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Provincial Health Services Authority, BC

National Organizations

BIOTECanada Canadian Healthcare Association Canada's Research-Based Pharmaceutical Companies

Networks and Consortia

Friends of CIHR
Council for Canadian Child Health
Research
Invest Ottawa
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(PREVENT)

Health Charities and Foundations

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Brain Canada Foundation
Canadian Diabetes Association
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Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada
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Professional Associations

Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists Canadian Consortium for Nursing Research Canadian Dental Hygienists Association Canadian Nurses Association Canadian Physiotherapy Association College of Family Physicians of Canada

College of Family Physicians of Canada Council of Academic Hospitals of Ontario The Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada Research Canada

Scientific Societies

Canadian Society for Immunology Canadian Society for Molecular Biosciences

Granting Councils

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International Organizations

International Development Research
Centre
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Research Australia
Research!Sweden

R7*

Association of Canadian Academic Healthcare Organizations Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada BIOTECanada Canada's Research-Based Pharmaceutical

Companies
Health Charities Coalition of Canada
MEDEC – Canada's Medical Device
Technology Companies

*The R7 is a partnership of organizations aimed at developing consensus around policy focused on improving the health

and wealth of Canadians.

an alliance for health discovery

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BUILDING STRONGER
PARTNERSHIPS AND
NETWORKS TO
TRANSFORM RESEARCH
INTO COMMERCIAL AND
SOCIAL INNOVATIONS

WHO WE ARE

Research Canada is a national, broad-based alliance dedicated to increasing investments in health research through collaborative advocacy.

We believe health research is a shared benefit, shared responsibility and an investment in Canada's future.

We engage government, academia, industry and nonprofit sectors to build support for balanced and long-term health research funding – investments that strengthen Canada's innovation system and lead to better health, sustainable health care, new commercialization opportunities, and skilled jobs for Canadians.

OUR MISSION

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

STAY CONNECTED

www.rc-rc.ca @ResearchCda info@rc-rc.ca

MESSAGE FROM RESEARCH CANADA'S CHAIR AND PRESIDENT AND CEO

"It takes a good plan and an integrated system to move ideas from imagination to the marketplace."

State of the Nation 2012, Science, Technology and Innovation Council.

Building a culture of innovation is essential to ensure the health and well-being of Canadians, the prosperity of our communities and the unity of our country. That is why Research Canada's parliamentary Health Research Caucus has dedicated itself over the past five years to "de-politicizing" Canada's health research and health innovation agenda. In partnership with its Members, Research Canada has consistently advocated for an evidence-based discussion of public policy options that promote discovery, innovation and entrepreneurship and focus on the real metrics of R&D and innovation performance.

According to Dr. Christopher Paige, Vice
President of Research at the University Health
Network and Research Canada Board Director,
"Our research hospitals, universities and
community programs are recognized as top
performers in the quest to improve health.
Canada has international expertise in practically
any field—stem cells, regenerative medicine,
immunotherapy, the 'omics', nanotechnology and
medical devices."

Mr. Peter Brenders, General Manager of Genzyme and Research Canada Board Director, agrees that Canada has a strong foundation in fundamental health research. He stresses that our biggest opportunity is to capture the value of this research by "recognizing and supporting interdependencies among partners to improve Canada's competitiveness internationally."

According to Ms. Connie Cote, Executive
Director of the Health Charities Coalition of
Canada, one of Research Canada's highlyvalued partners, "Increasing demand for private/
public partnerships is creating a new space for
health charities to act as brokers in connecting
emerging opportunities and partners to improve
research and health outcomes for Canadians."

But there are also significant challenges to be overcome. "The lack of availability of salary awards across different levels leaves many investigators struggling," says Dr. Randy McIntosh, Vice President, Research, Baycrest Centre and Research Canada Member. "Highly qualified people are the essence of a robust innovation system. Without them we will severely hamper our productivity growth and capacity to compete globally."

