Together in Celebration
2019
Canadian Cardiovascular Society Awards

Friday, October 25, 2019
6:15 p.m. to 8:00 pm
Fortification Room, Westin Hotel
Table of contents
Message from the Governor General
Message from the Canadian Cardiovascular Society President ................................................................. 1
(listed in order of presentation)
Canadian Cardiovascular Society Affiliate Awards
Canadian Society of Echocardiography Annual Achievement Award: Dr. Arsène Basmadjian ............................... 2
Canadian Heart Rhythm Society Annual Achievement Award: Dr. Paul Dorian .......................................................... 3
Dr. Michael Freeman Canadian Society of Cardiovascular Nuclear & CT Imaging Annual Achievement Award: Dr. Ross Davies ................................. 4
Canadian Association of Interventional Cardiology Outstanding Achievement Award: Dr. Blair O’Neill ............................ 5
Canadian Cardiovascular Critical Care Society Excellence in Cardiac Critical Care Research Award: Mr. Jeffrey B. MacLeod ..................................................... 6
Canadian Pediatric Cardiology Association Dr. Alain Cloutier Annual Achievement Award: Dr. Ashok Kakadekar .......... 7
Canadian Heart Failure Society Annual Achievement Award: Dr. Heather Ross .......................................................... 8
Canadian Cardiovascular Society Academy
CCSA Visionary Donors .............................................................................................................................................. 9
CCSA Have a Heart Bursary Program Recipients ........................................................................................................ 10
CCSA Dr. Charles Kerr Award ..................................................................................................................................... 11
Canadian Cardiovascular Society
CAN-Fuel Program (CANadian Cardiovascular Future Leaders) .................................................................................. 12
Fellows of the Canadian Cardiovascular Society ........................................................................................................ 13
Canadian Cardiovascular Society Research Awards
Early Career Atrial Fibrillation & Arrhythmia Award (ECA3) .............................................................................................. 14
CCS-Bayer Resident Vascular Award .......................................................................................................................... 15
Canadian Cardiovascular Society Recognition Awards
Young Investigator Award – Clinical Science: Dr. Marie-Annick Clavel ................................................................. 16
Young Investigator Award Runner-Up – Basic Science: Dr. Wenbin Liang ............................................................................ 17
Trainee Excellence in Education Award: Dr. Guillaume Marquis-Gravel .............................................................. 18
Dr. Harold N. Segal Award of Merit: HeartLife Foundation ........................................................................................ 19
Distinguished Teacher Award: Dr. Graham Wong ......................................................................................................... 20
Dr. Robert E. Beamish Award: Dr. Sumeet Gandhi ..................................................................................................... 21
Research Achievement Award: Dr. Ruth McPherson .................................................................................................. 22
CCS Achievement Award: Dr. Jacques Genest ........................................................................................................... 23
Past Award Recipients .................................................................................................................................................. 24
I would like to personally congratulate all of the 2019 award recipients. You are some of Canada’s brightest stars in cardiovascular health and care. Whether your achievements are in research, clinical care, prevention, education or health advocacy, you share the same passion, hard work and dedication that makes such a difference in the lives of Canadians.

You represent our legacy and also our future as leaders and mentors, and it is with great honour that I call you my peers, my colleagues and my friends.

Thank you and congratulations on your much-deserved recognition.

Andrew Krahn, MD, FRCPC, F-HRS, FCCS
CCS President
Get to know Dr. Arsène Basmadjian

What are three words that best describe you?
Empathetic, conciliatory and a leader (and, if I get a fourth one, humorous).

What one event in your childhood had the greatest effect on your life?
At twelve years old, getting thrown out of class in Armenian Saturday school when it wasn’t even me making the animal sounds.

Who is someone you admire and why?
My father, because he was a true gentleman.

What was the best piece of advice you’ve ever received?
Make your point not to convince your opponent, but to convince everyone else who is listening.

If you could be anywhere in the world other than where you are right this minute, where would you want to be?
With my family and friends (many of whom I consider one and the same).

If you had a personal motto, what would it be?
Be a team player—work hard, play fair and always make time for your loved ones.

What’s one goal that you want to accomplish in the next year?
To maintain some form of sanity and learn to say “No” more often (as my wife repeatedly reminds me).

If you were an animal/pasta shape/vegetable, what would you be and why?
A dog, because he is higher on the food chain than I am at home.
Bowtie pasta, because I like to dress up for occasions… but my wife prefers me in a necktie so maybe I should pick lasagna?

My dog, because he is higher on the food chain than I am at the moment.

If you were an animal/pasta shape/vegetable, what would you be and why?
A dog: friendly and eager to please.

If you were a vegetable, what would you be and why?
I would rather not be a vegetable… for obvious reasons.

What’s one goal that you want to accomplish in the next year?
Help increase the use of AEDs in out-of-hospital cardiac arrest in public spaces.

If you were an animal, what would you be and why?
A tennis court at Wimbledon.

If you had a personal motto, what would it be?
Be kind, be kind, be kind (after Henry James).

What was the best piece of advice you’ve ever received?
From my father: “Listen carefully and be wary of dogma”.

Who is someone you admire and why?
Abraham Verghese, who combines a deep humanity with a great deal of clinical acumen.

