



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

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INMD *Connections*

Message from Philip Sherman, INMD Scientific Director



From left: Drs. André Marette, Russell De Souza, Valerie Tarasuk, Sharon Unger, Simone Lemieux, Phil Sherman, Deborah O'Connor, and Martijntje Bakker

Last month I had the privilege of participating in the annual meeting of the Canadian Nutrition Society (CNS) held in St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador. The meeting began with a *Food for Health* workshop organized by CNS, in partnership with the International Life Sciences Institute (ILSI) North America. This workshop focused on the development of ongoing partnerships to support food and health-related research. Following the workshop, INMD hosted a Café Scientifique entitled,



From left: Phil Sherman, Barbara Roebathan, Todd Perrin, Catherine Field and André Marette

Beyond Cod: Is the Local Newfoundland Diet Healthy? at the YellowBelly Brewery & Public House. Dr. Catherine Field (Univ. Alberta), an INMD Institute Advisory Board member, moderated the café, and speakers included Barbara

Roebathan (Memorial Univ.), André Marette (Laval Univ.) and local celebrity chef Todd Perrin, owner of the Mallard Cottage. The café was well attended with a lively and interesting discussion, and was featured prominently in local lay media sources, including the daily newspaper, *The Telegram*. INMD also hosted a workshop for conference delegates to profile recipients of **Programmatic Grants in Food and Health**, and a related programmatic grant on *Food Insecurity*. The purpose of this workshop was to provide conference delegates with an overview of grants funded through the INMD *Food and Health Initiative*, indicate the scope of a programmatic grant, and identify how the research will go beyond what a regular operating grant can accomplish. Sincere

thanks to each of the investigators who participated in this workshop pictured in the above photo, as well as Martijntje Bakker from the Netherlands Organization for Health Research, who spoke about the **Joint Programming Initiative - A Healthy Diet for a Healthy Life (JPI HDHL)**. Another highlight of the meeting was the presentation of the *Dr. Khurshed N. Jeejeebhoy Career Excellence Award* to Professor Angelo Tremblay (Univ. Laval) for his career focus on research related to options for medical management of obesity, and his keynote lecture, *Obesity Management: Dreams, Barriers and Challenges*. It was a pleasure to visit such a unique and beautiful part of Canada, which featured icebergs just offshore to dazzle conference delegates. Congratulations to local Memorial Univ. organizers, Drs. Sukhinder Cheema, Janet Brunton, and Robert Bertolo.

The INMD strategic plan refresh survey is now available. Please share your views and help us determine INMD strategic research priorities for the period of 2015-2017 by completing this **brief survey**.

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



CNS Organizers (from left): Drs. Sukhinder Cheema, Janet Brunton and Robert Bertolo

RESEARCHER PROFILE

Navdeep Tangri, MD, PhD, FRCPC *University of Manitoba*



Navdeep Tangri is an Assistant Professor in the Division of Nephrology, Departments of Medicine and Community Health Sciences at Univ. Manitoba where he has been on faculty since 2011. Dr. Tangri received his medical degree from Univ. Manitoba, completed residency in internal medicine at McGill Univ., and nephrology training and graduate studies at Tufts Univ. in Boston. Dr. Tangri's research program focuses on

improving clinical decision-making for patients with advanced chronic kidney disease. Navdeep developed and validated the Kidney Failure Risk Equation (KFRE) to predict the need for dialysis and is presently engaged in validation and implementation exercises to increase uptake of the KFRE. In addition, Dr. Tangri is conducting a large prospective study on frailty, physical and cognitive function in advanced kidney disease, and comparative effectiveness studies on various medical therapies employed in this patient population. His research program is funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, the Kidney Foundation of Canada, and the Manitoba Health Research Council.

CIHR FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Catalyst Grant- Ethics (2014-2015)

The purpose of this funding opportunity is to build capacity in ethics as it applies to health (including health research, health promotion and maintenance, clinical care, population and public health, health systems and services, policy and governance) by encouraging applications from nominated principal applicants who are new investigators in the field of health ethics, or investigators new to the field of health ethics, by offering one or two-year pilot project grants. Relevant to INMD's mandate, eligible research topics could include ethical perspectives on public health policies to promote healthy eating and prevent overweight/obesity; ethics-based evaluations of community-based interventions to address such issues as food insecurity; examination of public attitudes and beliefs about the benefits and risks of novel therapeutic foods and implications for policy, etc. **Registration Deadline: August 15, 2014.** For more information, visit the [CIHR website](#).

Population Health Intervention Research

The *Institute of Population and Public Health*, in partnership with the CIHR *Pathways to Health Equity for Aboriginal Peoples Signature Initiative*, the *Max Bell Foundation*, and the *Canadian Foundation for Dental Hygiene Research and Education* is pleased to launch the Fall **2014 Population Health Intervention Research funding opportunity**. The purpose of this funding opportunity is to support population health intervention research that has the potential to impact health and health equity at the population level and could benefit from researcher expertise and study. The application deadline is **September 15, 2014**. Visit the CIHR website for details or contact [Katherine Cole](#).

Knowledge Translation and Commercialization

The CIHR *Knowledge Translation (KT) Strategy Unit* is launching the following funding opportunities for both KT and Commercialization programs: **Knowledge Synthesis; Knowledge to Action; Partnerships for Health System Improvement (PHSI); Industry Partnered Collaborative Research; Proof of Principle - Phase I; Proof of Principle - Phase II.** Closing dates are **Fall 2014**. For additional information regarding these programs, please visit the [KT funding opportunities](#) page.

AMERICAN DIABETES ASSOCIATION BANTING MEDAL FOR SCIENTIFIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARDED TO DANIEL J. DRUCKER, MD, FRCPC



From left: Drs. Gary Lewis, Director Banting & Best Diabetes Centre, Univ. Toronto and Daniel Drucker, recipient of the ADA 2014 Banting Medal for Scientific Achievement.

INMD congratulates Dr. Daniel Drucker, Professor in the Faculty of Medicine at Univ. Toronto and Senior Scientist in the Lunenfeld-Tanenbaum Research Institute at Mount Sinai Hospital in Toronto, for his receipt of the American Diabetes Association Banting Medal for Scientific Achievement. This award recognizes significant, long-term contributions to the understanding, treatment, or prevention of diabetes. Dan exemplifies the best attributes of a clinician-scientist, having translated

discoveries in incretin biology to the development of new classes of therapies that are now used to treat diabetes and short-bowel syndrome. Well done, Dan!

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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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