"Canada is often cautious in the roll out of new approaches or technologies which can create a challenge for industry to drive its research



Maureen Adamson Research Canada Chair

agenda here," Mr. Brenders remarks. But earlystage research needs time to demonstrate results. "Even later-stage research is often not ready for a risk-adverse industry to accept. We need to create the best environment in the world for start up companies to fill this gap," Dr. Paige adds.

Although recent policies in Canada have been directed at producing a dynamic Silicon Valley-type economy, these policies have ignored the simple fact that Silicon Valley emerged from massive state investments; in fact all the technologies that made the iPhone 'smart' were government-funded.

In 2013-14, Research Canada dedicated itself to organizing four Health Research Caucus events that profiled excellence in health research and health innovation in neurology, rare disorders, diabetes and medical devices and we strongly advocated to parliamentarians and senior government officials for sustained, predictable and generous support for excellence in discovery research, the re-instatement of publicly-funded career development programs for Canadian scientists, amplified and long-term commitment to targeted programs and regulatory changes that address competitive disadvantages faced by Canadian start-ups and



Deborah Gordon-El-Bihbety President & CEO

SMEs along with enhanced intellectual property protection.

Under our Chair's steadfast leadership, Research Canada delivered its second five-year *Strategic Plan*. As Research Canada moves forward into the future we will assess and improve our educational approach and suite of education offerings, strengthen our relationships with key stakeholders and capitalize on great policy ideas that influence the policy dialogue.

In 2014, we also began the process of exploring our membership model and re-thinking how we deliver value to our Members. Instead of formulating value propositions based on what we believe about the value we should create for stakeholders, Research Canada has been pursuing ongoing 'value conversations' by asking more powerful and generative questions of our Members about the kinds of value we can cocreate with them.

This year Research Canada launched a Leadership Award to honour outstanding advocates for medical, health and scientific research. The inaugural Leadership Award will be presented this fall in conjunction with the Prix Galien and Health Research Foundation Awards.

"The reason to get into science is because it gives you the ability to imagine things that don't exist and see the beauty in things that do exist."

Dr. Jim Woodgett Lunenfeld-Tannenbaum Research Institute

After two years of dedicated service at the helm of our alliance, our Chair, Ms. Maureen Adamson will step down this year. Ms. Adamson was instrumental in strengthening Research Canada's Advocacy through Education Program and extending our stakeholder base. On behalf of the Board and membership, we sincerely thank her for the important contribution she has made to Research Canada and are pleased to present her with this year's Award of Distinction.

We also recognize Mr. David Hill, a founding father of the Council of Health Research in Canada (CHRC), Research Canada's predecessor organization, and Honourary Counsel for two decades. We are delighted to honour him this year with our first Award of Excellence and Dedication.

This year marked the eleventh anniversary of our President and CEO with Research Canada.

Ms. Deborah Gordon-El-Bihbety's capable

leadership has ushered the organization through difficult economic times and ensured our operations continued to focus on the health and prosperity of Canadians supported by a robust health research enterprise and strong health innovation system.

We also wish to recognize the dedicated service of Research Canada's Board of Directors and its staff, Ms. Ranjana Chopra, Mr. Sean Dillon-Fordyce and Ms. Christine Robertson.

Economic analysis alone should result in a stronger commitment from government in health research because a healthy population will ensure a more productive and prosperous society. Every dollar spent on health research generates local economic growth. Research Canada looks forward to our continued efforts to passionately and persuasively drive these messages home to parliamentarians and Canadians in 2014-15.

A NEW STRATEGIC PLAN (2014-18)

In March 2014, Research Canada's Board of Directors approved an ambitious five-year plan that will continue to serve the interests of our Members and Canadians as we provide strategic direction and tactical advice to advance health research and health innovation into the future. Research Canada, over the past several years, has focused on developing a comprehensive plan to better educate parliamentarians and Canadians about the benefits of health research and worked in partnership with its national partners to develop policy briefs through a coalition effort.

Our Advocacy through Education Program (which includes a Health Research Caucus, Member institute visits and national public opinion polls) along with our Policy through Partnership Program (which includes collaborating with seven national health organizations to align policy messaging, a Jenkins Panel Partnership with two national health organizations and the Canadian Commercialization Network (CCN) Task Force) have ensured that the issues of health research and health innovation have remained at the top of the agenda for elected and senior government officials.

