



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

e-Blast January 2017

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Colleagues,



In June 2016, an advisory panel was announced to advise federal government on its review of fundamental science in Canada. The Advisory Panel for the Review of Federal Support for Fundamental Science, chaired by CAHS Fellow, David Naylor, sought input from across the country on how to optimize support for fundamental science in Canada. Within the panel's scope were issues of international best practices in funding, barriers for early career researchers, and encouraging "Canadian

scientists to take on bold new research challenges". The specific mandate can be viewed [here](#).

The CAHS answered the national call for input and made a formal submission (attached). The release of the Panel's Report is now imminent and we write to you today to advise that we have formed a Working Group of the past-Presidents of the CAHS, with the addition of Board members Kishor Wasan and Chris Simpson, to reflect on preparing a formal response. We believe the Academy will be well positioned to comment on the health sciences and biomedical research components of the report and we would appreciate your engagement on how best to undertake this.

Our strategy will be to acknowledge receipt of the report immediately after its release. After the release, we will reach out to you with a copy of the report accompanied by a short survey with questions designed to gather your feedback. Specifically, we will want to know what your views are on the key elements. As we will want to respond to the report in a timely way, we are advising you now to anticipate the survey.

We believe the CAHS should be prepared to take a leadership role in addressing health science related recommendations arising from the Report. Given our mandate to provide scientific advice in support of a healthy Canada, I would be particularly interested in hearing your views when we send out the survey so that we can clearly articulate the CAHS position to Science Minister Duncan who commissioned the Report.

SECRETARY'S NOTE



Please remember that we rely on our Fellows, to keep us abreast of their own news and that of their colleagues. We look forward to hearing from you throughout the year and to receiving photographs that we can publish in the Newsletter to promote and celebrate our collective success!

Sincerely,

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Sincerely,



Carol P. Herbert MD, CCFP, FCFP, FCAHS
President

