

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

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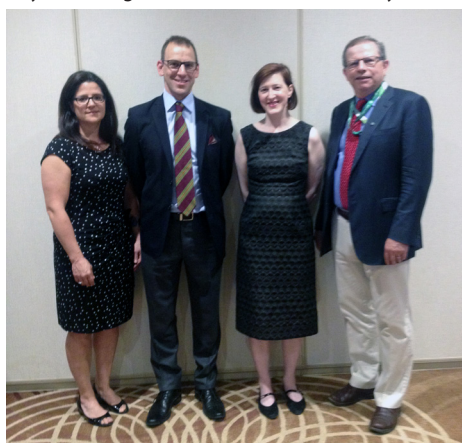
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# INMD *Connections*

## Message from Philip Sherman, INMD Scientific Director

The INMD Institute Advisory Board (IAB) met in Toronto at the end of May to consider a refresh of the **INMD Strategic Plan, 2010-2014**. Board members considered what has been accomplished to date with respect to the INMD strategic priorities on (1) Food and Health; (2) Environments, Genes and Chronic Disease; (3) Obesity and Healthy Body Weight: Seeking Solutions; and, (4) Continuum of Care. These priorities, which are used to guide INMD investments and activities, were chosen by the IAB after an extensive consultation with the research communities and stakeholders in the INMD mandate.

As part of the refresh of the INMD Strategic Plan, we will launch a web-based survey to seek your input. I encourage you to respond to the survey when you receive the request to participate. Surveys will be sent to you through INMD Communications by the end of June.



From left: Natalie Alm  ras, Doug Manuel, Gillian Booth, and Phil Sherman

With the arrival of Spring comes a variety of annual conferences and scientific meetings. INMD was pleased to partner with CIHR Institutes of Population and Public Health and Circulatory and Respiratory Health to host a symposium at Public Health 2014 entitled, *Population Health Approaches to Diabetes Prevention*. This session was moderated by Dr. Doug Manuel, an INMD IAB member and Senior Scientist at the Ottawa Hospital Research Institute. Doug presented startling figures indicating that if current obesity trends continue, the burden of diabetes in Canada will double by 2031. Speakers at the session were Drs. Natalie Alm  ras (Quebec Heart and Lung Institute, Universit   Laval), David Hammond (Univ. Waterloo) and Gillian Booth (St. Michael's Hospital, Univ. Toronto). Each speaker provided a compelling case for diabetes prevention by addressing societal factors through policy interventions that impact on

individuals and populations. Specific examples highlighted the role of the food industry and the built environment. Thanks to all of the speakers and our moderator!



IAB members: Rickey Yada, Wim Wolfs, Bruce Verchere, Catherine Field, Stephanie Atkinson, Doug Manuel, Amit Garg, Loren Grossman, Steve James, Marie-France Langlois, and Guang Sun; CIHR staff: David Peckham and Th  r  se Roy; INMD staff: Phil Sherman, Allison Forsythe, and Keeley Rose

Best wishes for the summer,

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

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# RESEARCHER PROFILE

## Laura Rosella, PhD, MHSc University of Toronto



Laura Rosella was appointed as a Scientist at Public Health Ontario and the Univ. of Toronto Dalla Lana School of Public Health in 2011, and is an Adjunct Scientist at the Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences (ICES). As a population health researcher, Laura focuses on development, validation, and application of novel epidemiologic methods to inform the prevention of obesity and type 2 diabetes. Her CIHR funded research program is directed

at developing population risk tools, building on the Diabetes Population Risk Tool (DPoRT). Recent innovations have focused on ethnicity, built environment/walkability, and new methods to calculate attributable impact and costs of various prevention strategies. Recently, Laura created a unique knowledge-to-action process designed to use population risk tools to improve diabetes prevention policy among health decision-makers across Canada. The goal of this work is to ensure prevention strategies result in the greatest population benefit in terms of reductions in diabetes incidence, prevalence, and costs as well as minimizing inequalities in diabetes risk.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO CIHR / CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF GASTROENTEROLOGY (CAG) / INDUSTRY FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENTS!

In partnership with CAG, AbbVie, Aptalis, Crohn's and Colitis Canada, Ferring, PENTAX Medical, and Takeda, INMD is pleased to announce the following fellowship recipients:

Principal Investigator	Institution	Project Title
James Butcher	Univ. Ottawa	Microbiota composition in pediatric IBD
Alberto Caminero Fernández	McMaster Univ.	Role of intestinal microbiota in the metabolism of gluten proteins
Giada De Palma	McMaster Univ.	Interplay of diet and gut microbiota in Irritable Bowel Syndrome
Orlaith Kelly	Mount Sinai Hospital	MicroRNAs and their impact in IBD etiology
Paul Krzyzanowski	OICR	Genomic signature to identify progression of Barrett's Esophagus to adenocarcinoma
Qi Li	Hosp. for Sick Children	Functional analysis of novel candidates for early onset IBD
Cathy Lu	Univ. Alberta	Point-of-care abdominal ultrasound to improve outcomes in IBD patients
Karen-Anne McVey Neufeld	McMaster Univ.	Stress effects on gut neurophysiology and the immune system
Maria Pinto-Sanchez	McMaster Univ.	Effect of gluten-free diet on gastrointestinal motility in patients with gluten sensitivity
Williams Turpin	Univ. Toronto	How host genes influence intestinal microbial composition and function in first-degree relatives of Crohn disease
Angel Chia-yu Yu	Univ. British Columbia	Role of NPM1 in apoptosis resistance in colorectal cancer
Louis-Bastien Weiswald	Univ. British Columbia	Role of CDK10 in colorectal cancer

## BARIATRIC CARE TEAM GRANT

The CIHR Institute of Nutrition, Metabolism and Diabetes (INMD), in partnership with Alberta Innovates – Health Solutions (AIHS), the Obesity, Diabetes and Nutrition Strategic Clinical Network for Alberta Health Services, Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, Fonds de recherche du Québec – Santé (FRQS), and the Canadian Obesity Network, are pleased to announce a joint **funding opportunity** in support of the creation of innovative team grants addressing important research questions focused on Bariatric Care. The research funded will investigate impacts of bariatric surgery as well as medical management of severe obesity in adults (defined as BMI > 35) as well as children and youth. The maximum amount of funding per grant is \$300K/year for up to 5 years; and up to \$4.75M is available for this funding opportunity. Applications will be accepted in two areas: comparative health services research and mechanisms underlying bariatric procedures. For more information about this funding opportunity, please contact [Mary-Jo Makarchuk](#) or visit the CIHR website.

## FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

### *Pathways to Health Equity for Aboriginal Peoples: Implementation Research Teams - Component 1*

This **funding opportunity** will support research teams in building relationships with First Nations, Inuit, and Métis communities and identify effective population health interventions that are based on indigenous practices in any of four exemplar areas: Diabetes/Obesity, Suicide Prevention, Tuberculosis, and Oral Health. Grants of up to \$100,000 will be given over 18 months. Letter of Intent deadline: **June 30, 2014**; Full Application due: **October 15, 2014**. For questions about this funding opportunity, please contact [Sarah Viehbeck](#).

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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