than many similar organizations. The Media Portal is contributing to increasing our social media presence.



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## Twitter and Facebook

Twitter Followers:

**5,491**

Facebook Likes:

**1,162**



Research Canada submitted to the *House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance (FINA)* calling on the Federal Government to implement the *Naylor Report's* detailed plan for multi-year investments into the renewal of fundamental science in Canada. In particular:

1. Increased investment of \$485 million over four years to fund independent investigator-led research
2. Stable funding of \$300 million annually for the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI)
3. Enhanced support for doctoral students, postdoctoral fellows, and research chairs
4. New support for small capital grants, as well as for the costs associated with federally-funded research
5. Financial support to diversify opportunities for science-based graduate students so that they may explore, embrace and compete for non-academic careers in order to fully capitalize on their talent and energy.

## FINA Submission

Research Canada made the case that while each of these recommendations is important, they ultimately hinge on the first. Without significant reinvestment in fundamental, investigator-led science, other related investments will be ineffectual.



# RESEARCH CANADA

An Alliance for Health Discovery



CANADA'S FUNDAMENTAL  
SCIENCE REVIEW  
2017

**INVESTING IN  
CANADA'S FUTURE**

Strengthening the Foundations of Canadian Research



# RESEARCH



The 2017 Leadership in Advocacy Award was announced at the Prix Galien and the Health Research Foundation's Medal of Honour Award Ceremony on November 22, 2017 in Montreal. Dr. Christopher Paige and Dr. Eleanor Fish, both of whom are at the University Health Network and University of Toronto are this year's Leadership in Advocacy Award winners! We offer our heartfelt congratulations to them.

## Leadership in Advocacy Award

Research Canada  
Leadership Award



In response to the Fundamental Science Review's Report, which was released earlier this year, Research Canada hosted, in collaboration with the Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada, Innovative Medicines Canada and the Health Charities Coalition of Canada, a series of national partners' meetings of eight organizations dedicated to advancing health research and health innovation in Canada. The purpose of the meeting was to share our organizations' respective responses to the report and to develop a unified fall 2017 lobbying campaign to ensure that Budget 2018 reflected the funding recommendations contained in the Naylor Panel Report.



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An Alliance for Health Discovery | Une alliance pour les découvertes en santé

## Bridging the Stakeholder Divide



health • research • innovation

portal

The Media Portal is a Research Canada service to its Members that was created in 2016. It provides a platform that allows Members to get the word out about their groundbreaking research and innovations. Research Canada Members are using the service to distribute their media releases to science and health journalists at a fraction of the cost of using a standard newswire service. In 2017, Research Canada's Members expressed strong satisfaction with the service which now has repeat customers and is growing as a valuable membership benefit!



## Media Portal

Media  
release  
distribution

Health &  
Research  
News  
Digest

Social media  
and direct-  
to-subscriber  
distribution

The Media Portal helped promote the World Health Summit held in Montreal in May 2017, sponsored in part by the Institut de recherches cliniques de Montréal (IRCM)/Montreal Clinical Research Institute. This communication tool was very useful to publicize this international summit and to enhance the visibility of our institute. As a Member of Research Canada, it is definitely a huge advantage.

Tarik Möröy  
IRCM

[www.hriportal.ca](http://www.hriportal.ca)

Research Canada decided to create a Catalogue of Products and Services that would provide Members with significant discounts for products and services they use on a regular basis.

Research Canada launched its first Catalogue in 2016. This year's Catalogue boasts more services and products for our Members.

## Catalogue of Products and Services



In 2018, Research Canada will organize six Parliamentary Health Research Caucus Receptions and Luncheons.

## Into the Future

Research Canada recognizes that advocating for the investments in health research and policies that build a strong health innovation system take time and persistence and require a consistent presence on Parliament Hill — a presence that Research Canada has because of your ongoing support.





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