This plan will ensure that Research Canada's Board will continue to maintain and enhance our status as a well-recognized and credible organization that is engaged with the Federal Government in relevant national processes, events and other activities pertaining to health research and health innovation in Canada.

As Research Canada moves forward over the next five years it will work to:

- Assess and improve our organization's educational approach and suite of education offerings as we implement relevant learning models and practices in health research and health innovation advocacy to drive policy change
- Strengthen relationships with key stakeholders, including Members across the health innovation continuum as we explore new membership and stakeholder engagement models that will deliver greater value to the community
- Capitalize on our established excellence in developing current policy options and influencing the policy dialogue as we collaborate with other national and provincial stakeholders to strengthen partnerships and improve how our sector works to advance health research in Canada

We are confident that our new strategic plan will strengthen Research Canada's national voice for improved health research and health innovation. We will continue to deliver the highest value to our Members by building relationships with provincial and territorial governments and by increasing our emphasis on sharing compelling stories that illustrate the impact of health research through the news media and other channels. We will also work with partners such as health economists to better understand and quantify the return on investment in health research.

HEALTH RESEARCH CAUCUS

Profiling Excellence in Research and Innovation at Research Canada's Member Institutions

In 2009, Research Canada established a non-partisan Health Research Caucus of parliamentarians chaired by Senator Wilbert Keon, a renowned heart surgeon and distinguished researcher. Following Dr Keon's retirement in 2010, Senator Kelvin K. Ogilvie, a prominent and dedicated scientist, took over the reins and with the skilled assistance of vice-chairs, Ms. Carol Hughes (NDP) and Dr. Kirsty Duncan (Liberal) presided over twelve Health Research Caucus events that have improved our understanding of a range of research topics including brain development, cardiovascular and heart health, pain management, mental health and health innovation to name just a few.

The goal of the Health Research Caucus is to better inform policy makers about the contribution of health research and health innovation to Canadians' health and well-being and the benefits of a skilled and knowledgeable health research industry workforce.

During 2013 and 2014, Research Canada organized four Health Research Caucus events, which were attended by over one hundred and fifty parliamentarians. These events included kiosk-style receptions that profiled researchers from Member organizations as well as more intimate luncheons that provided Health

Research Caucus members with the information they needed to promote health research and health innovation within their respective political caucuses.

How a Ground-Breaking Surgery is Saving Lives

In 2013, Dr. Andres Lozano, Senior Scientist at University Health Network in Toronto was the keynote speaker at the Health Research Caucus Luncheon of Research Canada's Annual General Meeting. Dr. Lozano explained how deep brain stimulation (DBS) uses tiny electrodes implanted in specific regions of the brain to alter abnormal brain activity and repair malfunctioning brain circuits. Through a series of short video clips he revealed how electrodes placed in areas responsible for body movement can repair damaged motor circuits and improve activity in individuals with Parkinson's disease. Small electrical pulses from a device similar to a cardiac pacemaker block the abnormal firing of brain cells and provide a more regular pattern of signaling that can dramatically reduce tremors, stiffness and gait problems.

Parliamentarians who attended the event were deeply moved by the presentation and many responded with strong statements in support of expanding the scope of DBS into a vast frontier of diseases for which, until now, have offered little hope of effective treatment. As Dr. Lozano stated, "There is so much that is unknown and so much to discover. That is where the excitement is." The excitement is also about winning parliamentarians' hearts, which is the first step towards policy advances in health research and health innovation.

Advancing our Treatment of Rare Diseases

In December 2013, Dr. Kim Boycott,
Neurogeneticist at the Children's Hospital of
Eastern Ontario (CHEO) and Investigator at the
CHEO Research Institute shared her research
in diagnosing and treating rare diseases to a
select group of parliamentarians from all political
parties.



Dr. Kim Boycott presenting to parliamentarians, December 2013.