What was the best piece of advice you’ve ever received?
From my father: “Listen carefully and be wary of dogma”.

If you could be anywhere in the world other than where you are right this minute, where would you want to be?
Hiking above Whistler mountain… or less realistically, on a tennis court at Wimbledon.

If you had a personal motto, what would it be?
Life is kind, be kind, be kind (after Henry James).

What’s one goal that you want to accomplish in the next year?
Help increase the use of AEDs in out-of-hospital cardiac arrest in public spaces.

If you were an animal, what would you be and why?
A dog: friendly and eager to please.

How do you want people to remember you?
As a person who was most invested in helping others and mentoring young physicians.
Dr. Ross Davies

Dr. Ross Davies is a leader and pioneer in the field of cardiovascular imaging in Canada. Immediately after joining the University of Ottawa’s Heart Institute (UOHI) post-fellowship in 1980, he started the nuclear cardiology program, which he led for nearly two decades. The program has evolved into the Department of Cardiac Imaging and is now recognized as one of the foremost cardiac imaging programs in North America. Dr. Davies was also instrumental in the development of a collaborative program with Nuclear Medicine.

Further demonstrating his outstanding commitment to education, Dr. Davies has trained over 100 residents and fellows in nuclear cardiology and cardiac PET as well as heart transplantation and heart failure. Dr. Davies was an inaugural member of UOHI’s Pulmonary Hypertension Clinic Transplant Team in 1984 and served as its Medical Director until 2003. One of Dr. Davies’ most notable achievements was establishing the discipline of interventional cardiology in Canada. He is now recognized as one of the foremost cardiac imaging programs in North America. Dr. Davies was also instrumental in the development of a collaborative program with Nuclear Medicine.

Who is someone you admire and why? Barack Obama for his diversity and leadership.

What was the best piece of advice you’ve ever received? Don’t sweat the small stuff. It’s all small stuff.

If you could be anywhere in the world other than where you are right this minute, where would you want to be? Sarasota, Florida.

If you had a personal motto, what would it be? Just do it.

What’s one goal that you want to accomplish in the next year? Spend more time with friends and family.

If you were an animal, what would you be and why? A bulldog, for getting things done.

What are three words that best describe you? Team player, consensus builder, respectful.

Family holidays.

Canadian Association of Interventional Cardiology Outstanding Achievement Award

Recognizes a CAIC member who has demonstrated excellence in clinical practice, education research and/or leadership within the discipline of interventional cardiology.

Dr. Blair O’Neill

Dr. Blair O’Neill is a leader and pioneer in the field of cardiovascular imaging in Canada. Immediately after joining the University of Ottawa’s Heart Institute (UOHI) post-fellowship in 1980, he started the nuclear cardiology program, which he led for nearly two decades. The program has evolved into the Department of Cardiac Imaging and is now recognized as one of the foremost cardiac imaging programs in North America. Dr. Davies was also instrumental in the development of a collaborative program with Nuclear Medicine.

Further demonstrating his outstanding commitment to education, Dr. Davies has trained over 100 residents and fellows in nuclear cardiology and cardiac PET as well as heart transplantation and heart failure. Dr. Davies was an inaugural member of UOHI’s Pulmonary Hypertension Clinic Transplant Team in 1984 and served as its Medical Director until 2003. One of Dr. Davies’ most notable achievements was establishing the discipline of interventional cardiology in Canada. He is now recognized as one of the foremost cardiac imaging programs in North America. Dr. Davies was also instrumental in the development of a collaborative program with Nuclear Medicine.

Who is someone you admire and why? Barack Obama for his diversity and leadership.

What was the best piece of advice you’ve ever received? Don’t sweat the small stuff. It’s all small stuff.

If you could be anywhere in the world other than where you are right this minute, where would you want to be? Sarasota, Florida.

If you had a personal motto, what would it be? Just do it.

What’s one goal that you want to accomplish in the next year? Spend more time with friends and family.

If you were an animal, what would you be and why? A bulldog, for getting things done.

What are three words that best describe you? Team player, consensus builder, respectful.

Family holidays.
Dr. Ashok Kakadekar

After graduating from university in India, Dr. Ashok Kakadekar spent time training in pediatrics in various hospitals in England. He eventually immigrated to Canada where he worked as a pediatric cardiologist at the Royal University Hospital in Saskatoon for over 23 years, including serving as Division Head from 2003 to 2017.

Dr. Kakadekar was instrumental in establishing the pediatric echocardiography service at the Royal University Hospital and trained adult cardiac sonographers at the Regina General Hospital to provide similar services. He also helped establish fetal cardiology clinics and trained obstetric sonographers at both hospitals to perform fetal echocardiography.

Dr. Kakadekar helped increase the number of staff pediatric cardiologists and played a major role in establishing the Western Canadian Children’s Heart Network (WCCHN) with the goal of linking expertise and improving inter-provincial cooperation between the five pediatric cardiac centres in Western Canada.

With his experience in pediatrics and pediatric cardiology training spanning three continents, Dr. Kakadekar understands various methods of teaching and has been an excellent mentor and teacher to medical students, pediatric residents and colleagues alike throughout his career.

