

ARTHRITIS ALLIANCE OF CANADA NEWSLETTER

June 2015

ARTHRITIS ALLIANCE OF CANADA 2015 Annual Meeting

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About the Arthritis Alliance.....

The Arthritis Alliance of Canada's 3rd Annual Meeting will take place at the Delta Lodge at Kananaskis, Thursday, October 22-Friday, October 23, 2015. This year's programme will focus on "**Building Capacity for Sustainable Health Care in Canada**". The programme includes a Young Investigator Forum, a Trainee Session and several workshops, focused on building capacity in research and health care sustainability.

The Research Symposium, entitled, "**New Discoveries in Osteoarthritis (OA) Research**," will look ahead at promising approaches for future studies, and identify knowledge gaps and research opportunities.

The Research Symposium and special Gala Tribute Dinner will pay tribute to the tremendous accomplishments and legacy of the late Dr. Cy Frank, our colleague, mentor, scientist, surgeon and dear friend.

The programme will bring together scientists, engineers, healthcare providers, trainees, specialists, key stakeholders and, most importantly, people living with arthritis.

Registration will open soon!
<http://arthritisalliance.ca/en/>

For event inquiries, please contact jcoish@arthritisalliance.ca

ARTHRITIS ALLIANCE OF CANADA CONSUMER NETWORK



Arthritis Consumer Experts, the Arthritis Research Centre of Canada, the Canadian Arthritis Patient Alliance, the Canadian Spondylitis Association, and Patient Partners will be awarding the second Qualman-Davies Arthritis Consumer Community Leadership Award at the Arthritis Alliance of Canada's 3rd Annual Conference and Research Symposium.

The Qualman-Davies Arthritis Consumer Community Leadership Award was created in 2014 to recognize an individual's contribution to helping Canadians living with the disease to be heard in decision-making processes that affect millions. Nominations for the Award are encouraged from everyone. Nomination criteria and forms will be made available online soon. In the meantime, if you have any questions or for more information, please contact michael.mallinson@rogers.com.

ARTHRITIS CONSUMER EXPERTS

Arthritis Consumer Experts conducted a "SEB Facts" webinar for stakeholders across Canada on June 8. More than 150 consumers, healthcare professionals and government officials attended the webinar presented in English by Cheryl Koehn, President of ACE, and in French by Dr. Michel Zummer, Head of Rheumatology, CH Maisonneuve-Rosemont, Associate Professor, Université de Montréal. The webinar is now available for viewing on the ACE website at the [JointHealth™ workshops](#) page.



Please share the webinar link with your family, friends and colleagues who are interested in staying up-to-date on arthritis treatments. ACE created the hashtag #TeamArthritis for a campaign to celebrate the athletes and achievements in the 2015 FIFA Women's World Cup™. Our goal is to raise awareness of how women living with arthritis can remain active and achieve high performance in their lives. As we near the final match, help us spread the words about safe exercise, injury prevention, and living a balanced lifestyle. Join the Twitter campaign and [Facebook event here](#).

THE ARTHRITIS SOCIETY

NATIONAL

Walking to Fight Arthritis

This month, thousands of Canadians came together in over 25 communities coast-to-coast for the 6th annual Walk to Fight Arthritis. This event has proven to be an important day for people with arthritis and their loved ones, as it truly helps illustrate that there is a community of support for each of them. Proceeds from the event will support arthritis research, programs and services.

Every participant adds to the spirit of this event, and The Arthritis Society offers a sincere thank you to everyone who came out or who signed up for a virtual walk online. Next year's Walk will take place on Sunday, June 5th, 2016.



QUEBEC

2nd Quebec Forum on Arthritis, Saturday, October 24, 2015, Quebec City Convention Centre



The Arthritis Society is proud to present the second Quebec Forum on Arthritis. It will feature more than 35 presentations by experts in their field on topics of interest for people with arthritis and those close to them, caregivers, and healthcare professionals keen on learning more about the illness. During the course of the day, each attendee will be able to choose one presentation from among the eleven topics available at each of the four time slots. An exhibition hall will feature a range of products and services for those affected by arthritis. The day will also include a luncheon where attendees will have the opportunity to meet others affected by the disease at the luncheon, and if they opt for attending the cocktail-fundraiser in the early evening.



For health care professionals, Médecins francophones du Canada, in collaboration with The Arthritis Society, is offering a continuing professional development program. The Society gives health care professionals the opportunity to visit an exhibit hall highlighting treatment options. **It's an event that you won't want to miss!** For registration: www.quebecforumarthritis.ca.

