



Canadian Academy of Health Sciences
Académie canadienne des sciences de la santé

HEALTH MATTERS Volume 2; Issue 6; June 2014

Welcome to the CAHS Newsletter, your source for updates on activities of the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences.

Visit us on the web at <http://cahs-acss.ca>

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



The CAHS Annual Meeting will be held in Ottawa on September 18 and 19, 2014 (details below). The annual meeting is the year's highlight for CAHS, an opportunity for reconnecting with Fellows from across the country, welcoming new Fellows into the Academy, participating in the annual Forum and hearing presentations from Fellows being recognized in various ways for their outstanding scholarship and important contributions.

This year's Forum, on September 18, is entitled *Commercialization of Health Research for Health, Social and Economic Benefit*. **Rick Riopelle** of McGill University and **Cy Frank** of University of Calgary are co-chairing an outstanding planning committee who are putting together an exciting and stimulating program. We will also be joined by guests

from industry, government and NGOs, adding variety and zest to the event. I urge you to register early.

Again this year, the CAHS is hosting an annual meeting with stellar speakers, opportunities for engaging interchange and plenty of time for the enjoyment of the company of CAHS Fellows from across the country. I hope to see you in Ottawa in September!

Sincerely,
John Cairns MD, FRCPC, FRCP (Lond), FCAHS, FACC

SPOTLIGHT – BOARD UPDATES

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FELLOWSHIPS

The CAHS Fellowship Committee is comprised of 16 members representing medicine, nursing, veterinary medicine, rehabilitation sciences, pharmacy, dentistry, and public health, and includes Fellows with expertise in medical and health education scholarship. This year, the committee received 67 new nominations, with 25 nominations being carried forward as updated from prior years for a total of 92. The committee has met and deliberated on each of the nominations, noting the exceptionally high caliber of the pool overall. Its recommendations will go to the Board in June, and notifications to the successful nominees will be made shortly thereafter. We will look forward to welcoming these new Fellows at the induction dinner in Ottawa in September.

Nutrition Conference Co-convened by the CAHS and the World Heart Federation in Hamilton, May 14-16, 2014

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SECRETARY'S NOTE

With this edition of Health Matters, we have been able to follow through with our commitment to a bilingual format. As we continue to develop the potential of this newsletter, and our broader communications strategy, we continue to welcome ideas and suggestions from our Fellows as to how we can do better with inclusivity and relevant information.



In this edition, you will notice a number of "good news" stories

about Fellows that have come to our attention. We know we will not have captured all of the recent recognitions and successes that we might have, and will be relying on our Fellows to keep us abreast of their own news or that of a colleague. We can all revel in the collective accomplishments of such an amazing cadre of Canadian health science leaders!

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Sally Thorne

Sally.Thorne@ubc.ca

The CAHS has defined three types of assessments addressing issues of importance to the health of Canadians: 1) Major Assessment – an in-depth review of the current state of knowledge, undertaken with substantial sponsorship and requiring a panel of experts, 12-18 months of deliberations and a formal, printed report in French and English. CAHS has done 7 of these so far. 2) Cast in the Canadian Context (CCC) – a formal review of a report by an academy, government or other agency from another country, with a view to delineating those aspects of the report that have relevance to the Canadian public. CAHS has done only one of these. 3) Forum/Symposium - a meeting or series of meetings convened by CAHS, engaging public- and private-sector experts, sponsors, and other interested parties to promote discussion of important issues in an open environment that facilitates evidence-based dialogue. CAHS regularly conducts a Forum for its Fellows as part of the annual meeting.

The first convening of a more public Forum occurred on May 14-16, 2014, in Hamilton. This Consensus Conference on Nutrition was co-convened with the World Heart Federation (WHF) and in a series of expert presentations and extensive discussion and debate, examined current research and knowledge about the effects on cardiovascular events of a wide range of dietary nutrients. CAHS took responsibility for a Symposium on Dietary Sodium: “*The Alignment of National/International Guidelines with Current Evidence*,” while the WHF managed other nutrients. We were fortunate in the sodium portion of the meeting, to have speakers from the Global Burden of Diseases Group, the Canadian Sodium Working Group, the WHO Sodium Guidelines Group, and the American Heart Association Guidelines Committee, providing essential context for presentations of new data (including the June 2013 report of the IOM Sodium Intake in Populations Expert Panel) challenging some of the evidence for recommendations for stringent restriction of dietary sodium. The speakers are currently working on preparing a summary of the presentations to be published on the CAHS website and in peer review journals.

