



Canadian Stroke Network
Réseau Canadien contre
les accidents cérébrovasculaires

BRAINwaves

A monthly newsletter for members of the Canadian Stroke Network



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Issue 101

Canadian Stroke Congress 2011

Canada's capital for the second Canadian Stroke Congress Ottawa Convention Centre - October 2 - 4, 2011



The second Canadian Stroke Congress will be held next October at the bold and modern Ottawa Convention Centre, scheduled for completion next April. The seven-storey high sweeping window façade of the centre faces the Rideau Canal UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Plans for the second Canadian Stroke Congress are already under way as the CSN continues to receive positive feedback from this year's inaugural event.

The first congress, which took place June 6-8, 2010, brought together over 1,000 people and more than 90 national and international speakers.

The next congress promises to build on the

success of the first.

With a stunning venue in the nation's capital, the second Canadian Stroke Congress will bring together top researchers from around the world.

The all-new Ottawa Convention Centre will offer an unparalleled setting with 28 meeting rooms and a seven-storey-high sweeping window façade that faces the Rideau Canal UNESCO World Heritage Site.

The Congress will take place from October 2 - 4, 2011, with pre-conference workshops on the 2nd. Once again, the CSN Annual General Meeting will be held in conjunction with the Congress.

Mark your calendars now for the second Canadian Stroke Congress!

Boyle appointed to chair of CSN Board

Cloutier steps down in light of new position

Michael Cloutier has stepped down as chair of CSN's Board of Directors as he takes on the position of president and CEO of the Canadian Diabetes Association.

A well-known and respected leader in the Canadian healthcare community, Mr. Cloutier has served in leadership roles on numerous boards over the past 15 years. While at the helm of CSN in 2009 he guided the network through a successful mid-term review.

He was appointed to the position of chair of the CSN Board in 2008.

"While we are sad to see Mike leave the Board, we know he will continue to be a strong

champion of our work and wish him all the best in his new role," says CSN Executive Director Katie Lafferty.

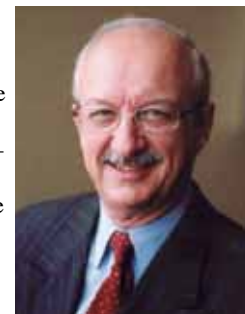
CSN's Dr. Pierre Boyle has been appointed by the Board of Directors to serve the remainder of Mr. Cloutier's term as chair, a period that extends until the network's 2011 AGM next fall, at which point he will stand for election by the CSN membership.

Associate Dean for Research and Graduate studies at Université de Montréal, Dr. Boyle has years of experience in research development in academic hospitals, university settings, as well as in provincial and national agencies.

"We are delighted to welcome Pierre Boyle into the role of chair, and know that his wisdom, experience, and passion for health research and systems change will benefit the

CSN, and the entire Canadian stroke community," says Lafferty.

In the past, Dr. Boyle has served on the boards of many organizations including Valorisation-Recherche Québec, Génôme-Québec, IRIS-Québec, GEREQ (the clinical research network), the Québec Council for the Development of Biopharmaceutics, and the Institut de Génétique et Population.



Dr. Pierre Boyle

See CHAIR on page 2

Canadian Stroke Audit complete: “many to thank”

The Canadian Stroke Audit has now been completed and will be released this fall in the Canadian Stroke Report, a CSN funded report on stroke care and stroke systems of care across the country.

The audit contains data on over 10,000 stroke patients from over 360 hospitals across Canada.

All 10 provinces participated in the audit, representing 67 individual regional health authorities. This is the first ever Canadian stroke audit of this magnitude.

It was completed within 12 months thanks to the combined enthusiasm and efforts of provincial ministries of health, provincial and regional stroke leaders, privacy offices and research ethics boards, and especially the efforts of each of the chart abstractors who gave up their time to collect this data in a very timely manner.

“It was just amazing and fantastic to have completed the audit in the time that we did,” says project lead Dr. Patrice Lindsay. “We have many individuals across the country to thank for that.”

The Audit is a key component of the Canadian Stroke Report, which examines several aspects of stroke care that may have been impacted by the emergence of the Canadian Stroke Strategy and the progress and efforts of Canadian provinces and territories in coordinating and enhancing the delivery of stroke care.

Chair: wide research interests

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He has consulted in strategic planning for several institutions and was the founding Executive Director of CANVAC, the Canadian Network of Centres of Excellence in Vaccines and Immunotherapeutic.

He also presently serves on the Board of Louis-H. Lafontaine Hospital in Montreal and on the Steering Committee of the Canadian Stroke Strategy.

Pierre is presently a member of the advisory committee of the Quebec Minister of Health for the implementation of the provincial stroke strategy.

Dr. Boyle holds a master’s degree in health administration (health planning) from the University of Ottawa and a PhD in clinical epidemiology from McGill University where his interests are centered on evaluation of clinical efficacy of medical technologies.

His research interests and publications have centered on the clinical efficacy of diagnostic imaging procedures, on the measurement and determinants of clinical outcomes of surgery, on the potential for day-surgery, on the usefulness of routine diagnostic tests, on appropriateness of care, and on the problem of overcrowding of emergency departments.

The CSN welcome’s Dr. Boyle to his new position!

2009-10 Annual Report “Seeing the Big Picture”



Look for the CSN 2010 annual report in your mail this month.

Sessions from the 2010 Canadian Stroke Congress have been webcast!

