

# Partnership Matters



CIHR Partner Communiqué!

## Message from the VP

Dr. Ian Graham  
Vice-President, Knowledge Translation  
Canadian Institutes of Health Research

Partners play a key role in knowledge-to-action activities, ensuring that knowledge created by health research is used appropriately and consistently to improve health and strengthen the health care system. This is why it is fitting that the Partnerships Branch has moved to the Knowledge Translation (KT) portfolio as part of last fall's reorganization at CIHR. My vision for the Portfolio is that CIHR continue to be recognized as a world leader in facilitating knowledge-to-action, which encompasses all steps between the creation of new knowledge and its application and evaluation to ascertain its impact on society. This is accomplished through funding KT research and activities, facilitating and managing partnerships that can accelerate KT and developing measurement, analysis and evaluation policies, frameworks and tools to assess the outcomes and impact of health research.

I look forward to working with our many partners as we strive to accomplish this vision together.

## 2006 CIHR Partnership Award

Drs. John L. Mann of DaimlerChrysler Canada Inc. and Anne W. Snowdon of the University of Windsor were awarded the 2006 CIHR Partnership Award at the "Canadian Celebration of Excellence in Health Research" awards ceremony, held in November 2006, for their innovative partnership that addresses child safety system use in vehicles.

The CIHR Partnership Award recognizes collaborations between organizations that exemplify excellence by bringing health research communities together to create innovative approaches to research; develop research agendas that are responsive to the health needs of Canadians; and/or accelerate the translation of knowledge for the benefit of Canadians.

DaimlerChrysler Canada provided funding and a team with expertise in safety system design, crash avoidance strategies and government regulations. Health researchers on the team, led by Dr. Snowdon, brought their expertise in family research and population health. Dr. Snowdon and DaimlerChrysler Canada received this honour for their commitment to the safety of Canadian families and children. We can not overlook the generosity of the company which committed time, personnel and resources to this research project. For more information about this partnership, see <http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/32710.html>.

## Nominations for the 2007 Partnership Award

The Partnership Branch is now accepting nominations for the 2007 CIHR Partnership Award. Recipient(s) of the award will be officially recognized at the annual ceremony, "A Canadian Celebration of Excellence in Health Research" taking place on November 21, 2007, in Ottawa. The deadline for nominations is May 31, 2007. Consult <http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/27367.html> for more details. (An insert is included in your Communiqué package.)

## Recruitment of IAB Members

CIHR is renewing membership for its 13 Institute Advisory Boards (IABs) and invites you to apply or to assist by encouraging excellent candidates to apply. We are seeking about 40 new members to serve three-year terms beginning September 1, 2007.

Diversity of expertise and experience are key to the success of IABs. IAB members meet at least twice a year to advise its Institute on health research priorities. They also consider how best to shape and implement health research strategies in line with these priorities, and to accelerate the flow of knowledge into health benefits.

Applications may be submitted online until March 30, 2007 at <http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/18156.html> by clicking on the link: **How to apply to become an IAB member.**

## Composition of IABs

Institute Advisory Boards are made up of 16 individuals from Canada and abroad, reflecting the greatest possible diversity across the following dimensions:

### *Research expertise:*

Across the disciplinary scope of Institute research, ethics and knowledge translation and across the range of biomedical, clinical research and research regarding health systems, health services, health of populations, societal and cultural dimensions of health, and environmental influences on health.

### *Community sectors:*

Voluntary health organizations, regional/ provincial/federal agencies, business, health care practitioners, health care users, policy makers.

### *Additional expertise:*

Knowledge of the health care sector, health care usage and of health research issues, experience with the development of health and health-related policy, experience with strategic health planning, health law, training/education, communications.

### *Demographics:*

Provincial/ regional/international representation, gender, linguistic preference, career stage and institutional research base.

## Mark Your Calendars:

- Community-Campus Partnerships for Health's 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference, April 11-14, 2007 in Toronto. For more information, see <http://www.cph.info/>.
- CIHR Knowledge Translation National Meeting – Fall 2007 (Date to be determined.)

## Workshop and Symposia Support

Did you know? The Partnerships Branch provides support for workshops and scientific symposia that contribute to achieving CIHR's mandate and strategic objectives through innovative partnerships. Outcomes for these events may include: building networks with a variety of stakeholders; developing new partnerships that benefit health research in Canada; and/or educating stakeholders regarding partnership best practices. The Partnerships Branch will award between \$5,000 and \$10,000, depending on the scope and nature of the event. Applications are accepted at any time throughout the year. Visit <http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/33349.html> for details on how to apply, eligibility and evaluation criteria.

## Research News

One of the important directions suggested by the International Review Panel was the creation of a single committee to account for all research-related decision making within CIHR, including recommending allocation of the grants and awards budget.

CIHR's Governing Council agreed with this recommendation. It has created the Research and Knowledge Translation Committee (RKTC), which will be responsible for all research and KT decision making within CIHR in accordance with the *CIHR Act* and the overarching strategic directions set out by the Governing Council. This committee combines the responsibilities of the previous Governing Council Standing Committee for Oversight of Grants and Awards Competitions (SCOGAC) and the Research Priorities and Planning Committee (RPPC) in one body.

## Institute News

•CIHR welcomes Dr. Jane Aubin as the incoming Scientific Director (SD) for CIHR's Institute of Musculoskeletal Health and Arthritis (CIHR-IMHA), effective January 1, 2007. Dr. Aubin is Professor of Molecular and Medical Genetics in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Toronto where she directs the bone program in the Centre for Modeling Human Disease. She was the Scientific Director and CEO of the Canadian Arthritis Network of Centres of Excellence, a national not-for-profit research consortium. See <http://www.irsc.gc.ca/e/32716.html> for more information.

•At the end of December 2007, Dr. Miriam Stewart, founding SD of CIHR's Institute of Gender and Health (CIHR-IGH) will conclude her term. Under Dr. Stewart's direction, the Institute has provided leadership in KT and also in helping to clarify goals and research priorities for this important and long-neglected area of study. See <http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/33394.html> for Dr. Stewart's message on IGH's transition.

## CIHR - Partnerships

Visit our website to:

- Learn about partnering opportunities
- Find useful publications and resources
- Find our contact information.

<http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/33335.html>