



Allergy, Genes and Environment Network
Le réseau des allergies, des gènes et de l'environnement

Third Annual Research Conference

INNOVATION

from cell.
to Society³

February 10-12, 2008

Photo courtesy of Banff Lake Louise Tourism

*The Rimrock Resort Hotel
Banff, Alberta, Canada*



Canada



Proud Platinum Sponsor of the
AllerGen NCE Inc.
Third Annual Research Conference.

Welcome from the Board Chair and Scientific Director

On behalf of the AllerGen Board of Directors, Research Leaders, Administrative Centre and our generous conference sponsors, we welcome you to our third Annual Research Conference, Innovation from Cell to Society³. This year our focus is on a pressing issue of great concern to Canadians and to people around the world: "Allergy and the Environment."

Since its launch in 2004, AllerGen has enabled more than 500 researchers, trainees, business leaders, industry entrepreneurs, policy makers, healthcare providers and patient advocates to form national and international communities of investigators and stakeholders who are collectively focused on reducing the impact of allergy, asthma and anaphylaxis. These partnerships, supplemented by the recent establishment of linkages between AllerGen and a range of international research organizations and networks, underpin the Network's ability to undertake research that can be translated into economic and social benefits for Canadians, and position Canada as a leader on the world stage in translational research addressing allergic and related immune diseases.

This conference programme provides opportunities to learn more about state-of-the-art research in allergy and asthma across multiple disciplines. It also provides a forum in which we can strengthen our professional and personal ties, and identify new opportunities for collaboration and partnership.

We hope that this conference will inspire and encourage you to move forward with novel ideas and build new scientific and community relationships that will lead to an improved quality of life for children and adults suffering from allergic and related immune diseases.



Graham W.S. Scott

Mot de bienvenue du président du conseil d'administration et du directeur scientifique

Au nom du conseil d'administration d'AllerGen, de nos chercheurs de pointe, de nos administrateurs et de nos généreux commanditaires, il nous fait le plus grand plaisir de vous accueillir à la troisième conférence de recherche annuelle du Réseau, Innovation de la cellule à la société³. Cette année, notre thème porte sur un enjeu qui préoccupe grandement les Canadiens et les citoyens de tous les pays : « les allergies et l'environnement ».

Depuis son inauguration en 2004, AllerGen a aidé à plus de 500 chercheurs, scientifiques en formation, sommités du secteur privé, partenaires industriels, décideurs et défenseurs des droits des patients à former, à l'échelle nationale et internationale, des partenariats de recherche et d'intervention qui travaillent ensemble à réduire l'impact des allergies, de l'asthme et de l'anaphylaxie. Étayés par de nouveaux liens établis avec d'importants réseaux et organismes de recherche à l'échelle internationale, ces partenariats viennent renforcer notre capacité de réaliser des projets de recherche qui auront une incidence positive marquée sur l'économie et la qualité de vie de tous les Canadiens, en plus de positionner le Canada parmi les chefs de file mondiaux de la recherche appliquée dans le domaine des affections allergiques et immunitaires.

Le programme de la conférence vous invite à approfondir votre connaissance de la recherche multidisciplinaire de pointe portant sur l'asthme et les affections allergiques, en plus d'offrir de nombreuses occasions de réseautage professionnel et personnel qui mèneront, nous l'espérons, à de nouvelles initiatives de collaboration et de partenariat.

Nous souhaitons que cette conférence servira de source d'inspiration, qu'elle vous encouragera à aller de l'avant avec de nouvelles idées et à établir de nouveaux partenariats scientifiques et communautaires qui amélioreront la qualité de vie des enfants et des adultes souffrant d'asthme et d'affections allergiques et immunitaires.



Dr. Judah Denburg



Graham W.S. Scott, C.M., O.C./C.M., c.r.
Chair, AllerGen Board of Directors
président du conseil d'administration



Judah Denburg, MD, FRCP(C)
Scientific Director and CEO, AllerGen NCE Inc.
directeur scientifique et DG, AllerGen NCE Inc.

Minister of Industry



Ministre de l'Industrie

Message from the Honourable Jim Prentice, Minister of Industry

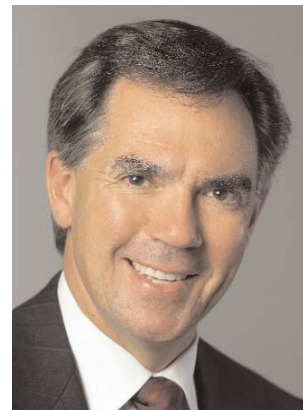
Welcome to beautiful Banff, Alberta, and to AllerGen's third annual scientific conference, *Innovation from Cell to Society*³.

