



A Newsletter from the CIHR Institute of Nutrition, Metabolism and Diabetes

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INMD *Connections*

Message from Philip Sherman, INMD Scientific Director

Farewell to departing INMD Institute Advisory Board (IAB) members



From left: Drs. Stephanie Atkinson, Amit Garg, Loren Grossman, Marie-France Langlois, Guang Sun, and Phil Sherman

Membership on a CIHR Institute Advisory Board (IAB) offers an opportunity for individuals to learn more about CIHR, serve as ambassadors for the organization, and provide input on Institute strategic planning and priority setting. Renewal of membership on IABs occurs annually and is important, because it allows for a diverse array of researchers and stakeholders from a variety of backgrounds and locations across the country to participate in Institute activities. Renewal of the IAB composition also means that after years of dedicated

voluntary service we lose great members. This year, we are feeling a particular loss, because four IAB members will complete their terms in office on August 31, including: Drs. Amit Garg (Western Univ.), Loren Grossman (Univ. Toronto), Marie-France Langlois (Univ. Sherbrooke), and Guang Sun (Memorial Univ.) It has been a great privilege to work with these dedicated, creative, passionate, and engaging individuals. Their contributions to INMD, in particular, and to CIHR, in general, have been extremely valuable and very much appreciated. We thank each of the four departing members for their service to the health research community in Canada, and wish them all the best in their future endeavours!

I also wish to encourage each of you to take time to respond to a [web-based survey](#) INMD has launched to obtain feedback on a "refresh" of the *INMD Strategic Plan 2010-2014* and read the *Diabetes and Related Complications National Research Network Strengthening Workshop - Meeting Report*, which is now available on the [INMD website](#).

Enjoy the summer season!

Philip M. Sherman, MD, FRCPC
Scientific Director, INMD

COCHRANE OPEN ACCESS



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Cochrane is a global independent network of health practitioners, researchers, patient advocates and others, responding to the challenge of making the vast amounts of evidence generated through research useful for informing decisions about health. The mission of the Cochrane Collaboration is to promote evidence-informed health decision-making by producing high-quality, relevant, accessible systematic reviews and other synthesised research evidence. All Cochrane Reviews and Protocols published since February 1, 2013 have green open access rights, i.e., the reviews and protocols become free to view for all readers globally 12 months after publication. CIHR is a funder of the Canadian Cochrane Network and Centre (CCNC). For more information about Cochrane open access, please visit the [Cochrane website](#).

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RESEARCHER PROFILE

Jennifer Estall, PhD, University of Montreal



Jennifer Estall is an Assistant Research Professor at the Institut de recherches cliniques de Montréal (IRCM). She is affiliated with the University of Montreal Faculty of Medicine and holds an adjunct position at McGill University. Jennifer's research interests lie in unraveling how metabolic disease in liver affects

the health of other organ systems, including the pancreas, adipose, heart, and immune cells. Her CIHR funded grant "Transcriptional Regulation of Fatty Liver Disease" has two main goals: the first is to identify a molecular signature of secreted liver factors that mark early stages of fatty liver disease, a condition linked to obesity that currently impacts 6-10% of Canadians, and the second is to understand how fatty liver disease alters communication between liver cells and the immune system to affect hepatocyte function and survival in response to metabolic inflammation. Her research should identify novel biomarkers useful for earlier diagnosis of this prevalent, chronic disease.

INMD FUNDED BRIDGE GRANTS IN THE MARCH 2014 COMPETITION

INMD wishes to congratulate the following successful applicants who received funding in the March 2014 bridge grant competition:

Principal Investigator	Institution	Project Title
Jennifer Estall	Institut de recherches cliniques de Montréal	Transcriptional Regulation of Fatty Liver Disease
David Mutch	University of Guelph	FADS2 modulates n-3 fatty acid regulation of adipose tissue inflammation
Michael Walsh	McMaster University	Protection of the heart with aldosterone antagonism in end-stage renal disease (PHASE 2) Trial
Eric Benchimol	Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario (Ottawa)	Burden and variation of care in children with inflammatory bowel disease in Canada: a population-based study

CIHR FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Planning and Dissemination Grants – Institute Community Support (Summer 2014 Competition)

Planning and Dissemination Grants are intended to provide support for planning and/or dissemination activities. INMD will provide \$80,000 to fund applications relevant to the [mandate](#). The maximum awarded for a single grant is \$20,000 per annum for up to one (1) year. For more information, visit the [ResearchNet website](#). **Application Deadline: August 18, 2014**

Partnerships for Health System Improvement (PHSI)

PHSI is Canada's premier health services and policy research competition — and with its strong emphasis on partnerships and knowledge translation, it is also a major resource for managers and policy makers who want relevant research to inform their decision-making. The intent of the PHSI program is to strengthen Canada's healthcare system through collaborative, applied, and policy-relevant research. For more information, visit the [ResearchNet website](#). **Application Deadline: October 15, 2014**

INMD New Investigator Partnership Prizes

The INMD New Investigator Partnership Prize will support New Investigator Prizes awarded by voluntary health organizations (such as non-profit organizations, professional organizations and registered charities) that recognize outstanding research related to the Institute's mandate. Applicants (partner organizations) may apply directly to INMD for these awards worth up to \$2500. For more information, visit the [INMD New Investigator Partnership Prize page](#). **Application Deadline: November 30, 2014**

Travel Awards - Institute Community Support (Summer 2014 Competition)

Through the Institute Community Support (ICS) Program, the CIHR Institutes are launching the ICS Travel Awards competition for students, postdoctoral fellows, new investigators and knowledge users to present their own research at national and international meetings and/or conferences. \$14,285 is available to fund applications relevant to INMD. For more information, visit the [ResearchNet website](#). **Application Deadline: September 22, 2014**

1ST BBDC/ JOSLIN DIABETES CONFERENCE

The Banting & Best Diabetes Centre together with the Joslin Diabetes Center will be co-hosting the first *BBDC-Joslin Diabetes Center Conference* on **October 17-18, 2014 in Toronto**. This event will focus on nutrients, the digestive tract and diabetes and will include speakers from the Joslin Diabetes Center, the University of Toronto and other institutions. The conference will bring together two of the leading diabetes research centres in Canada and the United States, and will promote the exchange of innovative research ideas and collaboration. For more information visit the [event website](#).



Banting & Best Diabetes Centre
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO



Joslin Diabetes Center

The Institute of Nutrition, Metabolism and Diabetes (INMD) supports research to enhance health in relation to diet, digestion, excretion, and metabolism; and to address causes, prevention, screening, diagnosis, treatment, support systems, and palliation for a wide range of conditions and problems associated with hormone, digestive system, kidney, and liver function.

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