Her lunchtime presentation was well received and parliamentarians praised her clarity in explaining the role of DNA sequencing in diagnosing and treating rare paediatric diseases. Senator Ogilvie, Chair of Research Canada's Health Research Caucus commended Dr. Boycott for her groundbreaking work in the field of personalized medicine. Research Canada's President and CEO, Ms. Deborah Gordon-El-Bihbety emphasized that profiling scientists like Dr. Boycott has a profound impact on parliamentarians by providing them with an opportunity to learn firsthand about the innovative work being done by Canadian health researchers and how increased investments in health research will improve the health and wellbeing of Canadians.

Diabetes Research and Innovation

In May 2014, Research Canada hosted a kioskstyle Health Research Caucus event about diabetes research and innovation on Parliament Hill. This event focused on new technologies in diabetes research, the genetics of diabetes, advances in therapeutics and obesity, lifestyle and poverty among adults and children living with diabetes. The keynote speakers were Dr. David Hill, Scientific Director, Lawson Health Research Institute and Dr. Andre Carpentier, FRQS Cardio-metabolic, Diabetes and Obesity Network, University of Sherbrooke who spoke about second-generation insulin pumps, which allow for continuous monitoring of blood glucose levels and enable people with diabetes to manually adjust insulin delivery.

The event also highlighted an innovative approach to address care gaps in the management of diabetes particularly regarding the use of insulin pumps. The Canadian Clinical Trials Network with the support of the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation and the Government of Canada has funded trials in hubs based in London, Toronto and Ottawa. Mr. Shawn Shepheard, a patient living with diabetes and



The hon. Senator Ogilvie addressing Health Research Caucus, May 2014.

Ms. Franca Mancino of Sanofi Canada, a leader in therapeutic advances in diabetes, spoke about these and other promising Canadian-made strategies to prevent and control diabetes and its associated complications.

Researchers such as Dr. Irene Hramiak,
Department of Medicine, Western University,
Dr. Robert Screaton, CHEO Research Institute,
Dr. Ravi Retnakakaran, Samuel Lunenfeld
Research Institute and Dr. Cheril Clarson, Head
of Paediatric Endccrinology, Department of
Paediatrics at Western University among others,
also provided compelling presentations that
illustrated Canada's role as a world leader in
research to help prevent, treat and possibly cure
diabetes.

Senator Ogilvie was so impressed with the caliber and scope of diabetes research in Canada that he was moved to make an official statement in the Senate of Canada on May 8th, 2014 about the excellence of Canadian diabetes research and the importance of attending Health Research Caucus events that profile Canadian health research and innovation.



Innovation in Medical Device Technologies

Medical device technologies (which range from simple thermometers to sophisticated diagnostic imaging equipment) represent one of the world's fastest growing economic sectors. With over 1.5 million devices already on the market and 3,000 more entering every year, these technologies are generating annual revenues approaching \$1 trillion.



Mr. Russell Williams addressing Health Research Caucus, October 2014.

On October 6th, 2014, Research Canada hosted a Health Research Caucus kiosk event on Medical Device Technologies and Innovation in Canada which focused on eight ground-breaking technological areas including stroke diagnosis and assessment, innovations in monitoring breast cancer, a wireless sensor platform for pressure ulcer care tracking, technologies that target and treat Atrial Fibrillation (AF) and robots based on human interaction control strategies.

RESEARCH CANADA LEADERSHIP AWARD

New for 2014

Canadian health researchers are among the finest in the world. They have contributed to countless global medical advancements and their dedication continues to change our lives, improve our nation and ensure that Canadians experience the highest levels of physical and mental health and well-being.

Recognition of Canadian health research—especially the kind that attracts the necessary public and political support—is the direct result of the dedicated and tireless efforts of health research advocates who work hard to educate policy makers, the media and the public about the social and economic benefits of health research, its promise of future cures and how it will ensure a better quality of life for us all. It is thanks to these advocacy leaders that health research remains a top priority for all levels of government and for Canadians overall.

