

ARTHRITIS ALLIANCE OF CANADA NEWSLETTER

April 2016

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Arthritis Alliance of Canada

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ARTHRITIS ALLIANCE OF CANADA Advocacy Efforts to Position Arthritis as a National Priority

The Arthritis Alliance of Canada (AAC) has completed a second round of introductory meetings with government representatives in Ottawa, end of March-April, in line with its strategic plan to work with governments across Canada to prioritize arthritis as a major health concern and priority for action. The AAC delegates met with the officials from the Privy Council Office (PCO), Minister of Health Office, Ministry of Employment, Workforce Development, and Labour, and Prime Minister's Office.

Stay tuned for more information on the outcomes of the meetings and further steps! ***We need your involvement to position arthritis as a national priority, everyone has a role to play!*** To help us ensure a coordinated approach, please advise of any outreach you do and/or meetings with your local MP so that we can keep track and avoid sending multiple letters to the same person. Thank you!

Arthritis Alliance of Canada Models of Care Featured in CRAJ

The articles, published in the recent Spring edition of The Journal of the Canadian Rheumatology Association, provide historical background about the AAC and its publications since 2002; highlight its progress on IA Performance Measurement Framework and the work on A Pan-Canadian Core Clinical Dataset for Rheumatology; and present new directions in Osteoarthritis. Please read full articles under Northern (High)lights section: <http://craj.ca/index.html>.



Arthritis Alliance of Canada 2016 Annual Meeting SAVE THE DATE

Save the date!

Annual Meeting

ARTHRITIS ALLIANCE OF CANADA



October 27–28, 2016

INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL
MONTREAL, QUÉBEC

In partnership with

The Arthritis Society

and

CIHR Institute of Musculoskeletal Health and Arthritis



Arthritis Alliance of Canada
Alliance de l'arthrite du Canada



The Arthritis Society | La Société de l'arthrite



CIHR IRSC
Canadian Institutes of Health Research / Institut de recherche en santé Canada

Remembering Dr. Cy Frank

For a little more than a year, we have been mourning unexpected passing of our colleague, mentor, scientist, surgeon and dear friend Dr. Cy Frank (August 3, 1949 – March 5, 2015). Dr. Frank was a strategic genius and innovator, with an unsurpassed commitment to improving health care, for the benefit of patients. His relentless enthusiasm, tireless efforts and remarkable contributions to the Alliance and the MSK community are responsible for the robust network that exists today.



The following memorial funding awards were set up in legacy of the late Dr. Cy Frank by Alberta Innovates Health Solutions (AIHS) and University of Calgary:

AIHS Cy Frank Studentship	To the highest ranked individual in the AIHS studentship competitions: http://www.aihealthsolutions.ca
AIHS Cy Frank Fellowship: Impact Assessment	To be awarded to two people annually in the area of Impact Assessment: http://www.aihealthsolutions.ca
AIHS Cy Frank Grand Challenge	A fitting tribute to a man who saw things differently than many other -- where many see only the high costs of health care, Cy saw the opportunity to maximize the assets that we have in Alberta to sustain our system for the benefit of future generations: http://www.aihealthsolutions.ca
The Cy Frank International Travelling Lectureship (in partnership with the McCaig Institute for Bone and Joint Health)	Individuals, organizations or institutions wishing to contribute to the lectureship are invited to visit: https://netcommunity.ucalgary.ca/medicine/cyfrank-lectureship
Dr. Cy Frank Trainee Award in Nutrition for Bone, Joint and Muscle Health	

MEMBER'S CORNER

THE ARTHRITIS SOCIETY

NATIONAL

Joint Matters at Work



Employers across the country are giving their employees access to arthritis education and screening clinics through Joint Matters at Work, a program developed in partnership with AbbVie. The program launched last fall, and early feedback has been very positive from both employers and participants across a range of industries. Arthritis is a leading cause of disability in Canada and costs our economy an estimated \$33 billion per year in lost productivity and health care expenses.

Joint Matters at Work focuses on helping employees remain healthy and productive members of the workforce, even in the face of an arthritis diagnosis. Participation in the program and any screening results are kept strictly confidential to ensure participants' privacy is respected. For more information, or to schedule a Joint Matters program in your workplace, visit www.arthritis.ca/jointmatters.

ONTARIO DIVISION

Announcing Camp Cambria

We are delighted to announce the launch of Camp Cambria, six-day residential camp for Ontario children ages 8-17 who are living with childhood arthritis. Camp Cambria will be held in the popular Kawartha Lakes cottage country, at a not-for-profit sleepover camp for children with unique challenges. An on-site medical facility will ensure that campers' health needs are met. Best of all, thanks to the generous support of our sponsor, Cambria, the camp is free of charge for qualified families! Registration for the 21-26, 2016 session is now open. Families of Ontario children are encouraged to visit www.arthritis.ca/campcambria soon to apply as space is limited.