CANADIAN ARTHRITIS PATIENT ALLIANCE

CAPA is proud to share two tools that it has developed for people who live with arthritis, to help assist them make the most of their appointments with their healthcare providers: a Discussion Guide and an Appointment Tool. These are available in both [English and French on CAPA's website](#), and we ask that you please share them with anyone you think will benefit from them. CAPA thanks AbbVie for support to help develop these tools.

CANADIAN RHEUMATOLOGY ASSOCIATION

“It’s not too late to Stand Up and Be Counted!” Rheumatology Workforce Survey



Be sure to participate in the Canadian Rheumatology Association’s workforce survey to measure the current capacity for Rheumatology care in Canada. For more information, [click here](#) or email claire@rheum.ca for an invitation to this survey.

CANADIAN SPONDYLITIS ASSOCIATION



The Canadian Spondylitis Association, in conjunction with SPARCC and The Arthritis Society, held a patient forum in Montreal on May 30. Attended by over 130 people, patients and their families heard from four expert speakers on AS, PsA, juvenile spondyloarthritis and the classification of SpA. All attending agreed it was a useful and successful forum. Subsequent to the forum SPARCC and the CSA have been invited by The Arthritis Society, Quebec Division, to participate in its future annual conferences by presenting on SpA. Additional patient forums offered by SPARCC and the CSA in 2015 will include Calgary and Saskatoon.



Community Updates

CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION (CME) PROGRAMME

News from MD BriefCase

Recent advances in the management of Rheumatoid Arthritis

Treatment of rheumatoid arthritis (RA) aims at maximizing long-term health-related quality of life through control of symptoms, prevention of structural damage, and normalization of function. Please click [here](#) to link to the video, then click the title to launch the video.



CANADIAN RHEUMATOLOGY ADMINISTRATIVE DATA (CANRAD) NETWORK

The CANRAD Network team includes a variety of decision makers, epidemiologists, clinicians and researchers interested in the use of administrative data for rheumatic disease research. We held our Spring Webinar at the end of May. Drs. Lisa Lix and Natalie Shiff presented their results looking at the validation of JIA/JRA using Manitoba data. For more information pertaining to the CANRAD Network or information about our past webinar(s), please contact Autumn Neville at autumn.neville@clinepi.mcgill.ca or visit our website <http://www.canradnetwork.ca/>.



The Canadian Network for Advanced Interdisciplinary Methods for comparative effectiveness research’ (CAN-AIM) team was funded by CIHR to develop novel methods using prospective longitudinal cohorts and to respond to key knowledge gaps regarding drug safety and effectiveness by answering queries which arise from Health Canada and other regulatory parties. Our demonstration project looked at the comparative effectiveness of anti-

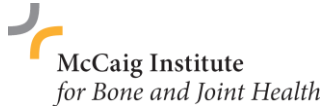
tumour necrosis factor (TNF) agents versus traditional disease-modifying agents (DMARDs) in reducing orthopaedic surgery in rheumatoid arthritis (RA). For information on our preliminary results or for more information on our team, please contact Autumn Neville at autumn.neville@clinepi.mcgill.ca or visit our website <http://canaim.ca/>.

SCLERODERMA SOCIETY OF CANADA
Hard Word. Harder Disease.



Scleroderma is a chronic, progressive connective-tissue disease with early symptoms that often include cold, sore or stiff fingers, though onset can vary significantly from person to person. Scleroderma can scar or harden skin, cause stiff joints, damage lungs and cause kidney failure. It can cause disability, disfiguring and death. While there is no known cause or cure, our ability to treat scleroderma is improving. The Scleroderma Society of Canada works with provincial and regional scleroderma organizations to provide education and information, to fund research, and to raise public awareness of Canada's most common rare disease. Visit www.scleroderma.ca or call 1-866-279-0632.

McCaig INSTITUTE FOR BONE AND JOINT HEALTH (MIBJH)
UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY



Astronauts are known to lose bone density and strength when they are out in space. Steve Boyd, PhD is collaborating with the Canadian Space Agency to study how their bones are affected by weightlessness. The project is called "TBONE" for the "three-dimensional bone" approach it uses. The study will measure how bone microarchitecture is affected in zero gravity and how it recovers when back on earth. Astronauts will be scanned for bone density and architecture before take-off and after they return by expert U of C technicians who will be at NASA's Johnson Space Centre in Texas for the procedure. This study could impact not only those travelling out of space but also those that are for some reason or other immobilized and bed ridden for long stretches of time.

We would like to extend our congratulations to Ann McCaig, CM, AOE, LLD and Chancellor Emerita at the University of Calgary who was honoured in Rideau Hall by Governor General David Johnston for her 22 years of services to the community as a trustee. Canada's Killam Trust was named the McCaig-Killam Teaching Award in her honour as she concludes her many years of service.