Mr. Jeffrey B. MacLeod

Jeffrey B. MacLeod is a Research Analyst at the New Brunswick Heart Centre. Since joining the Centre in 2012, he has been instrumental in the growth and success of the cardiovascular research team, addressing topics such as variations in blood transfusion practice patterns, barriers to access to cardiovascular care and obesity as a predictor of cardiovascular outcomes.

Jeffrey B. MacLeod is a Research Analyst at the New Brunswick Heart Centre. Since joining the Centre in 2012, he has been instrumental in the growth and success of the cardiovascular research team, addressing topics such as variations in blood transfusion practice patterns, barriers to access to cardiovascular care and obesity as a predictor of cardiovascular outcomes.

Mr. Jeffrey B. MacLeod

Jeffrey B. MacLeod is a Research Analyst at the New Brunswick Heart Centre. Since joining the Centre in 2012, he has been instrumental in the growth and success of the cardiovascular research team, addressing topics such as variations in blood transfusion practice patterns, barriers to access to cardiovascular care and obesity as a predictor of cardiovascular outcomes.

Jeffrey B. MacLeod is a Research Analyst at the New Brunswick Heart Centre. Since joining the Centre in 2012, he has been instrumental in the growth and success of the cardiovascular research team, addressing topics such as variations in blood transfusion practice patterns, barriers to access to cardiovascular care and obesity as a predictor of cardiovascular outcomes.

Mr. Jeffrey B. MacLeod

Jeffrey B. MacLeod is a Research Analyst at the New Brunswick Heart Centre. Since joining the Centre in 2012, he has been instrumental in the growth and success of the cardiovascular research team, addressing topics such as variations in blood transfusion practice patterns, barriers to access to cardiovascular care and obesity as a predictor of cardiovascular outcomes.

Jeffrey B. MacLeod is a Research Analyst at the New Brunswick Heart Centre. Since joining the Centre in 2012, he has been instrumental in the growth and success of the cardiovascular research team, addressing topics such as variations in blood transfusion practice patterns, barriers to access to cardiovascular care and obesity as a predictor of cardiovascular outcomes.

Mr. Jeffrey B. MacLeod

Jeffrey B. MacLeod is a Research Analyst at the New Brunswick Heart Centre. Since joining the Centre in 2012, he has been instrumental in the growth and success of the cardiovascular research team, addressing topics such as variations in blood transfusion practice patterns, barriers to access to cardiovascular care and obesity as a predictor of cardiovascular outcomes.

Jeffrey B. MacLeod is a Research Analyst at the New Brunswick Heart Centre. Since joining the Centre in 2012, he has been instrumental in the growth and success of the cardiovascular research team, addressing topics such as variations in blood transfusion practice patterns, barriers to access to cardiovascular care and obesity as a predictor of cardiovascular outcomes.

Mr. Jeffrey B. MacLeod

Jeffrey B. MacLeod is a Research Analyst at the New Brunswick Heart Centre. Since joining the Centre in 2012, he has been instrumental in the growth and success of the cardiovascular research team, addressing topics such as variations in blood transfusion practice patterns, barriers to access to cardiovascular care and obesity as a predictor of cardiovascular outcomes.

Jeffrey B. MacLeod is a Research Analyst at the New Brunswick Heart Centre. Since joining the Centre in 2012, he has been instrumental in the growth and success of the cardiovascular research team, addressing topics such as variations in blood transfusion practice patterns, barriers to access to cardiovascular care and obesity as a predictor of cardiovascular outcomes.

Mr. Jeffrey B. MacLeod

Jeffrey B. MacLeod is a Research Analyst at the New Brunswick Heart Centre. Since joining the Centre in 2012, he has been instrumental in the growth and success of the cardiovascular research team, addressing topics such as variations in blood transfusion practice patterns, barriers to access to cardiovascular care and obesity as a predictor of cardiovascular outcomes.

Jeffrey B. MacLeod is a Research Analyst at the New Brunswick Heart Centre. Since joining the Centre in 2012, he has been instrumental in the growth and success of the cardiovascular research team, addressing topics such as variations in blood transfusion practice patterns, barriers to access to cardiovascular care and obesity as a predictor of cardiovascular outcomes.
Canadian Heart Failure Society Annual Achievement Award

Recognizes a member of CHFS who has made significant contributions to the academic, research or clinical scopes of heart failure

Dr. Heather Ross

As a world-renowned cardiologist, Dr. Heather Ross has not only helped raise awareness but also millions of dollars for heart failure research, cardiac transplantation and heart health as a long-time champion of physical activity in support of better heart health. In 2006, Dr. Ross founded the Test Your Limits initiative through which a team of physicians and transplant patients have climbed, trekked and skied in some of the most difficult climates on Earth. In 2015, Canadian Geographic named Dr. Ross one of the nation’s top 100 modern-day explorers. She is also a member of the Canadian Medical Hall of Fame.

When she’s not climbing mountains, Dr. Heather Ross is Head of the Division Cardiology at the Peter Munk Cardiac Centre, Professor of Medicine at the University of Toronto, Site Lead for the Ted Rogers Centre for Heart Research and holds the Loretta A. Rogers Chair in Heart Function and the Pfizer Chair in Cardiovascular Research. She has also held many national and international leadership roles, including president of the Canadian Society of Transplantation, the Heart Failure Society of America, the International Society for Heart and Lung Transplantation and CCS.