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soon to

MEMBER'S CORNER

ARTHRITIS CONSUMER EXPERTS



How does your province measure up? Arthritis Consumer Experts (ACE) released in April its Ninth Annual JointHealth™ Arthritis Medications Report Card with a clear message to the federal and

provincial governments in Canada: Reimbursement access to arthritis medications has improved in many Canadian provinces; however, disappointing inequities remain in patient/physician choice and patient access to reimbursement for the medication prescribed for them by their rheumatologist.

Cheryl Koehn, Founder and President of ACE, has been nominated for the 2016 YWCA Women of Distinction Award – Health and Wellness. Recognized nationally, this award honours women leaders whose outstanding activities and achievements contribute to the well-being and future of B.C.

ARTHRITIS RESEARCH CANADA

Arthritis Research Canada held the 2nd Team Meeting for PRECISION: Preventing Complications from Inflammatory Skin, Joint and Bowel Conditions on April 6th



A 5-year, \$2.5 million project called 'PRECISION' will look into inflammatory diseases of the skin, joint, or bowel and why people are now more likely to die from complications of the disease than the disease itself. With more knowledge on what causes complications and how to reduce them, we believe prevention is possible. The inflammatory diseases we are studying affect over 5 million Canadians. They include psoriasis (skin); rheumatoid arthritis, lupus and lupus like diseases, ankylosing spondylitis, gout and osteoarthritis (joint); and, Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis (bowel).

By developing ways to prevent complications, this research will support Canadians to live better, longer lives, and has the potential to save money. <http://www.arthritisresearch.ca/precision>.

Dr. Antonio Aviña receives the BC Lupus Award For Excellence in Research and Mentorship

On Saturday April 9th Dr. Antonio Aviña, Research Scientist in Rheumatology at Arthritis Research Canada, was presented with the BC Lupus Award For Excellence in Research and Mentorship at the 12th Annual Lupus Gala.

Dr. Aviña's current research focuses on the economic burden and cardiovascular complications associated with systemic autoimmune rheumatic diseases (SARDs), which include systemic lupus erythematosus, systemic sclerosis, Sjögren's syndrome, polymyositis, dermatomyositis, and the systemic vasculitides. **Congratulations to Dr. Aviña for receiving this distinguished award and for transforming the lives of people living with arthritis through research and engagement!**



ARTHRITIS RESEARCH CANADA PATIENT ADVISORY BOARD

Action on Arthritis: Steps to a better you. Public Forum.

The Arthritis Patient Advisory Board of Arthritis Research Canada (ARC) is bringing arthritis research to the public on October 1, 2016. The forum will be held in Burnaby, BC at the Ismaili Centre from 9:30 am – 12:30 pm PST, with a simultaneous webcast. The public will hear about research that supports best outcomes for patients and facilitates self-empowerment.

The invited speakers are: Dr. Claire Barber, Dr. Hyon Choi, Dr. Mary DeVera, Dr. Diane Lacaille, Dr. Linda Li and ARC trainees Jenny Leese, Graham MacDonald and Sharan Rai. Please mark your calendars and bring this event to the attention of your patients and those who care for them.

MEMBER'S CORNER

CANADIAN ALLIANCE OF PEDIATRIC RHEUMATOLOGY INVESTIGATORS (CAPRI)

CAPRI Scientific Meeting comes to Toronto!

The Canadian Alliance of Pediatric Rheumatology Investigators (CAPRI) is holding its Scientific Meeting in Toronto April 12-13, 2016. During this two day meeting, 45 CAPRI members, representing all pediatric rheumatology centres across Canada, will participate in working groups related to several current CAPRI initiatives, with a focus on the new CAPRI JIA National Registry, working on exciting new funding opportunities, and increasing effective knowledge translation of CAPRI research results.

CANADIAN INSTITUTES OF HEALTH RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF MUSCULOSKELETAL HEALTH AND ARTHRITIS

Strategy for Patient-Oriented Research (SPOR) networks

On March 31, 2016, the Honourable Jane Philpott, Minister of Health, announced the funding of the Strategy for Patient-Oriented Research (SPOR) networks for chronic disease. One of these networks is the Chronic Pain Network led by Dr. Norman Buckley of McMaster University. The network will direct new research, train researchers and clinicians, increase access to care for chronic pain sufferers, and speed up the translation of the most recent research into the reality of care. Please see the full [news release](#).

In partnership for the Canada-Netherlands Personalized Medicine

The partnership for the Canada-Netherlands Personalized Medicine in Immune Mediated Inflammatory Musculoskeletal Disease Network is in progress with a partnership agreement having been signed and the funding opportunity full application phase being underway. Information about the partnership is on the [CIHR – IMHA website](#).

McCaig INSTITUTE FOR BONE AND JOINT HEALTH University of Calgary

A team of scientists from the Cumming School of Medicine's McCaig Institute for Bone and Joint Health was the winner of the inaugural TENET I2C competition held in March. The winning team, Ammolite BioModels, has developed bone model designed to feel like real bone to be used in the training of orthopaedic surgeons. A realistic and cost-effective training option, Ammolite BioModels' Tactile Bones aim to reduce the cost, time and risks of surgeries by improving training outside the operating room. The team will use their prize money to scale up product manufacturing.



