



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

Media Release

Forty-seven new Fellows elected to the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences

Fellows' accomplishments recognized by peers for contributions to the promotion of health science

Ottawa, ON – August 19, 2025 – The [Canadian Academy of Health Sciences](https://cahs-acss.ca) (CAHS) is pleased to announce the 47 new Fellows elected for 2025. CAHS is proud to recognize excellence in health sciences and these new Fellows reflect a rich and varied expertise.

“We congratulate all the applicants elected as Fellows to the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences for 2025. This recognition honors their dedication and excellence in their respective fields,” said Dr. Sylvie Nadeau, Chair of the Fellowship Committee. “We look forward to their expertise enriching the work of our Academy.”

Election to Fellowship in the Academy is considered one of the highest honours for individuals in the Canadian health sciences community. It entails a commitment to serve the Academy and advance the health sciences across all of the Fellow’s disciplines.

“Election to the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences acknowledges outstanding contributions to the health sciences,” says Dr. Trevor Young, President, CAHS. “We are proud of these Fellows’ accomplishments, and we are honoured to welcome them to the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences.”

For information on the nomination process, please visit: <https://cahs-acss.ca/nominations/>

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About CAHS

The Canadian Academy of Health Sciences brings together Canada’s top-ranked health and biomedical scientists and scholars to make a positive impact on the urgent health concerns of Canadians. Our Fellows, drawn from all disciplines across our nation’s universities, healthcare and research institutes, evaluate Canada’s most complex health challenges and recommend strategic, actionable solutions.

You can find us on [LinkedIn](#) and [Twitter](#).

For further information or media inquiries, please contact:

Serge Buy, Chief Executive Officer | Email: sbuy@cahs-acss.ca

NEW FELLOWS 2025

Tracie O. Afifi, Professor, Tier I Canada Research Chair in Childhood Adversity and Resilience, University of Manitoba



Dr. Tracie Afifi is an international leader in childhood adversity and resilience research and has built her research program using a public health approach. She has published 245+ peer-reviewed journal publications and has been awarded > \$54M in research funding. She was inducted as College Member of the Royal Society of Canada (2017); the recipient of the Royal-Mach-Gaensslen Prize for Mental Health Research (2018); the recipient of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) Gold Leaf Award (2019), the recipient of the Alexander Leighton Award in Psychiatric Epidemiology (2020), and named as WXN's Canada's Top 100 Most Powerful Women (2021).

Christophe Bedos, Full Professor, Faculty of Dental Medicine and Oral Health Sciences, McGill University



A full professor at McGill University's Faculty of Dental Medicine, Dr. Christophe Bedos co-directed the Quebec Network for Intersectoral Research in Sustainable Oral and Bone Health (RiSBOD) from 2017 to 2025. His innovative research focuses on the development and implementation of biopsychosocial and environmentally responsible approaches to dentistry. More broadly, his research aims to transform the dental care system so that it becomes accessible to all people, is inclusive of disadvantaged social groups and is fully integrated into the health network, while also addressing environmental challenges – notably the reduction of the system's ecological footprint.

Yvonne Bombard, Professor, Canada Research Chair, University of Toronto; Unity Health Toronto



Dr. Yvonne Bombard is internationally renowned for her scholarly contributions in the field of genomics health services, patient engagement in digital tools and for her advocacy in genomics policy. She holds the Canada Research Chair in Genomics Health Services and Policy at Unity Health Toronto, and is a Professor at the University of Toronto. Her research has brought awareness to gaps in equitable access to genetic testing, and led to the establishment of inclusive digital care tools. Dr. Bombard's partnerships with academics and government have changed health policies, clinical guidelines and laws, enabling more people to participate in, and benefit from, genomic medicine.

Sylvie Breton, Professeure Titulaire, Université Laval



Dr. Sylvie Breton is Professor at Université Laval, Emeritus Professor at Harvard Medical School, and chairholder of the Tier 1 Canada Research Chair in « Epithelial dynamics of the kidney and reproductive organs ». She is internationally recognized for her distinguished contributions to the field of epithelial cell biology with a focus on kidney and male reproductive health. Her research provided a deeper understanding of the underlying mechanisms of idiopathic male infertility and the genesis of renal failure. Dr. Breton is not only an exceptional scientist but also a remarkable mentor, inspiring and guiding the next generation of biomedical researchers.