A new Research Canada Leadership Award has been created to honour these health research advocacy champions. This award will be provided on an annual basis to recognize individuals and/or organizations that have made outstanding efforts in advocating for Canadian health research at the local, provincial and/or national level. Awards will be announced at the Prix Galien and the Health Research Foundation's Medal of Honour Award Ceremony in November of each year. This year's Award will be presented in Toronto on November 19th, 2014.



Dr. Thierry G. Mesana addressing Health Research Caucus, October 2014.

This unique event not only featured ground-breaking medical technologies that improve health and healthcare, it also profiled how health systems in several provinces are developing the receptor capacity and increasing the uptake of these novel technologies in a timely manner. Parliamentarians who attended were extremely impressed with the scope of innovations and the commitment of researchers, innovators and the medical device industry to integrating these technologies into Canada's healthcare delivery system

SCALING UP HEALTH RESEARCH ADVOCACY THROUGH SMART COMMUNICATIONS

Research Canada's Communications Program is dedicated to fostering a greater understanding of the nature and benefits of health research and health innovation among parliamentarians, key decision-makers, Canadians and the media. The Program works to ensure that Research Canada's Members, Supporters and Partners are fully engaged, informed and equipped with the best tools available to advocate for a robust health research enterprise and a high-functioning health innovation system in Canada.

Our Publications



In addition to its Health Research Caucus events, Research Canada reaches out to parliamentarians and decision-makers through several publications.

Research Canada Update profiles Health
Research Caucus presenters and their innovative
work prior to Health Research Caucus events
on the Hill. This publication is aimed at
parliamentarians and distributed by them on
Research Canada's behalf which enhances its
uptake significantly. In 2014, the Update was
redesigned to be more reader-friendly and eyecatching.



On the Move is Research Canada's Member newsletter. This publication is distributed up to six times a year through an email service* to Member subscribers. On the Move keeps Research Canada's Members up-to-date on our advocacy activities and ensures they are apprised of relevant political developments in Ottawa.

* A number of back-end changes are being made to our email subscriber list in order to comply with Canada's Anti-Spam Law. One of these is a new sign-up link that is integrated with the front page of the Research Canada website.

Media

Although most of its communications are directed at decision-makers, Research Canada engages key national and local media. For example, a guest article on diabetes research, written by Ms. Deborah Gordon-El-Bihbety, Research Canada's President and CEO, was published in the *Hill Times* last spring.

Social Media

In 2014, Research Canada extended its social media presence building on the foundation laid out over the previous year. As a result, we are able to advocate more broadly and vigorously for health research and health innovation in Canada.



Facebook

Our Facebook page was reactivated during the summer and now receives regular posts and updates. As we move forward over the next few months, we intend to increase the number of likes the page receives.



Twitter

In the Fall of 2013, Research Canada's Twitter account was being followed by 2,400 individuals and organizations. Over the past year, this number increased to 3,300 followers and we have enjoyed a substantial boost in the volume of tweets, interactions and retweets. Our Twitter account has advanced across all metrics as @ResearchCda increased its authoritative voice in the community. Our Twitter posts are frequently picked up by online news aggregators and we can be found on more and more community lists. In addition, the Research Canada Twitter account is increasingly being used by Members to promote their news and releases.

YouTube

Research Canada has recently established a YouTube account and we plan to use our new high-quality video camera to produce several videos during the coming months.

Website

The rc-rc.ca website remains a central feature of Research Canada's communications activities and has benefitted from several significant enhancements this year.

Mobile-Friendly

The Research Canada website is now mobile-friendly and features a platform that is responsive to a wide range of visitors' electronic devices. This will greatly enhance the comfort and quality of the experience of those visiting our website from a wide variety of mobile phones and tablets.

Enhanced Newsfeeds

The Research Canada website has improved the organization of its news and now offers more content than ever sorted into "Blogs," "Featured News" and "Newswire" stories. Research Canada makes use of this section of its website to promote Member and stakeholder press releases and other announcements. This section is expected to grow over time as more Members choose to promote their news through Research Canada.