TENET I2C competition was developed to help scientists transition their medical research into products and services that improve lives.

PATIENT PARTNERS

The Patient Partner program has recently received generous support from its many-year partner, Pfizer. The program started over twenty years ago and Pfizer has been a strong supporter, both vocally and financially over this time. These funds will be used to train new Patient Partners at some of the sites across Canada and fund refresher sessions to existing volunteers.

ADVANCED CLINICIAN PRACTITIONER IN ARTHRITIS CARE (ACPAC) PROGRAM

The [Advanced Clinician Practitioner in Arthritis Care \(ACPAC\) Program](#) is pleased to announce that applications for the 2016-2017 program are **now open**. Offered through the [Office of Continuing Professional Development](#) at the University of Toronto, ACPAC is an [award-winning clinical-academic program](#) that prepares experienced Physiotherapists, Occupational Therapists, and Nurses from across Canada for extended practice roles, including the diagnosis and management of patients with arthritis. ACPAC graduates have been recognized at the local, provincial, national, and international level for providing:

- Improved access to quality arthritis care
- Reduced clinic wait times and improved triage for arthritis patients
- Enhanced continuum of care for arthritis patients

The program runs from October 2016 to June 2017. Deadline to apply is Friday May 20, 2016 at 5pm ET!

Community Updates

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 are happy to announce that by Drs. Deborah Marshall and Behnam Sharif of the University of Calgary will be hosting our Spring 2016 webinar on Monday, May 2nd at 2:00pm EDT. They will be presenting “Integrating dynamic simulation modelling and administrative data to inform health services delivery and planning.” For more information pertaining to our upcoming webinar, our past and future webinars or all other information concerning the CANRAD Network, 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 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

In June, the Scleroderma Society of Canada will be proud to host Walk, Run, and Bike in the Park events in various locations across the nation, where wonderful volunteers, walkers/runners and donors will unite in their support of people facing the hard challenges of scleroderma. The walks are the Scleroderma Society of Canada’s largest single fundraiser and provide invaluable resources for patient advocacy, education, and research that continues to enhance treatment for scleroderma and move closer to finding a cure.

The walks also help to spread the word. Everyone is welcome! Visit sclerodermawalkrun.ca or call 1800-776-7776.



Calendar of Events

Pediatric Orthopaedic Society of North America AGM	April 27-30, 2016	Indianapolis, IN
Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists Annual Conference	April 19-22, 2016	Banff, AB
Ontario Gerontological Association 35 th Annual Conference on Aging	May 4-5, 2016	Toronto, ON
Primary Care Today Conference	May 4-7, 2016	Toronto, ON
ARthritis Soirée 2016	May 26, 2016	Vancouver, BC
Canadian Pain Society’s Annual Scientific Meeting	May 24-28, 2016	Vancouver, BC
Canadian Physiotherapy Association National Congress	May 26-28, 2016	Victoria, BC
Ontario Rheumatology Association 15 th Annual General Meeting	May 27-29, 2016	Muskoka, ON
Canadian Orthopaedic Nurse Association Conference	May 29-June 1, 2016	Edmonton, AB

Registered Nurses Association - Annual Nurse Executive Leadership Academy	May 31-June 3, 2016	Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON
22 nd Canadian Connective Tissue Conference	June 1-3, 2016	Hamilton, ON
Walk to Fight Arthritis	June 5, 2016	Naitonwide
Canadian College of Health Leaders: National Health Leadership Conference	June 6-7, 2016	Ottawa, ON
Biotechnology Industry Organization International Convention	June 6-9, 2016	San Francisco, CA
EULAR - European League Against Rheumatism International Conference	June 8-11, 2016	London, UK
Canadian Paediatric Society Annual Conference	June 22-25, 2016	Charlottetown, PEI
Canadian Pharmacists Association Conference	June 24-27, 2016	Calgary, AB
Council of the Federations (COF) - 2016 Council of the Federation Summer Meeting	July 20-22, 2016	Whitehorse, Yukon
Canadian Association of Critical Care Nurses - Dynamics of Critical Care Conference	September 25-27, 2016	Charlottetown, PEI
4th World Congress on Controversies, Debates and Consensus in Bone, Muscle and Joint Diseases (BMJD)	October 20-22, 2016	Barcelona, Spain
Cochrane Collaboration Colloquium	October 23-27, 2016	Seoul, South Korea
Vasculitis Symposium	TBC	TBC
Arthritis Alliance of Canada – 2016 Annual Meeting	October 27-28, 2016	Montreal, QC
The Arthritis Society Congress 2016	October 29, 2016	Montreal, QC
Canadian Vasculitis (CandVasc) Annual Scientific Meeting	October 2016	TBC
Family Medicine Forum	November 9-12, 2016	Vancouver, BC

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 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.
 Janssen Inc.
 Pfizer Canada Inc.

ABOUT THE ARTHRITIS ALLIANCE OF CANADA

With more than 30 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