NEW FELLOWS 2025



Mary Brindle, Professor of Surgery and Community Health Sciences, Cumming School of Medicine, University of Calgary; Alberta Health Services



Mary Elizabeth Brindle is a surgeon-scientist and global leader in health systems innovation. A Professor at the Cumming School of Medicine, University of Calgary, she directs the EQUIS research team, W21C, and the Health Everywhere Hub, advancing digital health in Alberta. She also serves as Director of Safe Surgery Safe Systems at Ariadne Labs, Harvard. Her work spans surgical safety, implementation science, and health equity. Dr. Brindle has led international guideline development, major funded initiatives, and system-wide improvements, earning national recognition for mentorship, innovation, and impact in health systems globally.

Melissa Brouwers, Director and Professor, School of Epidemiology and Public Health, University of Ottawa



Dr. Melissa Brouwers is the Director of the School of Epidemiology and Public Health at the University of Ottawa. She leads an innovative research program aimed to democratize research evidence and facilitate its application in clinical, public health, and policy settings. One of the world's foremost leaders in guideline research, she has made major advances to the field, most notably through the internationally recognized AGREE (Appraisal of Guidelines for REsearch and Evaluation) Research Program, the Program in Evidence-based Care, and the Knowledge Synthesis and Application Unit. She is a committed teaching and supporting the next generation of health leaders.

Marni Brownell, Professor (retired), Rady Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Manitoba; Senior Research Scientist, Manitoba Centre for Health Policy



Marni Brownell conducts research using whole-population administrative health and social services databases to examine child health and well-being, focusing on social and structural influences on health. She leads research projects focusing on the health and well-being of children in the child welfare and youth criminal justice systems, and is the Director of SPECTRUM, a large research partnership between representatives of community organizations, government staff, and academics and trainees from multiple disciplines working together to address complex social challenges (<https://www.spectrum-mb.ca/>). She was the 2019 recipient of the Canadian Pediatric Society's Geoffrey C. Robinson award honoring excellence in population health research.

Zabrina Brumme, Professor, Faculty of Health Sciences, Simon Fraser University; Laboratory Director, British Columbia Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS



Dr. Zabrina Brumme received her PhD from the University of British Columbia and subsequently completed a post-doctoral fellowship at Harvard's Ragon Institute. She is currently a Professor in the Faculty of Health Sciences at Simon Fraser University and the Laboratory Director at the BC Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS. Her research integrates molecular biology, epidemiology and computational approaches to examine questions at the interface of HIV-1 virology, immunology and pathogenesis with the ultimate goal of providing new avenues for vaccine design and strategies to eradicate viral reservoirs.



NEW FELLOWS 2025

Caroline Cameron, Professor, Department of Biochemistry and Microbiology, University of Victoria



Dr. Caroline Cameron is a world leader in the study of syphilis, an infectious disease with profound implications for reproductive health. In recognition of her contributions to advancing global health, she has received numerous prestigious national and international awards, including the American STD Association Investigator Award, NIH MERIT Award, Genome BC Scientific Excellence Award, and a CIHR Canada Research Chair. Dr. Cameron serves the global health community through leadership roles in non-profit organizations dedicated to reducing sexually transmitted infections and enhancing reproductive health. She is deeply committed to cultivating future reproductive health leaders by mentoring early-career professionals around the world.

Jean-François Côté, President and Scientific Director, Institut de Recherches Cliniques de Montréal



Jean-François Côté has served as President and Scientific Director of the Montreal Clinical Research Institute (IRCM) since 2022. A researcher at the IRCM since 2005, he leads the Cytoskeleton Organization and Cell Migration unit and is internationally recognized for his work on cancer metastasis. He is a Full Professor at the University of Montreal and Adjunct Professor at McGill University. Dr. Côté holds a Tier 1 Canada Research Chair in Cellular Signalling and Cancer Metastasis. He has authored over 100 publications and has identified key proteins involved in breast cancer metastasis.

