



News

The 2008 Annual General Meeting has now been scheduled for September 23-24, 2008 in Toronto. Please mark your calendars. More information will be available on the CAHS website (www.cahs-acss.ca) throughout 2008.

The 2008 nomination process for the election of Fellows is now open. Nomination forms and instructions can be found online at www.cahs-acss.ca/e/fellowships/nominations.php. The deadline for nominations is March 28, 2008. Nominations will be adjudicated by the Fellowship Committee in May 2008. New Fellows will be inducted into the Academy at the dinner ceremony during the Annual General Meeting in Toronto on September 23-24, 2008.

Board-counsel (2007-2008)

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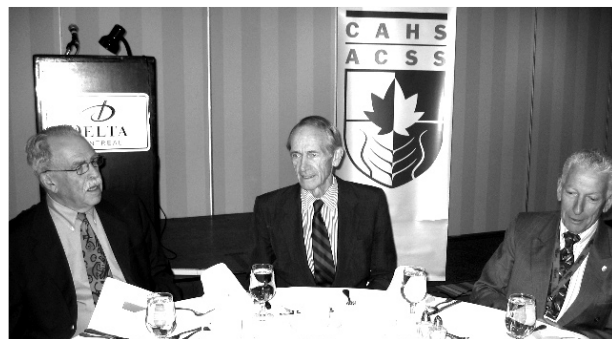
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CAHS names John Evans as first Distinguished Fellow

On September 19, Dr. John Evans, the 2007 laureate of the Henry G. Friesen International Prize in Health Research, was chosen as the first recipient for CAHS' Distinguished Fellow designation. This honour recognizes the scope of John Evans' contributions to medical education, medical research, higher education and public policy in Canada and abroad. From the founding of the McMaster Medical School through his presidency of the University of Toronto, to his service with the World Health Organization, his pioneering leadership of the Canada Foundation for Innovation and now his leadership in the MaRS project, John Evans has been the outstanding Canadian medical leader of his generation. (See the next page for a synopsis of John Evans' two presentations during the annual CAHS meeting).

The Board of CAHS created a new category known as Distinguished Fellow at the September 19, 2007 Annual Meeting. Election to the position

of Distinguished Fellow is the highest honor awarded by the Academy. It is limited to individuals who must not only meet the usual criteria for Fellowship, but whose accomplishments in the health arena are considered of such high distinction that only a select few are deemed worthy of this designation. Distinguished Fellows of the Academy would be expected to bring great distinction on the Academy. Distinguished Fellows must be nominated by five active Fellows. Adjudication is carried out by the Fellowship Committee with final approval by the Board. No more than one Distinguished Fellow may be elected each year, and there can be no more than 10 Distinguished Fellows at any time.



Dr. John Evans, middle, seated with Dr. Paul Armstrong, Past President of CAHS, right, and Dr. Aubie Angel, Chair of the Henry G. Friesen International Prize in Health Research, left.

CAHS launches Major Assessment on the impacts of health research

CAHS is pleased to announce that the *Major Assessment on The Return on Investments in Health Research: Defining the Best Metrics* is off to a robust start. Commissioned to define the best framework and metrics to assess the return on public and private funding of health research, the Panel will produce a comprehensive report that will better enable the assessment abilities of policy-makers and health research organizations.

Following the successful official launch of the Major Assessment at a full-day forum on September 18, 2007 (www.cahs-acss.ca/e/pdfs/ROI_ForumSummary2007.pdf), the panel has been finalized. It is composed of fourteen experts from Australia, Canada, Great Britain, and the US who specialize in a variety of disciplines including law, ethics, medicine, economics, and biomedical research. The panel members bring a wealth of experience and knowledge to this crucial study, focused on addressing health research issues specific to the Canadian context.

In early November 2007, the inaugural panel meeting was held in Toronto. The meeting brought together the panel to discuss its vision for the coming year and potential frameworks and metrics that could be further investigated. The panel will meet once more before year-end to discuss a draft outline of the final report and decide its preferred framework and metrics. Two more meetings are planned before a report is submitted to the Academy (anticipated early 2009).

Assessment Panel Members

Cyril Frank (Chair), University of Calgary
Renaldo Battista, University of Montreal
Linda Butler, Australian National University
Martin Buxton, Brunel University, UK
Neena Chappell, University of Victoria
Sally C. Davies, Department of Health, UK
Aled Edwards, University of Toronto
Chris Henshall, University of York, UK
Yann Joly, University of Montreal
Terence Kealey, University of Buckingham, UK
Senator Michael Kirby
Gretchen Jordan, Sandia National Laboratories, US
Department of Energy
Michael Wolfson, Statistics Canada
Steven H. Woolf, Virginia Commonwealth University, US





CAHS Elects 43 New Fellows

The new Fellows for 2007:

Penny Ballem
University of British Columbia

Francoise Baylis
Dalhousie University

Alain Beaudet
Fonds de la recherche en santé du Québec

Howard Bergman
McGill University

Donald Brooks
University of British Columbia

John Brosnan
Memorial University of Newfoundland

Benoit Chabot
Université de Sherbrooke

Davy Cheng
University of Western Ontario

Harvey Chochinov
University of Manitoba

John Denstedt
University of Western Ontario

Allan Donner
University of Western Ontario

Francine Ducharme
Université de Montréal

Nancy Edwards
University of Ottawa

Mary Ensom
University of British Columbia

John Esdaile
University of British Columbia

Carole Estabrooks
University of Alberta

John Fairbrother
Université de Montréal

Diane Finegood
Simon Fraser University

William Fraser
Université de Montréal

Jeremy Grimshaw
University of Ottawa

Robert Hegele
University of Western Ontario

Alex Jadad
University of Toronto

Terry Klassen
University of Alberta

Franco Lepore
Université de Montréal

Andrew Macnab
University of British Columbia

Jeff Nisker
University of Western Ontario

Peter Paré
University of British Columbia

Hélène Payette
Université de Sherbrooke

Grant Pierce
University of Manitoba

Frank Plummer
University of Manitoba

Marie-France Raynault
Université de Montréal

Pamela Ratner
University of British Columbia

Paul Rennie
University of British Columbia

Richard Riopelle
McGill University

Irving Rootman
University of Victoria

Susan Sherwin
Dalhousie University

Harvey Skinner
York University

Arthur Slutsky
University of Toronto

Sherry Stewart
Dalhousie University

Jean-Claude Tardif
Université de Montréal

Donald Weaver
Dalhousie University

Charles Weijer
University of Western Ontario

Michael Wolfson
Statistics Canada

Dr. John Evans awarded Friesen Prize for 2007

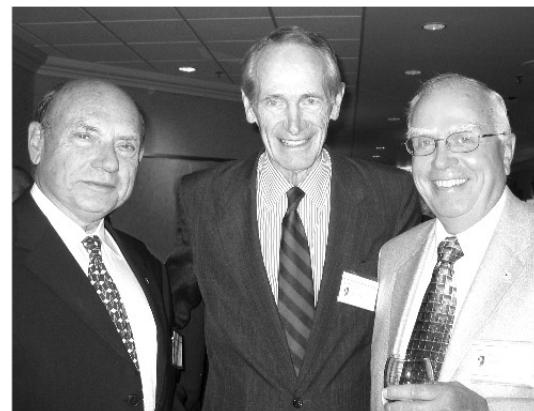
A highlight of the annual CAHS meeting held in Montreal this year was the selection of Dr. John Evans as winner of the 2007 Henry G. Friesen International Prize in Health Research. This award was sponsored by the Friends of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research in conjunction with the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences. Dr. Evans is renowned for his pioneering contributions across the full spectrum of health sciences and has been linked to many major health research policy initiatives. He was founding Dean of McMaster's innovative School of Medicine, President of the University of Toronto, Director of the Population, Health and Nutrition Department of the World Bank and founding Chairman of the biotechnical research company Allelix in Toronto. He is also past Chairman of the Canadian Foundation for Innovation (CFI) and currently serves as Chairman of the MaRS Discovery District, a non-profit corporation at the University of Toronto that aligns academic scientists and industry to facilitate commercialization of science in Canada.

Dr. Evans delivered an address to the Academy at our concluding luncheon entitled "*Quo Vadis the CAHS in a Flat World?*" During his remarks he drew upon his prior role with the Institute of Medicine and its seminal contributions to health care and science in the US and internationally, articulated some of the current challenges appropriate for CAHS to address and emphasized the value of providing sound advice to inform public policy.

In his public lecture entitled "*The Infinite Horizon of Health Research: Is Canada Visible?*" Dr. Evans catalogued the extraordinary success of CIHR and CFI in providing enhanced health research funding and acknowledged the key role of Henry Friesen, for whom his Research Prize was named, played in this development. Commensurate with this increase in funding has been the recruitment of excellent research talent and enhanced infrastructure at many Canadian institutions where health research is



Dr. John Evans, CAHS Distinguished Fellow (right), with Senator Wilbert Keon (left) who addressed the Academy's annual induction ceremony and dinner.



Dr. John Evans, CAHS Distinguished Fellow (centre), with CAHS Fellows, Dr. Arnold Naimark (left), and Dr. Ron Worton (right) at the Academy's annual induction ceremony and dinner.

conducted. He noted that justifying research as a sound investment for tax dollars will be an important responsibility of the health research constituency in the future. It should provide transparent accountability to government which will help to modulate future research funding especially as it relates to clinician scientists who are key players in translational research as well as post-doctoral fellows who he characterized as leaders-in-waiting in academe and commercial development. He also highlighted the need to recognize and provide appropriate support for research overhead costs.

His characterization of future horizons included an emphasis on true multidisciplinary research utilizing the strength of the Canadian healthcare system to evaluate the effectiveness of healthcare and ensuring that

we urgently adopt a comprehensive electronic health information system. To address the suboptimal performance of commercialization of Canadian research, he highlighted the MaRS' metaphor as a mechanism to provide a synergistic convergence of science, business and capital investment.

He concluded his remarks with a call for Canadians to commit their efforts globally where urgent demands for health services exist, especially in Africa. He reminded the audience of the moral imperative to support research that guides planning, policy and program delivery and suggested the creation of a formal post-graduate career path in international public health that would support sustainable relations across countries and cultures.

Nominations are now being accepted for the 2008 Henry G. Friesen International Prize in Health Research. The deadline for nominations is **January 11, 2008**. For more information go to www.fcir.ca/calendar.