Sessions from the first ever Canadian Stroke Congress, which took place in Quebec June 6-8, 2010, have been webcast. Login information to access these materials has been sent by email to all registered Congress attendees. If you have not received an email containing the access information please email the CSN at: info@canadianstrokenetwork.ca.

Nicol Korner-Bitensky brings CSN to Australia

CSN’s Nicol Korner-Bitensky shared her knowledge on the benefits of building a national stroke network at the 21st Annual Scientific Meeting of the Stroke Society of Australasia in Melbourne, Australia, at the beginning of September.

Her presentation entitled “Benefits of Developing Stroke Networks: Does the Investment Pay Off?” focused on the benefits of training the next generation of stroke experts and on building research agendas to bring together researchers and clinicians to answer questions driven by gaps in knowledge.

Korner-Bitensky presented results showing the significant changes in best practice benchmarks like tPA administration, stroke unit access, and community reintegration.

She also highlighted the role of the Canadian Stroke Strategy in bringing best practices to each province in Canada.

The meeting, which took place from September 1 - 3, followed the theme of

“Providing 21st Century Stroke Care” and brought together clinicians, researchers and scientists from a wide range of backgrounds with the common goal of reducing the burden of stroke.

Also presenting as keynote speakers were Professor George Howard from the University of Alabama in Birmingham, USA, and Marie-Germaine Bousser, Professor of Neurology in Paris.



Dr. Nicol Korner-Bitensky

President of Princeton to deliver Friesen Lecture

Princeton University President Dr. Shirley Tilghman will present the 2010 Henry J. Friesen Lecture entitled “Science Enterprise as a Social Good: the Role of Universities” at the University of Ottawa September 29th.

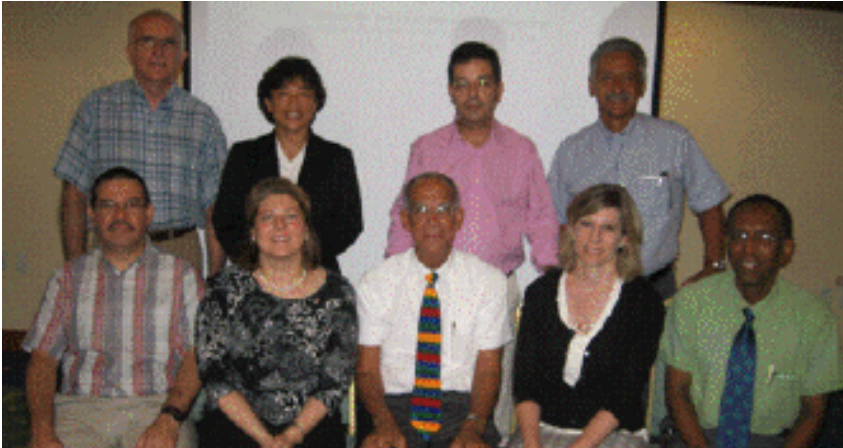
The Henry J. Friesen Lecture is awarded annually by Friends of CIHR to an outstanding researcher who has made a major contribution to the world of science.

Dr. Tilghman is recognized for her work as a molecular biologist; her research on the regulation of genes during development; her advocacy for women in science; and her role as the first female president of Princeton University.

Dr. Tilghman was born in Toronto and raised in Winnipeg. She received her undergraduate degree in chemistry from Queen’s University in Kingston.

The lecture will take place from 1:30 to 3:30 pm at the University of Ottawa’s Tabaret Hall.

CSN helps set action plan in Barbados



International Panel Members of “Stroke: Early identification and treatment of the disease” held jointly by the Pan American Health Organization and the World Health Organization in Barbados.

CSN’s Dr. Patty Lindsay brought her knowledge on stroke care to Barbados at the end of July where she was part of an international panel of experts speaking on “Stroke: Early identification and treatment of the disease.”

The meeting, held jointly by the Pan American Health Organization and the World Health Organization, aimed to create a regional plan of action in Barbados for the prevention

and control of stroke.

Dr. Lindsay spoke on the process of developing best practice documents, the necessary transition and flow of patients through systems of stroke care, and the importance of developing tools for knowledge mobilization.

She says the ultimate goal of the meeting was to help compose a list of recommendations for the development of an effective action plan for stroke care in the region.

Canada recruiting postdoctoral researchers with new fellowships program

The federal government has established a prestigious postdoctoral fellowships program that aims to recruit top-tier postdoctoral researchers at an internationally competitive level of funding.

The hope for the new program, known as the Banting Postdoctoral Fellowships, is that it will build world-class research capacity by positioning the applicants for success as the research leaders of tomorrow.

The prestigious two-year fellowships, worth

\$70,000 per year, are open to both Canadian and international researchers who have recently completed a PhD, PhD-equivalent or health professional degree.

The deadline for applications is November 3, 2010.

For more information on eligibility and the application process, visit: <http://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/programmes/fellowships/banting-eng.aspx>.



2.0 Did you know?

There were more than two million hits on the Canadian Stroke Network website from mid-2009 to mid-2010, and about 180,000 visitors.

On average, more than 820 people visit the CSN website every day.

From mid-2009 to mid-2010, the sodium101.ca website received 2.3 million hits, with about 97,000 individual visitors.

An average of 515 visitors come to the site each day.



Come and say hello!

The CSN will be exhibiting at the Canadian Cardiovascular Congress in Montreal October 23 - 27. Be sure to stop by our booth and say hello! Also make sure to check out, “Federal Public Health Approaches for Chronic Disease Prevention” in Room PCM517A on the 26th where CSN’s Dr. Patty Lindsay will be presenting with the Canadian Task Force on Preventive Health Care.