Get to know Dr. Ross

What are three words that best describe you?
Adrenaline junkie, committed, passionate.

What childhood event had the greatest effect on your life?
When I was eleven, my dad telling me that I could be anything I wanted to be.

Who is someone you admire and why?
George Mallory, for his perseverance (climbing Everest “because it is there”).

What’s the best piece of advice you’ve ever received?
Do what you love, love what you do.

If you could be anywhere in the world other than where you are right this minute, where would you want to be?
In Algonquin Park.

If you had a personal motto, what would it be?
Test your limits.

What’s one goal that you want to accomplish in the next year?
Do the swim from Alcatraz.

If you were an animal, what would you be and why?
Right now, I’m totally into the turtle animal spirit guide (which is counterintuitive to everything I’ve just said) but I do want to try to slow down!

How do you want people to remember you?
As someone who gets the job done.

CCSA Visionary Donors

The CCSA is a charitable organization that supports cardiovascular trainee education and provides bursaries to promising medical students to attend the Canadian Cardiovascular Congress.

Thank you to our 2019 Visionary Donors who have very generously contributed $5,000 or more within the past year.

Dr. Mangeet Chahal
Dr. Lyall Higginson
Dr. Victor Huckell
Dr. Nisar Huq
Dr. Catherine Kells
Dr. Heather Ross

Canadian Heart Failure Society
Société canadienne d’insuffisance cardiaque

Canadian Cardiovascular Society
Académie canadienne de cardiologie

Canadian Cardiovascular Society Awards 2019
CCSA Have A Heart Bursary Program Recipients

Each year, the CCSA funds promising Canadian medical students, graduates, post-graduate and basic scientists-in-training to attend the Canadian Cardiovascular Congress, introducing prospective cardiovascular specialists to the cardiovascular sciences and encouraging a strong Canadian cardiovascular community.

Congratulations to the 2019 recipients:

Nawal Amhis
(Sherbrooke, QC)

Peter Belesiotis
(Hamilton, ON)

Alvan Buckley
(St. John’s, NL)

Maude Cameron-Gagné
(Québec, QC)

Christine Gonsalves
(Brampton, ON)

Nicholas Grubic
(Kingston, ON)

Tisiana Low
(Toronto, ON)

Matthew Martens
(Winnipeg, MB)

Quynh Nguyen
(Edmonton, AB)

Lebei Pi
(Richmond, ON)

Mohammed Rashid
(Hamilton, ON)

Chang (Nancy) Wang
(Kingston, ON)

CCSA Dr. Charles Kerr Award

Recognizes residents that epitomize Dr. Charles Kerr’s goals for the cardiovascular community and strive to embody his legacy through encouraging and advocating for those in need of assistance or support.

Congratulations to the 2019 recipients:

Dr. Amine Mazine
(Toronto, ON)

Dr. Kathleen Ann MacEachen
(Harrietsfield, NS)
Fellows of the Canadian Cardiovascular Society

This designation is bestowed upon CCS members who have a demonstrated record of service to the CCS and the community at large.

We’re very pleased to welcome this year’s newly elected fellows:

Dr. Warren Cantor
(Newmarket, ON)

Dr. Mangeet Chahal
(Mississauga, ON)

Dr. Nowell Fine
(Calgary, AB)

Dr. Frédéric Jacques
(Québec, QC)

Dr. Éric Larose
(Québec, QC)

Dr. Subodh Verma
(Toronto, ON)
Early Career Atrial Fibrillation & Arrhythmia Award (ECA3)

The Early Career Atrial and Arrythmia (ECA3) Research Award is a collaboration between the Canadian Cardiovascular Society, the Canadian Arrhythmia Network of Canada (CANet) and the Bristol-Myers Squibb/Pfizer Alliance. The peer-reviewed research awards support clinical, health services and population health research in the field of atrial fibrillation, syncope and prevention of sudden cardiac death. This year, the committee was pleased to recognize five outstanding early-career investigators.

Principal Investigators:
Dr. Jodi Edwards and Dr. Thais Coutinho

Proposed Title: Do hypertensive disorders of pregnancy increase the risk of incident atrial fibrillation?
Term: July 2019 – June 2022 (3 years)

Principal Investigators:
Dr. Nathaniel M. Hawkins and Dr. Christopher B. Fordyce

Proposed Title: Opportunities to prevent sudden cardiac death: The BC Cardiac Arrest registry
Term: July 2019 – June 2021 (2 years)

Principal Investigators:
Dr. Emilie Belley-Côté

Proposal Title: Direct Oral Anticoagulation versus Warfarin after Cardiac Surgery (DANCE) Pilot Trial
Term: July 2019 – June 21 (2 years)

Principal Investigators:
Dr. Mouhannad M. Sadek

Proposal Title: Non-invasive evaluation of pulmonary vein isolation
Term: July 2019 – June 2021 (2 years)

CCS-Bayer Resident Vascular Award

The Canadian Cardiovascular Society and Bayer Inc. have created this award for Canadian clinical trainees (PGY 4-6) for a research project on any topic related to thrombosis, anticoagulation, stroke or atrial fibrillation, particularly research that has the potential to advance knowledge about or improve the care of patients at risk for vascular, thrombotic or embolic events.