WESTERN UNIVERSITY



Congratulations Team Bernier! On Sunday, 7 June 2015, a passionate group of trainees, staff, and faculty from Western University in London, Ontario participated in the annual Walk to Fight Arthritis for The Arthritis Society in support of the over 4.6 million Canadians that live with arthritis. Each year the team, named Team Bernier, walks in memory of Dr. Suzanne Bernier to honour her contributions and commitment to arthritis research that continue to act as an inspiration to many. With the help of generous friends and colleagues, Team Bernier raised \$12,000 this year and was ranked top community team. Arthritis researcher Dr. Frank Beier fulfilled his promise of dyeing his hair purple upon reaching the \$10,000 goal. The team thanks everyone for their support and generous donations that made purple Frank a reality! For photos, please see <https://www.flickr.com/photos/uwophysiologyandpharmacology/sets/72157654297058431>.

Calendar of Events

Canadian Paediatric Society Annual Conference	June 24-27, 2015	Toronto, ON
Walk or Run in the Park for Scleroderma	June 27, 2015	London, ON
World Scleroderma Awareness Day	June 29, 2015	
"Everesting Kootenay Pass for Scleroderma Research"	July 4, 2015	Nelson, BC
Council of the Federations (COF) - 2014 Council of the Federation Summer Meeting	July 14-18, 2015	Newfoundland
12 th Annual World Congress on Industrial Biotechnology	July 19-22, 2015	Montréal, QC
4th Edition Benefit Gold Tournament for Scleroderma	August 29, 2015	Notre-Dame-de-la-Salette, PQ
16th Annual National Scleroderma Conference	September 18-19, 2015	Hamilton, ON
Canadian Association of Critical Care Nurses - Dynamics of Critical Care Conference	September 27-29, 2015	Winnipeg, MB
Cochrane Collaboration Colloquium	October 3-7, 2015	Vienna, Austria
Vasculitis Symposium	October 8, 2015	Calgary, AB
Canadian Vasculitis (CandVasc) Annual Scientific Meeting	October 9, 2015	Calgary, AB
Arthritis Alliance of Canada 3rd Annual Meeting	October 22-23, 2015	Kananaskis, AB
American College of Rheumatologists (ACR) Annual Meeting	November 6-11, 2015	San Francisco, CA

Arthritis Alliance of Canada Members

Member Organizations

Alberta Bone and Joint Health Institute
Arthritis & Autoimmunity Research Centre
Arthritis Community Research & Evaluation Unit
Arthritis Consumer Experts
Arthritis Health Professions Association
Arthritis Research Centre of Canada
Arthritis Research Foundation
The Arthritis Society
Bone and Joint Canada
Canadian Alliance of Pediatric Rheumatology Investigators
Canadian Arthritis Patient Alliance
Canadian Academy of Sports and Exercise Medicine
Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists
Canadian Chiropractic Association
Canadian Obesity Network
Canadian Orthopaedic Association
Canadian Orthopaedic Foundation
Canadian Physiotherapy Association

Canadian Rheumatology Association
Canadian Society for Exercise Physiology
Canadian Society for Exercise Physiology
Canadian Spondylitis Association
Cochrane Collaboration
Consumer Advisory Board of the Arthritis Research Centre of Canada
Institute for Work and Health
McCaig Institute for Bone and Joint Health
Patient Partners

Member Companies

AbbVie Corporation
Amgen Canada Inc.
Bristol-Myers Squibb
Celgene Inc.
Hoffmann -La Roche Limited
Janssen Inc.
Pfizer Canada Inc.
UCB Canada Inc

THE ARTHRITIS ALLIANCE OF CANADA NEEDS TO HEAR YOUR SUCCESSES, STORIES AND PROJECTS THAT WILL SUPPORT THE FRAMEOWRK EFFORT. IF YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR ORGANIZATION TO BE FEATURED HERE, PLEASE FORWARD YOUR SUBMISSIONS TO LGAZIZOVA@ARTHRITISALLIANCE.CA.

We wish you and your families a Happy Canada Day!



ABOUT THE ARTHRITIS ALLIANCE OF CANADA

With more than 36 member organizations, the Arthritis Alliance brings together arthritis health care professionals, researchers, funding agencies, governments, voluntary sector agencies, industry and, most importantly, representatives from arthritis consumer organizations from across Canada. While each member organization continues its own work, the Alliance provides a central focus for national arthritis-related initiatives.

For more information about the Arthritis Alliance, please contact:

Jaime Coish at jcoish@arthritisalliance.ca or visit our website: www.arthritisalliance.ca