Juliet Daniel, Distinguished University Professor, McMaster University



Professor Juliet Daniel is renowned for her discovery and naming of the gene “Kaiso” whose high expression correlates with disparities in cancer outcomes and may be a prognostic or therapeutic target for people of African ancestry in Canada and globally. She co-founded the Canadian Black Scientists Network to Elevate, Make Visible, Celebrate and Connect Black Canadians pursuing STEM or Medicine. In recognition of her research, advocacy for health equity and women, outstanding community service, and IDEA leadership, Prof. Daniel has received numerous awards, including the inaugural Canadian Cancer Society Inclusive Excellence Prize in Cancer Research and a UWI Honorary Doctorate.

Laura Dawson, Professor and Chair, Department of Radiation Oncology, University of Toronto; Clinician-scientist, Radiation Medicine Program, University Health Network (UHN)



Dr. Laura Dawson is Professor and Chair of the Department of Radiation Oncology at the University of Toronto and a clinician-scientist at the Radiation Medicine Program/Princess Margaret Cancer Centre. As an internationally recognized expert in liver cancer and oligo-metastases, she has led groundbreaking research in advanced radiation techniques, including stereotactic body radiation therapy and image guided radiation therapy. Her pivotal clinical trials of radiation therapy for primary and metastatic liver cancer have established new standards of care, improving patient outcomes worldwide. She has over 250 publications and has mentored over 50 students globally. She is also a past president of the American Society for Radiation Oncology (ASTRO).



NEW FELLOWS 2025

Tohid Didar, Associate Professor and Canada Research Chair, McMaster University



Dr. Tohid Didar is the Canada Research Chair in NanoBiomaterials and an Associate Professor at McMaster University, appointed in Mechanical and Biomedical Engineering and affiliated with the Institute for Infectious Disease Research. His interdisciplinary research develops nano-biomaterials for applications in health and sustainability. A former postdoctoral fellow at Harvard's Wyss Institute, Dr. Didar has published over 90 papers, holds 35+ granted or filed patents, and co-founded FendX—a publicly traded company. His innovations, including the award-winning RepelWrap™ and SentinelWrap™, have earned global recognition. He continues to develop solutions to grand challenges in food insecurity, infectious diseases, and women's health.

David J. A. Dozois, Professor and Director, Graduate Program in Clinical Psychology, Western University



Dr. David J. A. Dozois is a Professor of Psychology and Director of the Clinical Psychology Graduate Program at Western University, with a cross-appointment in Psychiatry. He is a Past-President of the Canadian Psychological Association and the Canadian Association of Cognitive and Behavioural Therapies. With > 200 publications, his research has contributed importantly to the understanding, assessment, treatment, and prevention of depression and anxiety, with a primary focus on cognitive vulnerability. He currently serves on the Board of Directors for the World Confederation of Cognitive Behavioural Therapies, the International Association of Applied Psychology, and Mental Health Research Canada.

James R. Dunn, Professor, Department of Health, Aging & Society and Associate Dean Research, Faculty of Social Sciences, McMaster University



James R. Dunn, Ph.D. (Jim) a Professor of Health, Aging & Society and Associate Dean Research in the Faculty of Social Sciences at McMaster University. He is the Senator William McMaster Chair in Urban Health Equity and Director of the Canadian Housing Evidence Collaborative. In 2025, he was awarded the CIHR-IPPH Trailblazer in Population and Public Health Award and the CMHC Gold Roof Award for Knowledge to Action. He has published over 100 papers in geography, public health, urban planning and epidemiology journals and shaped policies at all levels addressing the effects of income security, housing, and neighbourhood built environments on health.

Claudia I. Emerson, Professor, Department of Philosophy, and Director, Institute on Ethics & Policy for Innovation, McMaster University



Dr. Claudia Emerson is an internationally renowned bioethicist and adviser to key stakeholders in global health, including major funders of research, UN agencies, and national governments. She is a Professor in the Department of Philosophy and Founding Director of the Institute on Ethics & Policy for Innovation at McMaster University, where her work in applied ethics focuses on identifying and addressing ethics issues and policy gaps that arise along the discovery-to-delivery pathway for health technologies and interventions. An interdisciplinary scholar trained in science and philosophy, Professor Emerson serves on numerous international and national advisory bodies related to public health, emerging technologies, and science innovation.