The competition for this award takes place at the Canadian Cardiovascular Congress.

Congratulations to the three finalists:

Pishoy Gouda (Calgary, AB)
Pietro Di Santo (Ottawa, ON)
Alice Chang (Vancouver, BC)

“The CCS-Bayer Resident Vascular Award was a phenomenal opportunity to pitch my research idea to colleagues and experts in the Canadian cardiovascular community. The award is a great funding opportunity and supports trainee-led research, an opportunity that is unprecedented and unique for cardiovascular trainees. I am truly thankful to have received the support from the CCS!”

– Dr. Christopher Cheung, previous recipient of the CCS-Bayer Vascular Award
Get to know Dr. Clavel

What are three words that best describe you?
Courageous, honest, committed (I actually asked my husband).

What childhood event had the greatest effect on your life?
There were many events in my childhood that had a great impact on me. I always prefer to remember the best ones, and one of them was when my German shepherd had puppies (9 of them). I was absolutely sure I wanted to be a vet.

Who is someone you admire and why?
Marie Curie: she was the first women to win a Nobel Prize and the first person who won it twice.

What’s the best piece of advice you’ve ever received?
The best professional piece of advice was given to me by my MSc and PhD mentor (Dr. Philippe Pibarot) when I started my Masters. He told me, “You have to be passionate about the subject of your research in order to ‘survive’ it.”

If you could be anywhere in the world other than where you are right this minute, where would you want to be?
On a boat on the Great Barrier Reef (Cairns, Australia) ready to dive or in New Zealand, crossing the country on horseback.

If you had a personal motto, what would it be?
“Never give up... Never let down... Never run around...”

If you were an animal/pasta shape/vegetable, what would you be and why?
A wolf because it’s my character and the BEST animal EVER. I’ll never be a pasta shape, I would be eaten by my son right away! An eggplant because of Moussaka!

How do you want people to remember you?
As someone who braved the difficulties, never admitted defeats, and always tries her best to succeed in whatever I try to do.

Young Investigator Award – Clinical Science

Recognizes a young investigator whose clinical science research activities are in the areas of cardiovascular disease

Dr. Marie-Annick Clavel

After graduating as a veterinarian in her native France, Dr. Marie-Annick Clavel moved to Canada where she changed course and obtained a PhD in experimental medicine from Université Laval in 2012.

Dr. Clavel is an Associate Professor in the Department of Medicine of Université Laval and a researcher at the Québec Heart and Lung Institute. Her research focuses on elucidating the sex differences in pathophysiology, clinical presentation, diagnosis and outcome in patients with valvular heart diseases and especially aortic stenosis. She has a strong interest in patients with heart failure, low flow and discordant severity markers of aortic stenosis.

Dr. Clavel has been widely recognized for research excellence by the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada, the Canadian Institute of Health Research and the Québec Heart and Lung Institute.

Young Investigator Award Runner-Up – Basic Science

Recognizes a young investigator, whose basic science research activities are in the areas of cardiovascular disease

Dr. Wenbin Liang

Dr. Wenbin Liang’s research focuses on understanding the mechanisms of cardiac arrhythmias using patient-induced pluripotent stem cells and transgenic mice. Dr. Liang is currently a scientist at the University of Ottawa Heart Institute and an Assistant Professor in the Department of Cellular and Molecular Medicine of the University of Ottawa. Dr. Liang completed medical training in the Fourth Military Medical University (Xi’an, China), received a PhD in Physiology from the University of Toronto and trained as a Postdoctoral Fellow at Cedars-Sinai Heart Institute in Los Angeles. Dr. Liang has received funding from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada and the Canada Foundation for Innovation. He has been awarded the HSFC McDonald Scholarship (2017) and CIHR Early Career Investigator Award (2019).
Get to know Dr. Marquis-Gravel

What’s the best piece of advice you’ve ever received?

Two mentors in the cath lab at the Montréal Heart Institute told me pieces of advice I still apply during every case I am involved in. They probably don’t know it, but these small pieces of advice can have a huge impact when you’re at your early stages of training: “If you don’t perform the procedure the best way you can possibly do it, then don’t do it.” It seems obvious, but the field is continuously changing and if we don’t make conscious efforts to stay updated with the literature, apply new techniques and use new devices backed with evidence, then we do not serve our patients well and should let others treat them.

“Set time aside for deliberate learning every single day.” There’s no point in doing cases if we don’t take time to reflect on what we did and how it could have been done better. Even a short 5-minute period of deliberate thinking after every case, complemented by focused reading if necessary, can have a huge impact helping you master the field one day.

Dr. Guillaume Marquis-Gravel

Dr. Guillaume Marquis-Gravel is dedicated to establishing initiatives to foster and help develop the talent and careers of his junior colleagues and trainees. One of his most notable contributions as an educator for trainees under the COFIR principles is the initiation and conduct of a multi-centre, trainee-led research project (the MAGIC study), across the four medical schools in Quebec (Université de Montréal, McGill, Laval, and Sherbrooke). Under his own initiative, he created and consolidated a team of medical students and residents to conduct this large observational study focusing on the antithrombotic management of patients with STEMI and new-onset antero-apical akinesia. Under his mentorship, more than fifteen trainees, many of whom have never been involved in research projects before, were introduced to everything from protocol writing to regulatory issues and data dissemination. Some of these trainees have since assumed local leadership roles in this project. Dr. Marquis-Gravel hopes that this trainee research network will become a sustainable organization, with the development of many other research projects across the province.

