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Institute of Nutrition,
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Institut de la nutrition,
du métabolisme et du diabète

Connections

Reflections from Philip Sherman, INMD Scientific Director



INMD Team, Toronto (from left): Vera Ndaba, Philip Sherman, Denise Haggerty, Mary-Jo Makarchuk and Keeley Rose. Absent from photo: Julia Levin.



INMD Integrated Team, Ottawa (from left, top row): Linda McKenzie, Erin Dunn, David Coulombe, Jessica Hum, Sheila Chapman. From left, bottom row: Abby Forson, Philip Sherman and Krissy Davidge. Absent from photo: Suzete Dos Santos and Emily Verreault.

At the end of 2017, my term as Scientific Director of INMD comes to an end, and so it is with mixed feelings that I write my final message to you after 108 issues of this newsletter. It has been a great honour and privilege to be involved in public service through CIHR for the last nine

years. The time spent working to promote health research priorities and activities together with partners in government, health charities, medical professional societies, researchers and communities across this great country has been interesting, productive and rewarding.

Many thanks to all of you who invited me to scientific meetings and events and shared your research community's aspirations and

challenges. I also wish to thank past and present Institute Advisory Board members for their dedication and volunteer service, my Scientific Director colleagues and the INMD staff who made my time as Scientific Director of INMD so interesting and fulfilling. Looking back, it has been a wonderful period in my life where I have had the opportunity to learn a great deal about the excellent research that is being done across Canada and forged relationships with colleagues across the spectrum of health research. While moving on to the next chapter of my life, I am confident that I am leaving INMD in superb hands with **Norm Rosenblum** as incoming Scientific Director of INMD beginning on January 1, 2018.

I wish each one of you good health, much happiness and continued research productivity in 2018 and beyond!

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

New Investigator Mentorship Meeting



From left: Michael Charette (Brandon Univ.), Robert Laprairie (Univ. Saskatchewan), Philip Sherman, Olivier Julien (Univ. Alberta) and Marie-Ève Labonté (Univ. Laval)

INMD was pleased to co-host a New Investigator (first five years on faculty) meeting together with the Institute of Genetics at Mont Gabriel Quebec, November 10-12, 2017. Outstanding mentors included: Laura Arbour (Univ. British Columbia), Stephanie Atkinson (McMaster Univ.), Eric Benchimol (Univ. Ottawa), Lise Gauvin (Univ. Montreal), Geoff Hicks (Univ. Manitoba), Nina Jones (Univ. Guelph) and Vardit Ravitsky (Univ. Montreal). Greg Steinberg (McMaster Univ.) provided an exciting keynote address to kick off the meeting, in which he highlighted the journey that led to his investigative career in health research.

Many thanks also to representatives from partners in the health charities, including: Lis Fowler (Kidney Foundation of Canada), Morgan Fullerton (Canadian Lipoprotein Conference), Chris Rose (Canadian Liver Foundation & Canadian Association for the Study of Liver) and John Adams (CanPKU). New Investigators provided three minute oral presentations and posters to highlight each of their research programs. The future is bright!

What people were tweeting about at this New Investigator meeting

I'm proud to say that the #newpi16 meeting this weekend was predominantly female - more female than male attendees, and pretty evenly split mentors (with all panels having at one or more female panelists). Good job @CIHR_INMD and Institute of Genetics!

Bowling=striking opportunity for networking!

New word of the day: "collaboratory" from Dr. Gauvin.

Dr. Ravitsky presents on scientific integrity. All new scientists should read @RetractionWatch to teach them what NOT to do.

Some great tips on managing your lab personnel as a new PI from Prof Nina Jones.

Thanks for all of the great tips on managing administrative duties as a new PI.

Canadian Microbiome Initiative 2: National Research Core

CIHR, under the scientific leadership of the Institute of Genetics, Institute of Infection and Immunity, Institute of Nutrition, Metabolism and Diabetes and Institute of Gender and Health, in collaboration with the Institutes of Aging, Cancer Research, and Human Development, Child and Youth Health, is pleased to announce the launch of a Request for Applications for a National Research Core as part of the Canadian Microbiome Initiative 2 (CMI2): A Focus on Function and Translation.

The overall goal of the CMI2 is to enable the development of effective preventative and therapeutic interventions through a deeper understanding of the role of microbiome in human health. This funding opportunity will focus on the development of a sustainable pan-Canadian Research Core to coordinate research activities, facilitate sharing of expertise, knowledge and resources, and to promote the translation of research outcomes into both preventative and therapeutic interventions. The deadline for Letters of Intent is **February 13, 2018**. An applicant webinar will be held January 16, 2018 from 3-4pm EST. For complete information on this request for applications, please visit [ResearchNet](#).

Revised Institute Advisory Board (IAB) Model

CIHR is pleased to announce the launch of a revised Institute Advisory Board (IAB) model. The new model consists of one IAB per Institute and will call on members of the entire slate of 13 IABs to form *ad hoc* advisory groups to provide advice on multiple Institute initiatives. For more information about the new model, and a list of IAB members, please visit the CIHR [website](#).

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The CIHR Institute of Nutrition, Metabolism and Diabetes (INMD) invests in research on diet, digestion, and metabolism. By addressing the causes, diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of a wide range of conditions and problems associated with hormones, the digestive system, kidneys, and liver function, INMD seeks to improve health for all Canadians.

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