NEW FELLOWS 2025

Astrid Guttman, Senior Scientist and Staff Physician, Hospital for Sick Children; Chief Science Officer, ICES (formerly the Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences)



Astrid Guttman is a paediatrician and Senior Scientist at the Hospital for Sick Children and Chief Science Officer at ICES. She is Professor of Paediatrics and Public Health and co-Director of the Edwin S.H. Leong Centre for Healthy Children at the University of Toronto. She holds a Canada Research Chair in Child Health Services and Policy. Her research aims to improve child health through population-based studies of health system programs and wider policies with a focus on health equity. She leads initiatives in Ontario to build multi-sector data platforms and is a member of numerous policy and research advisory boards.

Rayjean J. Hung, Head, Prosserman Centre for Population Health Research and Associate Director of Population Health, Lunenfeld-Tanenbaum Research Institute, Sinai Health System; Professor, Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto



Dr. Hung is an internationally recognized leader of cancer epidemiology focusing on etiology, prevention and early detection. Her work covers the spectrum from omics discovery, predictive models to implementation. Dr. Hung has authored over 250 peer-reviewed scientific publications in international journals and 4 book chapters, including two for the World Cancer Report by the World Health Organization. Dr. Hung holds an advisory role in several national and international organizations. Recognizing her leadership, she received several awards including the Tier 1 Canada Research Chair in Integrative Molecular Epidemiology.

Zhengping Jia, Senior Scientist, The Hospital for Sick Children; Professor, University of Toronto



Professor Zhengping Jia is one of Canada's preeminent neuroscientists and is internationally renowned for revolutionizing our understanding of brain function in health and disease. His groundbreaking research on the genetic manipulation of glutamate receptors and cytoskeletal proteins has led to new concepts in the regulation of brain development, synaptic plasticity and memory formation. These breakthrough discoveries have far-reaching implications for understanding and treatment of a myriad of neurodevelopmental and neuropsychiatric disorders. Throughout his career, Dr. Jia has exemplified unwavering dedication to advancing health sciences, demonstrating exceptional leadership, fostering international collaborations, and championing diverse teams.

Philippe Juvet, Professeur Titulaire du Département de Pédiatrie, Faculté de Médecine, Université de Montréal; CHU Sainte-Justine



Dr. Philippe Juvet is a pediatric intensivist at CHU Sainte-Justine and a full professor in the Department of Pediatrics at Université de Montréal. Dr. Juvet is a senior FRQS clinician researcher and is currently the co-Director of the Cluster on artificial intelligence (AI) applied to children acute care and the co-director of the AIRS Research network on the impact of air and sound quality on health.



NEW FELLOWS 2025

Kamran Khan, Professor, Temerty Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto; Founder & CEO, BlueDot Inc.



Dr. Khan is an internationally recognized infectious diseases physician, Professor at the University of Toronto, and Founder and CEO of BlueDot. His research on outbreaks of emerging and re-emerging pathogens has revolutionized our understanding of epidemics in an interconnected world, while informing policy decisions during health emergencies. Dr. Khan's entrepreneurial work focuses on the role of artificial intelligence and technological innovation to strengthen global epidemic surveillance and readiness for infectious disease emergencies. Drawing from his experiences as a clinician, scientist, and entrepreneur, he is a leading voice for fostering a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship in Canadian health sciences.

Rashmi Kothary, Deputy Scientific Director, Ottawa Hospital Research Institute; Professor, University of Ottawa



It was during formative years as a trainee that Dr. Kothary developed his interests in pre-clinical models to study disease pathology. His current research focuses on investigating factors important for oligodendrocyte mediated myelination and remyelination of the CNS (in the context of Multiple Sclerosis) and understanding Spinal Muscular Atrophy pathogenesis to identify novel therapeutics for this devastating children's disease. He currently sits on the scientific advisory board for RHU SMART (France), MDA and Cure SMA.

Lakshmi Krishnan, Vice President, Life Sciences, National Research Council of Canada



Dr. Lakshmi Krishnan is a globally recognized researcher and leader in vaccine technologies and novel biologics. She pioneered the advancement of a novel glycolipidic vaccine adjuvant technology, which is currently licensed for large-scale Canadian manufacturing for deployment in various vaccines. As Vice President of Life Sciences at the National Research Council of Canada, she oversees more than 600 researchers and is committed to inclusive innovation for advancing health technologies and biomanufacturing to help build a resilient Canadian bio-economy. Her leadership has contributed to successful national research programs and major advances in vaccine and immunotherapy development, including during Canada's pandemic response.