Dr. Marquis-Gravel also worked to foster excellence in the next generation of cardiologists as a member of the Adult Cardiology Training Program and of the post-doctoral revision committee at Université de Montréal. He is also a member of the CCS Trainee Committee and sits on the CCS Continuous Professional Development committee as the trainee representative.

Trainee Excellence in Education Award

Recognizes a CCS member-in-training for their extraordinary accomplishments in all aspects of medical education in any of the cardiovascular fields

Dr. Guillaume Marquis-Gravel

Dr. Guillaume Marquis-Gravel is dedicated to establishing initiatives to foster and help develop the talent and careers of his junior colleagues and trainees. One of his most notable contributions as an educator for trainees under the COFIR principles is the initiation and conduct of a multi-centre, trainee-led research project (the MAGIC study), across the four medical schools in Quebec (Université de Montréal, McGill, Laval, and Sherbrooke). Under his own initiative, he created and consolidated a team of medical students and residents to conduct this large observational study focusing on the antithrombotic management of patients with STEMI and new-onset antero-apical akinesia. Under his mentorship, more than fifteen trainees, many of whom have never been involved in research projects before, were introduced to everything from protocol writing to regulatory issues and data dissemination. Some of these trainees have since assumed local leadership roles in this project. Dr. Marquis-Gravel hopes that this trainee research network will become a sustainable organization, with the development of many other research projects across the province.

Dr. Marquis-Gravel also worked to foster excellence in the next generation of cardiologists as a member of the Adult Cardiology Training Program and of the post-doctoral revision committee at Université de Montréal. He is also a member of the CCS Trainee Committee and sits on the CCS Continuous Professional Development committee as the trainee representative.

Dr. Harold N. Segall

Dr. Harold N. Segall Award of Merit

The Dr. Harold N. Segall Award of Merit was created in honour of the late Dr. Harold N. Segall, a founding member of the CCS. This award recognizes significant contributions to the prevention of cardiovascular disease or the promotion of cardiovascular health in Canadians.

The HeartLife Foundation is Canada’s first and only national, patient-led heart failure organization aimed at raising public awareness of heart failure. Its mission is to empower patient voices to stimulate dialogue, advance understanding, improve access to treatments and research, raise heart failure awareness and improve patient care in Canada. Founded by heart failure patients Dr. Jillianne Code, a two-time heart transplant recipient, and Marc Bains, also a heart transplant recipient, along with cardiologist Dr. Sean Virani, HeartLife focuses on engaging patients, families and caregivers in meaningful dialogue to provide education and support, facilitate access to the latest research, innovations, and treatments and advocate for better care for all.

HeartLife Foundation

Accepted by:
Dr. Jillianne Code, Co-founder and President
Mr. Marc Bains, Co-founder and Vice-President
Dr. Sean Virani, Medical Director and Board Member

The HeartLife Foundation is Canada’s first and only national, patient-led heart failure organization aimed at raising public awareness of heart failure. Its mission is to empower patient voices to stimulate dialogue, advance understanding, improve access to treatments and research, raise heart failure awareness and improve patient care in Canada. Founded by heart failure patients Dr. Jillianne Code, a two-time heart transplant recipient, and Marc Bains, also a heart transplant recipient, along with cardiologist Dr. Sean Virani, HeartLife focuses on engaging patients, families and caregivers in meaningful dialogue to provide education and support, facilitate access to the latest research, innovations, and treatments and advocate for better care for all.
Distinguished Teacher Award
Recognizes excellence and dedication in teaching in the cardiovascular fields

Dr. Graham Wong

Dr. Graham Wong’s excellence in teaching is evident in his numerous teaching awards and the fact that the medical residents, cardiology residents and medical students that he teaches consistently rate him as one of the best teachers they’ve ever had. He has a reputation for being kind and patient and is known for creative analogies that help to simplify difficult concepts.

In 2014, Dr. Wong was appointed as the first-ever Director of Education for the Division of Cardiology at the University of British Columbia (UBC). He is currently working with clinical and education experts to develop a fellowship program for the emerging area of cardiac intensive care. Despite his numerous clinical responsibilities — Program Director for the UBC Adult Cardiology Residency Training Program, Associate Director of the Cardiac Intensive Care Unit at Vancouver General Hospital, Medical Director of the Vancouver Coastal Health Authority (VCHA) Regional STEMI Program and Regional Physician Lead for Acute Cardiac Care for VCHA — he teaches multiple residents and medical students each week. He is also a member of the American Heart Association Acute Care Cardiology Committee and a Clinical Professor of Medicine at the University of British Columbia and was a Royal College examiner for seven years.

In addition to his outstanding teaching skills, Dr. Wong has been a co-chair or co-author on several CCS guidelines and position statements.