ANNUAL MEETING & FORUM, SEPTEMBER 18 & 19, 2014, OTTAWA

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Forum Planning Update

This year’s Forum on *Commercialization of Health Research for Health, Social and Economic Benefit* will take place on September 18 as part of our CAHS annual meeting in Ottawa. It will focus on the current status of the commercialization of health research in Canada and will identify some of the barriers, challenges and key opportunities facing this endeavor in Canada. There is considerable evidence that, in spite of the international impact of Canada’s health research, we are lagging behind much of the rest of the developed world in commercializing health research to create economic and social value for Canadians. Why is this? Is there a lack of institutional or government support. Are Canadians not innovators? Are perceived downsides of adverse effects on graduate education, academic interchange and publication having an impact upon the engagement of Canadian academics? Rick Riopelle and Cy Frank are overseeing the planning for what will undoubtedly be a lively and fascinating session.

Peter Nicholson, who edited the recent Council of Canadian Academies publication “Paradox Lost”, will share his global insights in a keynote address to the Forum. We will also hear from a variety of Canadian experts from academe (including CAHS Fellows), government and industry. They will outline what they have done and what they believe should be done to accelerate Canada’s progress, with evidence, in the commercialization of health research. Every Fellow will have a chance to have their opinions heard in targeted breakout sessions and every participant will leave with new insights into the issues as well as new ideas for action that can be adopted by them and their communities to enhance commercialization of health research in Canada.

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Themes to be addressed during the Forum (in plenary and breakouts) will include:

- *The current status of the commercialization of health research in Canada.*
- *The current challenges and barriers to commercialization of health research in Canada – from various perspectives.*
- *Some potential solutions to enhancing commercialization of health Research in Canada.*

Annual Meeting

Again this year, the CAHS is hosting an annual meeting with stellar speakers, opportunities for engaging interchange and plenty of time for the enjoyment of the company of CAHS Fellows from across the country.



Features of the 2014 annual meeting will include a Thursday mid-day address from the recipient of the 2014 Henry G Friesen International Prize in Health Research, **Professor Lap-Chee Tsui**, President and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Hong Kong.

David Sackett will be inducted as a Distinguished Fellow and will speak at the Thursday evening induction dinner.

On Friday morning, we will honour **Peter Singer** of the University of Toronto with the Paul Armstrong Lectureship. We will also hear from two more of our highly accomplished Fellows. **Jane Green** of Memorial University will share her insights gained from the study of hereditary cancers and eye diseases in Newfoundland and **Bartha Knoppers** of McGill University will talk about a global alliance for genetics and health. These presentations by your own colleagues, reflecting on what drives their passion in their particular field of inquiry, have always been a highlight of the annual meeting gathering.

We look forward to an inspirational and celebratory gathering in Ottawa in September!

Forum & AGM Registration

If you have not yet registered for the 2014 Forum & AGM we suggest you do so by August 31 to avoid a late fee. Online registration for this event is now open and may be accessed via the link provided or our website at <http://www.cahs-acss.ca/> **[TO REGISTER NOW CLICK HERE](#)**

A block of rooms is being held on Wednesday, September 17 Thursday, September 18, and Friday, September 19, 2014. To make your reservation now click here: [CHATEAU LAURIER RESERVATIONS](#) (note, credit card information is required to confirm the reservation but no charge will be made to your account in advance of the meeting). We all know how quickly September seems to fill up, so ensure you have your plans in place early!

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

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The Board of Directors engaged in a strategic planning discussion in April, reviewing the strategic plan it had set out in 2011, and identifying a number of key issues for immediate action, further deliberation, and widespread consultation. Among these initiatives is a consultation with former assessment panel chairs to determine how best to approach future assessments and how to optimize resources in support of the panels. It deliberated on ways to strengthen our communications and information dissemination approaches, to ensure that we obtain the intended reach with our assessment products. It also reflected on matters of membership and financial status, setting out an exciting agenda for its work over the coming years.