Bernard Le Foll, Head, Translational Addiction Research Laboratory, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health; Vice-President Research and Academics and Chief Scientific Officer, Waypoint Centre for Mental Health Care; Chair of Addiction Psychiatry & Professor, University of Toronto



Dr. Bernard Le Foll (MD PhD) is a clinician-scientist specializing in drug addiction. He earned his PhD in Pharmacology from the University of Paris-Sud and trained at the National Institutes of Health in behavioral pharmacology and brain imaging. Dr. Le Foll is Chair of Addiction Psychiatry at the University of Toronto, and VP Research and Academics at Waypoint Centre for Mental Health Care. His research focuses on addiction neurobiology and therapies, with over 100 grants and more than 300 publications. He has held various leadership roles at CAMH, advised on addiction policy, and serves on the CIHR Governing Council.

NEW FELLOWS 2025



Natasha B. Leighl, Head, Division of Medical Oncology and Hematology, Princess Margaret Cancer Centre, University Health Network and Sinai Health System



Dr. Natasha Leighl is Division Head of Medical Oncology and Hematology at the Princess Margaret Cancer Centre and UHN-Sinai Health Department of Medicine. She holds the Daniel E. Bergsagel Chair in Medical Oncology and is Professor in the Department of Medicine and Adjunct Professor in the Institute of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation, University of Toronto. Dr. Leighl is a globally recognized expert in lung cancer precision medicine, diagnostics, clinical management, and drug development. Her research has advanced clinical trials for novel therapeutic agents, established the role of liquid biopsy in clinical care, and improved lung cancer patient outcomes worldwide.

Trudo Lemmens, Professor and Scholl Chair in Health Law and Policy, Faculty of Law, University of Toronto



Trudo Lemmens is a professor of law and bioethics at the University of Toronto and a leading scholar of health law, policy, and ethics. His scholarship covers health research and innovation, pharmaceutical governance, knowledge production, end of life care, professional regulation, privacy, and mental health care. His most recent work focuses on human rights and disability rights and health care. He is a frequent speaker and contributor to public debate and policy, with expert work for Canadian and international parliamentary committees and organizations. He has been a visiting scholar at leading institutions in the US, the UK, Belgium, Colombia, Argentina, and New Zealand.

Isaac Luginaah, Distinguished University Professor, Western University



Isaac Luginaah, a Distinguished University Professor at Western University, is a global leader in environment and health research. He has published over 300 manuscripts on research that addresses how complex environmental issues are radically changing health landscapes in the face of increased burdens from environmental change, food systems and exposure in developed and developing countries. His path-making work in Africa and North America has made strong theoretical and methodological contributions, addressing environmental hazards and health inequities. His research has been supported by numerous research grants. He was a Canada Research Chair in Health Geography at Western University from 2007-2017.

Peter A. Newman, Professor, University of Toronto



Dr. Newman is internationally recognized for contributions to social research at the vanguard of biomedical innovation. His highly cited scholarship has driven a paradigm shift in the integration of social science into global health initiatives, explicating clearer linkages between the use of technologies—vaccines, PrEP, condoms—and determinants of their demand, acceptance, and uptake by communities. He currently leads a multi-country initiative to advance LGBTIQ health and rights in Asia. A member of influential Canadian and international scientific bodies, he was Canada Research Chair in Health and Social Justice (2007-2017) and is Inaugural Fellow, Society for Social Work and Research.



NEW FELLOWS 2025

Janis Oram, Professor and Associate Dean Research, Western University



A speech-language pathologist, professor, and associate dean at Western University, Dr. Oram leverages her clinical, research, and leadership expertise to support children with communication challenges, their families, and the clinicians and systems who serve them. A national and international expert in translating scientific evidence into clinical practice, her interdisciplinary research spans neuroimaging studies that build new knowledge about language disorders to applied work that enhances community-based services. A key figure in advocacy and practice change, her contributions include innovative clinical resources co-designed with autistic people, improved speech-language practices for children with hearing loss, and international standards for identifying child language disorders.