Get to know Dr. Wong
What are three words that best describe you?
Kind, principled, hardworking.
What one event in your childhood had the greatest effect on your life?
My career defining moment was in an undergraduate microbiology lab where I was doing basic science research on cell wall proteins from Enterobacteriaceae (the stuff that makes poop smell like poop) for a project using a press (similar to a French press for coffee). It essentially a large steel piston that’s used to mechanically separate E. coli cell culture under high pressure in order to rupture the cell membranes, which are then collected below. Unfortunately, a gasket blew and I ended up wearing most of the E. coli cell culture. Any aspirations to pursue a career in basic science research died a sorry death that day.

Who is someone you admire and why?
My late father, Dr. Ken Wong, who taught me so many things, including the value of respect and hard work, the importance of being generous with one’s time and effort to others, and the importance of always being grounded. He was the epitome of a hardworking, first-generation immigrant. Eight years after he fled Communism in post-WWII China without speaking a word of English, he graduated from medical school at UBC and embarked on an illustrious 32-year career in anesthesiology at Vancouver General and UBC until he retired in 2001. To this day he is still revered as an exemplary clinician, educator and colleague, and the VGH Dept of Anesthesia teaching and clinical excellence awards are both named after him. I miss him every day.

If you could be anywhere in the world other than where you are right this minute, where would you want to be?
On a mountain bike with my kids, somewhere muddy.
If you were a pasta shape, what would you be and why?
Fusilli (because I’m a Seinfeld fan).
What is your motto?
“Effect of Mobile Health Interventions on the Secondary Prevention of Cardiovascular Disease: Systematic Review and Meta-analysis”

Dr. Robert E. Beamish Award
Recognizes the lead author of an original research article published during the preceding three years in the Canadian Journal of Cardiology (CJC) that has the greatest impact on cardiovascular medicine, in honour of Dr. Robert E. Beamish, founding Editor-in-Chief of the CJC.

Dr. Sumeet Gandhi

“Effect of Mobile Health Interventions on the Secondary Prevention of Cardiovascular Disease: Systematic Review and Meta-analysis”

After obtaining his medical degree from the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, Dr. Sumeet Gandhi completed an internal medicine residency at the University of Toronto, a cardiology residency at McMaster University and a fellowship in advanced echocardiography at St. Michael’s Hospital in Toronto focusing on interventional echocardiography and valvular heart disease.

Dr. Gandhi is now a cardiologist at Trillium Health Partners and One Heart Care in Mississauga. His interests include working with local and regional leaders to expand the scope of advanced echocardiography in his community through education, research and quality improvement initiatives. Dr. Gandhi attributes success in his journey to strong mentorship by those individuals that have shaped him not only as a clinician but as an individual.

If you could be anywhere in the world other than where you are right this minute, where would you want to be?
I would like to understand and further define my role in promoting cardiovascular medicine and patient care in my community of Mississauga, Ontario at Trillium Health Partners.
I would like to be with my family in Thailand, on the shore of the walkon the Ao Nang beach watching the sunset.
What’s a goal that you want to accomplish in the next year?
I would like to understand and further define my role in promoting cardiovascular medicine and patient care in my community of Mississauga, Ontario at Trillium Health Partners.
If you had a personal motto, what would it be?
Happiness is when what you think, what you say and what you do are in harmony.

If you were an animal/pasta shape/vegetable, what would you be and why?
Animal: a pug
Pasta shape: fusilli (because I’m a Seinfeld fan)
Vegetable: pumpkin (long story)

Get to know Dr. Gandhi
What are three words that best describe you?
Compassionate, consciouos, inspired.
What one event in your childhood had the greatest effect on your life?
Moving from St. John’s, Newfoundland at the age of 12 to Surrey, BC. It shaped me as an individual leaving one community and joining another. I had the opportunity to appreciate my former home but also embrace my new community.

Who is someone you admire and why?
My grandfather is my hero. He has helped shape me as an individual. Ever since I was a young boy, he has always taught me to look at actions through a hierarchy of values, which has helped me through my life.

What was the best piece of advice you’ve ever received?
My grandfather taught me in life above all else, never lose compassion for your fellow man or woman.

If you could be anywhere in the world other than where you are right this minute, where would you want to be?
I would like to be with my in Thailand, on the shore of the boardwalk on Ao Nang beach watching the sunset.

Get to know Canadian Cardiovascular Society
What three words best describe you?
Compassionate, consciouos, inspired.
What one event in your childhood had the greatest effect on your life?
Moving from St. John’s, Newfoundland at the age of 12 to Surrey, BC. It shaped me as an individual leaving one community and joining another I had the opportunity to appreciate my former home but also embrace my new community.

Who is someone you admire and why?
My grandfather is my hero. He has helped shape me as an individual. Ever since I was a young boy, he has always taught me to look at actions through a hierarchy of values, which has helped me through my life.

What was the best piece of advice you’ve ever received?
My grandfather taught me in life above all else, never lose compassion for your fellow man or woman.

If you could be anywhere in the world other than where you are right this minute, where would you want to be?
I would like to be with my family in Thailand, on the shore of the boardwalk on Ao Nang beach watching the sunset.

What’s a goal that you want to accomplish in the next year?
I would like to understand and further define my role in promoting cardiovascular medicine and patient care in my community of Mississauga, Ontario at Trillium Health Partners.
If you had a personal motto, what would it be?
Happiness is when what you think, what you say and what you do are in harmony.