Future Forum Topics

At the recent Board Strategic Planning meeting, it was decided to establish a standing Scientific Program Committee for the Annual Forum, to which Fellows with particular content expertise will be added annually, depending on the Forum topic. This will enable continuity in planning for our national Forum in conjunction with our Annual Meeting. We will also endeavour to have the title and Committee established for the subsequent year's Forum at the time of the current year's Forum. While the Committee proposal will be formally ratified at the June Board meeting, President-Elect **Carol Herbert** (Carol.Herbert@schulich.uwo.ca) invites those who wish to be considered for the Forum Scientific Program Committee to volunteer.

She also invites suggestions for topics from individuals who are prepared to plan Forum 2015. Several topic areas have been suggested by members, including mental health, stem cell, Aboriginal health, funding of clinical research in Canada, IT in health professional practice, issues related to internationally-trained medical and nursing personnel, academic health sciences networks, simulation and competency-based education, environment and health, and research ethics. Carol indicates that the **strongest support at this point is for a Mental Health topic, given the burden of illness in the community and the interdisciplinary issues in management. Please contact Carol Herbert with your thoughts on Forum 2015, and identify yourself as interested in planning.**

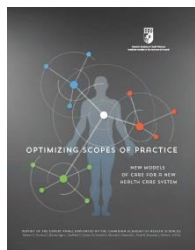
Regional Activities

At its recent meeting, the Board also discussed the opportunities inherent in building up Fellow engagement in our local communities. Especially where we have critical mass, there may be significant advantages to developing additional options for member engagement and capitalizing on the “brain trust” that members represent to direct strategic attention provincially. Local groups also become a strategic mechanism through which Fellows can come together to strategize and develop assessment opportunities, including potential funders, finding new synergies through local leadership.

Fellows interested in coordinating a meeting in their region can obtain access to regional email sub-lists for that limited purpose, and are invited to contact **Allison Hardisty** (A.Hardisty@utoronto.ca) for details. Because what you do in your region may well inspire others, we would very much appreciate receiving brief reports on any such gatherings.

ASSESSMENT NEWS

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Scopes of Practice

We are delighted to report that the long-awaited report on scopes of practice, entitled *Optimizing Scopes of Practice: New Models of Care for a New Health Care System* has been officially launched! Following a webinar on May 8th for sponsors, the formal release took place on May 15th at the Canadian Association of Health Services and Policy Research (CAHSPR) Conference in Toronto. Both French and English versions of the Executive Summary are now available on the CAHS website at <http://www.cahs-acss.ca/>. The full report will be available in June.

Fellows may recall that this assessment had its origins in our 2011 Forum focusing on *The Future of Canada's Health Care System*. Deliberations during and following that Forum led to a realization that the Canadian health care system is underperforming relative to investment. Current systems in place for determining and regulating health professional scopes of practice were clearly identified as barriers to the kind of transformative change that will be required to

optimize the collaborative care approaches Canada requires to ensure that the right professional provides the highest quality of care in the right setting and at the right time based upon the needs of the individual patient. CAHS therefore commissioned a report towards the end of 2012 to identify the scopes of practice that will be most effective to support innovative models of care for a transformed health care system to serve all Canadians. The report calls for new approaches to determining scopes of practice. These should be based on community needs that empower the collaborative practice team to determine the relative responsibilities of the various practitioners, such that the team is held accountable through an accreditation process within a professional regulatory environment. It offers specific recommendations to those key stakeholders who will need to be part of the wider conversation required to make this new transformative vision a reality.

Kudos to the Expert Panel Co-Chairs **Jeff Turnbull** and **Sioban Nelson**, who led an expert team in carefully reviewing available evidence and arriving at innovative recommendations, and to the sponsors whose contributions to this assessment made it all possible.

Oral Health

Under the leadership of **Paul Allison**, the Oral Health Assessment Report is now in the final stages of layout and printing and is anticipated for release very soon. Once that occurs, we hope that all Fellows will participate in the dissemination process so that it obtains the audience it deserves.