Rulan S. Parekh, Vice President, Academics; Clinician Scientist and Nephrologist, Women's College Hospital



Dr. Rulan S. Parekh is Vice President, Academics at Women's College Hospital, Staff Nephrologist at Women's College Hospital and Hospital for Sick Children and Professor of Pediatrics and Medicine in the Departments of Medicine, Paediatrics, Epidemiology at the University of Toronto. She is a clinician-scientist, and a recognized leader in clinical epidemiology and translational research in kidney disease. Her work has revealed novel genetic risk factors leading to kidney disease and increased risk of cardiovascular morbidity and mortality for children and adults with kidney disease. She is a well recognized mentor and is committed to supporting the next generation of scientists.

Melissa L. Perreault, Professor of Neuroscience, Department of Biomedical Sciences, University of Guelph



Dr. Perreault is a Professor of Neuroscience in the Department of Biomedical Sciences and a Research Leadership Chair at the University of Guelph. Dr. Perreault leads innovative translational research evaluating the cellular mechanisms underlying neuropsychiatric and neurodevelopmental disorders. She is laying the foundation for a transformative approach to the treatment of these disorders, using sex-specific brain waves as biomarkers to identify at-risk individuals and to improve treatment assessment. Dr. Perreault is a powerful advocate for Indigenous rights, deeply dedicated to Indigenous governance, policy development, clinical research methodologies and equitable patient care for Indigenous peoples.

Robert Petrella, Professor and Head (Chair), Department of Family Practice, University of British Columbia



Dr. Robert Petrella is a family physician and specialist in sport and exercise medicine, uniquely merging research and practice in preventative medicine, chronic disease management, and healthy aging. Through his leadership in organizations such as Hypertension Canada, the Canadian Centre for Activity and Aging and the College of Family Physicians of Canada, Dr. Petrella has shaped national health policy, clinical practice guidelines and provided innovative, scalable educational curriculum and programs like Healthsteps and Fans in Training which have impacted learners and best practices among clinicians across Canada while advancing inclusivity in improving health outcomes for diverse and underserved populations.



NEW FELLOWS 2025

Robert Quinn, Nephrologist and Professor of Medicine, University of Calgary



Dr. Quinn is a Professor in the Cumming School of Medicine at the University of Calgary. He is a Nephrologist and Clinical Epidemiologist whose research interests include the care of patients with kidney disease, the provision of renal replacement therapies (with a focus on dialysis access), and quality of dialysis care. He received his MD in 1999 and completed specialty training in Internal Medicine and Nephrology at the University of Calgary in 2004. Dr. Quinn then completed a PhD in Clinical Epidemiology at the University of Toronto before joining the University of Calgary in 2009.

Milica Radisic, Professor, University of Toronto; Senior Scientist, University Health Network



Dr. Milica Radisic, Professor and Canada Research Chair in organ-on-a-chip engineering at the University of Toronto, is internationally recognized for spearheading the field of organ-on-a-chip engineering and pioneering new tissue vascularization approaches. She invented methods to grow and mature contractile heart tissues starting from human stem cells, to enable modelling of heart disease and facilitate drug discovery for major pharma companies. She pioneered peptide molecules that attenuate fibrosis and inflammation. She has published over 260 articles, many in the world's most prominent scientific journals, holds 15 issued patents, and founded two companies based on her research.

Laura Rosella, Professor, Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto; Chief Scientist, Trillium Health Partners



Dr. Laura C. Rosella is a Full Professor at the Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto, and holds a Canada Research Chair in Population Health Analytics. She founded the Population Health Analytics Laboratory and serves as Chief Scientist at the Institute for Better Health, Trillium Health Partners. An internationally recognized expert in data-driven public health, she has authored over 310 peer-reviewed publications and is Editor-in-Chief of the Canadian Journal of Public Health. Her impact has been recognized through numerous honours, including Canada's Top 40 Under 40, the CIHR-IPPH Mid-Career Trailblazer Award, and membership in the Royal Society of Canada's College (RSC) of New Scholars.

Peter Rosenbaum, Professor of Pediatrics, Faculty of Health Sciences, McMaster University

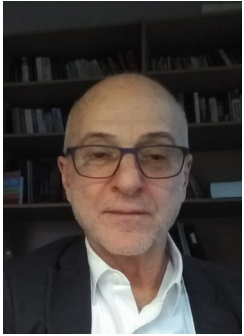


Peter Rosenbaum is a McMaster University Professor of Pediatrics with a life-long focus on children with disabilities and their families. He co-founded (1989) CanChild Centre, the world's leading academic childhood disability research, teaching, knowledge translation and implementation program. Looking beyond the medical aspects of 'disability' he and his colleagues have promoted child and family wellbeing, building on WHO's ideas about health and offering 'early intervention for families'. Rosenbaum has been a contributing author on >460 peer-reviewed papers and book chapters and 5 books; an invited lecturer in >32 countries; and mentor to scores of learners and colleagues around the world. In June 2025, Rosenbaum was named an Officer of the Order of Canada for his work in childhood disability.