If you were an animal/pasta shape/vegetable, what would you be and why?
Animal: a pug
Pasta shape: fusilli (because I’m a Seinfeld fan)
Vegetable: pumpkin (long story)
Research Achievement Award

Recognizes research excellence demonstrated by an established investigator working on an aspect of cardiovascular research in Canada

Dr. Ruth McPherson

Dr. Ruth McPherson is a leader in cardiovascular genetics, clinical lipidology and cardiovascular risk reduction. Her research is centered on understanding of the genetics and genomics of two complex phenotypes, obesity and coronary artery disease. She led the discovery of the 9p21 genetic risk factor for heart disease in 2007. Dr. McPherson received her PhD from the University of London (UK) then her MD and subspecialty training in internal medicine and endocrinology and metabolism at the University of Toronto. She held academic positions at the University of Toronto and McGill University before coming to the University of Ottawa Heart Institute in 1992. She is currently is Director of the Ruddy Canadian Cardiovascular Genetics Centre, Atherogenomics Laboratory and the Lipid Clinic and a member of the Division of Cardiology at the University of Ottawa Heart Institute.

Get to know Dr. McPherson

If you had a personal motto, what would it be?
What can I do next?
What was the best piece of advice you’ve ever received?
From my paternal grandmother: You can accomplish anything in life if you try hard enough.

How do you want people to remember you?
Energetic, enthusiastic, focused.

CCS Achievement Award

Recognizes a CCS member who has made outstanding contributions to the cardiovascular field throughout their career

Dr. Jacques Genest

Dr. Jacques Genest’s extensive contributions to the cardiovascular community encompass administration, education, research and clinical care. He was named Head of Cardiology at McGill University and served as Chief Division of Cardiology at McGill University Health Center (MUHC) from 2000 to 2010. From 2010 to 2014 he was Director of MUHC’s Center for Innovative Medicine and since 2017, Dr. Genest has served as the co-director of the MUHC’s Coronary Intensive Care Unit.

Dr. Genest has been a Professor of Medicine at McGill University for 19 years and holds the McGill/Novartis Chair in Medicine. His research focuses on understanding the metabolic and genetic basis of premature coronary artery disease and the role of high-density lipoproteins in atherosclerosis. He has been involved in the design, leadership and operation of several large clinical trials, including HOPE-2, homocysteine, JUPITER, REVEAL and IMPROVE-IT.

Dr. Genest has made significant contributions to CCS, including serving as lead author on a number of guidelines. He currently leads Familial Hypercholesterolemia Canada, a clinical network that aims to provide optimal treatment to patients with this disorder.
# Past Award Recipients

## CCS Achievement Award
- 2018 Anne Gillis
- 2017 Paul Dorian
- 2016 Robert Sheldon
- 2015 Ruth Collins-Nakai
- 2014 Merril Knudtson
- 2013 Charles R. Kerr
- 2012 Lyall Higginson
- 2011 Peter Liu
- 2010 Hugh Scully
- 2009 Neil McKenzie

## Research Achievement Award
- 2018 Jack Tu
- 2017 Anthony Tang
- 2016 Jean-Pierre Després
- 2015 Robert Beanlands
- 2014 Stuart Connolly
- 2013 Ernesto Schiffrin
- 2012 Robert Roberts
- 2011 John Floras
- 2010 Philippe Pibarot
- 2009 Duncan Stewart

## Distinguished Teacher Award
- 2018 Kenny Wong
- 2017 Peter Seidelin
- 2016 Kwan-Leung Chan
- 2015 Chi-Ming Chow
- 2014 Normand Racine
- 2013 Wayne Tymchak
- 2012 Donald Palisaitis
- 2011 Ken Gin
- 2010 Martin Green
- 2009 Israel Belenkie

## Dr. Harold N. Segall Award of Merit
- 2018 Robert Hegele
- 2017 Hude Quan
- 2016 Sonia Anand
- 2015 Beth Abramson
- 2014 Norman Campbell
- 2013 Canadian Hypertension Education Program (CHEP)
- 2012 Brian McCrindle
- 2011 The Canadian Heart Health Strategy and Action Plan (Eldon Smith accepted)
- 2010 Andrew Pipe
- 2009 John Stanton and the Running Room

## Trainee Excellence in Education Award
- 2018 William F. McIntyre
- 2017 Andrew Moeller
- 2016 Laura Banks
- 2015 Dimitrios Tsirigotis
- 2014 James McKinney
- 2013 Benjamin Hibbert
- 2012 Brian Potter
- 2011 Jacob Udell
- 2010 Gilbert Tang
- 2009 Joel Price

## Young Investigator Award
- 2018 Sharon Chih (Clinical Science)
- 2017 Sanjiv Dhingra (Basic Science)
- 2016 Paaladinesh Thavendiranathan (Clinical Science)
- 2015 Jason Fish (Basic Science)

## Dr. Robert E. Beamish Award supported by the Canadian Journal of Cardiology (CJC)
- 2018 Jason Andrade
- 2017 Andrew Mente
- 2016 Laura M. Kuyper
- 2015 Alexis Baass
- 2014 Douglas S. Lee
- 2013 Anders G. Holst
- 2012 Anne Holbrook
- 2011 No award given
- 2010 Eldon Smith
- 2009 John Mancini

For a complete list of past recipients, please visit www.ccs.ca/en/about-us/awards