Member catalogue

Research Canada has been negotiating favorable terms and prices for Members from key suppliers. We will prepare a digital catalogue outlining these savings which will apply to common purchases such as promotional items, displays, printing, office supplies and media monitoring.

Communications Network

Research Canada has enhanced its relationships with Member communications' staff and will be formalizing a Network of Health Research Communicators in the near future to promote Member news, events and stories through Research Canada channels. We are also investigating the possibility of providing a community calendar and a weekly media digest of top stories, alerts, events and activity within the national research community.



RESPONSIVE POLICY PROGRAM

In 2014, Research Canada met with parliamentarians from the three main federal political parties as well as political staff in the Prime Minister's Office. The policy messages we delivered to them were derived from Research Canada's submissions on two key public policy consultations: Industry Canada's Science, Technology and Innovation (ST&I) Consultation and the House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance's Pre-Budget Consultation.

In its submissions, Research Canada recommended that the Federal Government address business innovation, further develop innovative and entrepreneurial people and enhance excellence in public and post-secondary research. Our specific recommendations highlighted the vital need for:

Consistent and adequate support of discovery research, the bedrock of innovation

- Improvements in regulatory approvals, intellectual property protection and scientific research and experimental development (SR&ED) tax policy
- Incentives for innovation that are provided through a favourable procurement and reimbursement environment
- Longer-term government-funded programs that support multi-sectoral partnerships
- The reinstatement of publicly-funded career development programs, particularly the extension of programs such as the Centres of Excellence for Commercialization and Research (CECR) and the Canada Research Chairs
- The implementation of a multi-year fiscal framework for research funding

Research Canada also stressed the importance of the federal government's leadership role in leveraging Canada's strengths to address current research challenges and emphasized the need for government funding of health research that consistently and adequately supports all stages of innovation.

HONOURING OUR LEADERS

Award of Distinction Ms. Maureen Adamson

Research Canada is very pleased to honour Ms. Maureen Adamson, Chair of Research Canada and President and Chief Executive Officer of The Michener Institute of Applied Health Sciences with its Award of Distinction for her service, dedication, and commitment to Research Canada and health research advocacy in Canada. Her contribution to the organization has been immense.

Ms. Adamson became a Board Director of Research Canada in 2012. She joined The Michener Institute of Applied Health Sciences in July of 2014, with extensive knowledge and senior executive experience. Ms. Adamson was most recently the CEO for Cystic Fibrosis Canada.

Ms. Adamson undertook the development of Research Canada's new 5-year Strategic Plan (2014-18) and has been instrumental in setting its new strategic direction focusing on a dynamic education program. She has been a strong supporter and a mover and shaker in augmenting our Communications Program. She has pushed for higher visibility for the organization not only through traditional media but through social media. Research Canada's profile has been greatly enhanced through the efforts undertaken by Ms. Adamson in this regard.

Award of Excellence and Dedication Mr. David Hill

Research Canada is proud to present its first Award of Excellence and Dedication to Mr. David Hill in recognition of his dedicated service and significant contribution to Research Canada over many years. Mr. Hill became a Board Director of the Council for Health Research in Canada (CHRC), Research Canada's predecessor organization, in 2001. He was a member of Research Canada's Transition Board which oversaw the transition of CHRC into Research Canada: An Alliance for Health Discovery in 2005 and has continued on the Board since then as an ex-officio Member providing sage counsel and advice on legal, governance and Board related matters and issues.

Mr. Hill is the Founder, Co-Chair and Senior Partner of Perley-Robertson, Hill & McDougall LLP, Lawyers and Patent & Trade Mark Agents and continues to be a part of the firm's ideological foundation and developmental momentum. A Member of the Order of Canada, Mr. Hill continues to be a guiding presence in Research Canada's key strategic direction. He has been proactive in developing the By-laws of the organization and has made a valuable contribution to its governance model. Under his leadership and direction, Research Canada has adopted best practices in governance and applied these to both its policy and practices.

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All contributions help champion Canadian scientists and innovators, advance patient care and treatment, and bolster Canada's global leadership in health research.