NEW FELLOWS 2025



Russell Schachar, Professor Emeritus University of Toronto; The Hospital for Sick Children



Dr. Russell Schachar is a clinician-scientist whose seminal research achievements in the field of childhood psychopathology, spanning over four decades, has gained international recognition and earned him status as a global leader. He built clinical research programs from the ground up, which continue to shape clinical neuropsychiatric assessments at SickKids, and are emulated across Canada. These programs have trained many leading scientists and continue to inspire the next generation of clinicians. His breakthrough contributions to attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) research, including his translation of cognitive paradigms into cutting edge methodologies have had significant and far-reaching international impact.

Louis A. Schmidt, Professor & Science Research Chair in Early Determinants of Mental Health, McMaster University



Dr. Louis Schmidt is Professor and Science Research Chair in Early Determinants of Mental Health at McMaster University, Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, and recipient of the 2023 Pickering Award for Outstanding Lifetime Contributions to Developmental Psychology in Canada. He is an internationally recognized expert on children's anxiety and mental health who has championed the importance of viewing developmental risk through individual and socio-cultural lenses. He has established and translated research into practice and policy on children's mental health, reduced stigma around mental illness, and improved the quality of life for children and families in Canada and worldwide.

Lisa Schwartz, Professor, Arnold L. Johnson Chair in Health Care Ethics, McMaster University



Dr. Lisa Schwartz is the Arnold L. Johnson Chair in Health Care Ethics and professor at McMaster University. A philosopher and bioethics scholar lauded as pioneer of a novel field of research called humanitarian health ethics. Her research has advanced empirical bioethics, medical education, clinical research, Health Technology Assessment (HTA), and most notably ethics in humanitarian action. Through her many leadership positions, Dr. Schwartz has influenced policy and practice globally, in international agencies including Médecins Sans Frontières, World Health Organization, and Red Cross. Her research has had far reaching impacts, improving healthcare in humanitarian emergencies, research ethics, and health policy.

Allison Sekuler, Sandra A. Rotman Chair in Cognitive Neuroscience, Rotman Research Institute, Baycrest and University of Toronto; President and Chief Scientist, Baycrest Academy for Research & Education and Centre for Aging + Brain Health Innovation



Dr. Allison Sekuler (FSEP, FPsyS, FAPS) is the Sandra Rotman Chair in Cognitive Neuroscience at Baycrest and University of Toronto. An international leader in vision, aging, and brain health, she showed older brains "rewire" themselves to compensate for functional changes in sensory processing, informing methods to prevent, detect, and treat age-related cognitive decline. In her leadership roles as President and Chief Scientist at Baycrest Academy for Research and Education and CABHI, she advances healthcare research, education, innovation, and policy, and advances critical IDEA initiatives. A passionate communicator, she co-hosts the Webby-nominated Defy Dementia, and has won numerous awards, including being the first Canada Research Chair in Cognitive Neuroscience and twice named among WXX's Top 100 Most Powerful Women.



NEW FELLOWS 2025

John L. Semple, Professor, Department of Surgery, University of Toronto; Senior Scientist, Women's College Research Institute



Dr. John L. Semple is a Professor of Surgery at the University of Toronto and former Surgeon-in-Chief at Women's College Hospital. He has served as Research Chair for the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation and President of the Canadian Society of Plastic Surgeons. Internationally recognized for leadership in breast surgery, breast reconstruction, and health system solutions, Dr. Semple brings a unique perspective as both surgeon and artist. As an alumnus of OCAD University, he has a strong interest in the converging disciplines of art and science as a platform for innovation in areas identified for improvement in healthcare.