The Communications Committee, under the leadership of **Jocelyne Feine**

(jocelyne.feine@mcgill.ca) has developed a communication strategy, and will continue to welcome suggestions and recommendation from all Fellows.

MEMBER NEWS

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Regional Meetings

Davy Cheng and **Mike Strong** report that a regional meeting took place in London, Ontario on January 9, 2014 with 15 CAHS Fellows. The primary focus of the meeting was to brainstorm topics from our Western University CAHS Fellows on what the Academy can do to enhance the health policies and health science planning for Canadians. A fruitful discussion was held, and the group proposed the following list of topics for consideration for a future forum or major assessment:

1. A Decision-Relevant Framework for Health Care: Combining Evidence, Economics, Ethics (& Everything Else); or Health Technology Assessment & Knowledge Translation (HTA-KT): Value, Innovation and Opportunity Costs.
2. Primary and Social determinants in reducing disease burden & prevention
3. External medical trained and Human Resources of physicians within Canada
4. Funding the new century of medical education.
5. Hospital and Healthcare Funding Models alignment with outcomes
6. Disease prevention with recommendation of fermented foods in the Canadian Food Guide.

Clearly there is a lot of excellent strategizing in the London Region!

The **Quebec** regional group organised a meeting of CAHS Fellows on June 5th together with the Scientific Board of the FRQ-S and the Chief Scientist of Quebec (and CAHS Fellow) **Rémi Quirion** in honour of the 50th Anniversary of the FRSQ. For further information contact **Louise Potvin**

(louise.potvin@umontreal.ca)

Member Updates



Victor Dzau, winner of FCIHR's Friesen Prize in 2012 has been named the next President of the Institute of Medicine, and will take up that office as of July 1, 2014. We look forward to his tenure in this key position as an opportunity to deepen the collaboration between the CAHS and the IOM.

Vivek Goel has recently stepped down as President and CEO of Public Health Ontario and accepted as position as Chief Academic Strategist for Corsera, a California based education company that partners with the top universities and organizations in the world to offer courses online. In his new role, he will help develop their academic strategy and maintain their strong academic partnerships.

Joy Johnson will be stepping down from her position as Scientific Director for the CIHR Institute of Gender and Health to take up the position of Vice-President Research at Simon Fraser University.

Eliot Phillipson was recently honoured with Canada's highest honour when he was made Officer of the Order of Canada "for his contributions to the field of sleep medicine and for his visionary stewardship of health and science institutions."

Frank Plummer was recognized as a Canada Council for the Arts Killam Prize winner for 2014.

Guy Rouleau was awarded the Prix d'excellence 2014 by the Collège des médecins du Québec, "for his outstanding contributions to neurogenetics and medicine."

James Rutka was awarded the Order of Ontario in January 2014.

Eldon Smith is receiving an honorary degree from Dalhousie University at the May convocation. He is being awarded the Doctor of Laws (honoris causa) for having "dedicated his life to improving the heart health of Canadians."

Peter Tugwell was recently named an Officer of the Order of Canada.

Inducted into the Medical Hall of Fame this year were CAHS Fellows **Ronald Worton** and **Max Cynader**.

Trevor Young Congratulations on his appointment as Dean of Faculty of Medicine and Vice-Provost, Relations with Health Care Institutions at the University of Toronto, effective January 1, 2015.

Salim Yusuf has been awarded the 2014 Gairdner-Wightman Award "for his exceptional leadership in global clinical trials and population studies of cardiovascular disease that shaped best guidelines for prevention and treatment." He was also inducted into the Medical Hall of Fame.

And finally, it has just been announced that **John Cairns** and **Aubrey Tingle** will receive the Order of BC in November 2014.

IMPORTANT DATES

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- September 18, 2014 - *Forum on Commercialization of Health Research, Ottawa*
- September 19, 2014 - *Annual Meeting, Ottawa*
- March 20, 2015 – *Nominations for next year's New Fellows*
- September 17 & 18, 2015 – *CAHS Forum and Annual Meeting, Ottawa*