Lesley K. Seymour, IND Program Director and Deputy Director, Canadian Cancer Trials Group; Professor and Medical Oncologist, Department of Oncology, Queen's University



Dr Lesley Seymour is internationally recognized for her significant contributions in anticancer drug development and clinical trials methodology. As the IND Program Director and Deputy Director of the Canadian Cancer Trials Group, Professor and Medical Oncologist in the Department of Oncology at Queen's University, Dr Seymour has spent 30 years overseeing rigorous academic led clinical trials that have led to new treatments, especially for thoracic malignancies, focusing on aspects that are most important to patients and ensure inclusivity and accessibility.

Prakeshkumar S. Shah, Pediatrician-in-Chief, Mount Sinai Hospital; Professor, Department of Pediatrics, University of Toronto



Dr Prakesh Shah is Pediatrician-in-Chief at Mount Sinai Hospital, Toronto and Professor in the Department of Pediatrics at University of Toronto, Canada. He is the Director of the Canadian Preterm Birth Network (CPTBN) and an International Network for Evaluation of Outcomes of Neonates (iNeo) whereby he oversees a project of benchmarking outcomes of very preterm neonates in 13 countries including 300 NICUs. His areas of interest include Patient and Disease oriented research in Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine, Health Services and Epidemiological Research in Maternal-Newborn care and Quality improvement. He is engaged in policy and advocacy work with provincial, national, and international organizations.

Valerie Taylor, Department Chair, Psychiatry, University of Calgary; Departmental Science Advisor, Health Canada



Dr. Valerie Taylor, Professor and Department Chair of Psychiatry at the University of Calgary, is an internationally recognized clinician-scientist. She has a focus on innovation, collaboration and the creation and dissemination of evidence informed best practice. She has an interdisciplinary focus that bridges physical and mental illness and has helped created organizations that have international impact. She has been involved with guidelines recognized as the gold standard for patient care world-wide, and through her clinical research has developed novel new treatments. Her highly cited impactful research has impacted health outcomes and been recognized with significant awards and prestigious appointments.

NEW FELLOWS 2025

Marc Therrien, Chief Executive Officer and Principal Investigator, Institute for Research in Immunology and Cancer, Université de Montréal; Professor, Department of Pathology and Cell Biology, Faculty of Medicine, Université de Montréal



Dr. Therrien is a renowned scientist whose pioneering research on the RAS-MAPK pathway has transformed cancer biology. His discoveries led to novel inhibitors, multi-million-dollar industry partnerships, and propelled therapeutic breakthroughs. An internationally recognized leader, he has published in top-tier scientific journals and delivered lectures across Canada and abroad. As Scientific Director (2013– 2023) and now CEO of IRIC at Université de Montréal, he has driven excellence in research, training, and IDEA (inclusion, diversity, equity, and accessibility) initiatives. His leadership and scientific vision continue to shape the global impact of cancer research.

Duminda N. Wijeyesundera, Anesthesiologist and Clinician-Scientist, St. Michael's Hospital, Unity Health Toronto; Professor of Anesthesiology and Pain Medicine, University of Toronto



Dr. Duminda Wijeyesundera is an internationally recognized leader in anesthesiology and perioperative medicine. His pioneering research on surgical risk assessment, postoperative disability, and functional recovery after surgery has shaped international clinical practice guidelines and improved patient care. A Professor at the University of Toronto and practicing anesthesiologist, he has authored over 380 peer-reviewed publications, earning widespread recognition for research excellence. A dedicated mentor and advocate for diversity in health sciences, he actively supports early-career researchers and interdisciplinary collaboration. His leadership in national and international organizations continues to advance perioperative medicine, research innovation, and robust multidisciplinary collaborations.

James Woodgett, President and Scientific Director, Terry Fox Research Institute; Senior Investigator at the Lunenfeld-Tanenbaum Research Institute (LTRI)



Jim Woodgett is President and Scientific Director of the Terry Fox Research Institute and Senior Investigator at the Lunenfeld-Tanenbaum Research Institute (LTRI). After a PhD in Scotland with Philip Cohen and postdoctoral studies at the Salk Institute under Tony Hunter he established a lab at the Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research, UK where he cloned and characterized genes for regulators of signaling pathways including the stress-activated protein kinases, PKB/Akt and GSK3. He joined the Ontario Cancer Institute in 1992 studying signalling mechanisms underscoring cancer and other diseases, moving to the LTRI in 2005 as Director of Research for 15 years.