Over the next few days, you will be discussing the latest scientific advances in the field of allergic and immune diseases. This is also a time for you to share your experiences and ideas to improve the quality of life for the tens of thousands of Canadians who suffer from these conditions.

AllerGen has mobilized researchers, clinicians and partners from many sectors, all of whom are focused on a common goal: improving the health of Canadians and the quality of care available to them. Your Network's efforts to acquire knowledge, commercialize its discoveries and train highly-qualified knowledge workers are enhancing Canada's health and well-being.

AllerGen's successes and the impact of its research are examples of the advantages gained when business, academic and public sectors work together. The Government of Canada is committed to allowing such partnerships to flourish. Through our Science and Technology Strategy, we are fostering an environment where ideas and research are given the leverage needed for meaningful, wide-reaching benefits. Indeed, since Budget 2007, this Government has announced well over \$200 million in new funding initiatives to expand and enhance the Networks of Centres of Excellence program alone. These and other recent and ongoing initiatives will allow Canada to take better advantage of the enviable research capacity we have built over the years. Investing in science and technology now will lead to a stronger, healthier, more sustainable Canada in the future.

On behalf of the Government of Canada, I thank you for your ongoing dedication to reducing the suffering caused by allergic disease while helping to place Canada at the forefront of the global knowledge economy. I wish you a productive and enjoyable conference.



A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'J' and 'P' followed by a horizontal line.

The Honourable Jim Prentice
Minister of Industry

Canada



Message de l'honorable Jim Prentice, ministre de l'Industrie

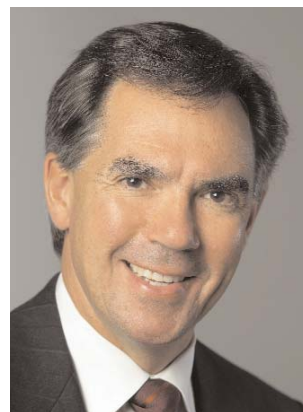
Bienvenue dans le cadre enchanteur de Banff (Alberta) et au troisième congrès scientifique annuel d'AllerGen ayant pour thème L'innovation de la cellule à la société³.

Au cours des prochains jours, vous traiterez des plus récents progrès scientifiques dans le domaine des allergies et des déficiences immunitaires. C'est également une occasion pour vous de partager votre expérience et d'échanger des idées pour améliorer la qualité de vie des dizaines de milliers de Canadiens qui souffrent de ces affections.

AllerGen a réussi à mobiliser des chercheurs, cliniciens et partenaires de plusieurs disciplines envers un objectif commun : améliorer la santé des Canadiens et la qualité des soins qui leur sont disponibles. Les efforts déployés par votre Réseau pour acquérir le savoir, commercialiser ses découvertes et former la main d'œuvre hautement spécialisée, contribuent à améliorer la santé et le mieux-être des Canadiens.

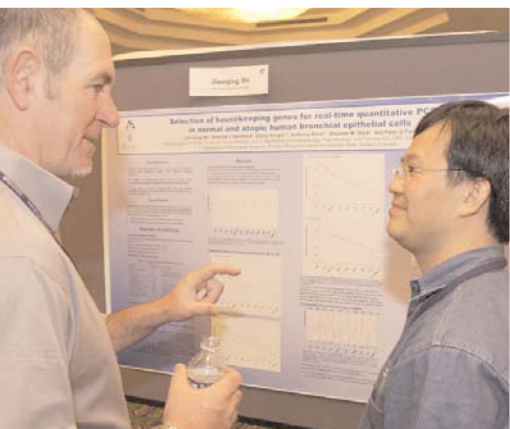
Les succès d'AllerGen et les incidences de ses travaux de recherche sont des exemples des avantages qui résultent de la concertation des secteurs public, universitaire et commercial. Le gouvernement du Canada souscrit pleinement à la réussite de ce partenariat. Grâce à notre stratégie en matière de sciences et de technologie, nous stimulons le développement d'un environnement qui donne aux idées et à la recherche le tremplin nécessaire pour atteindre des résultats significatifs et extraordinaires. En effet, depuis le budget de 2007, le présent gouvernement a annoncé plus de 200 millions de dollars de nouvelles initiatives de financement pour étendre et améliorer le programme des Réseaux de centres d'excellence. Ces récentes initiatives, parmi d'autres, permettront au Canada de tirer davantage profit de la capacité enviable de recherche que nous avons bâtie au fil des ans. L'investissement dans les sciences et la technologie maintenant assurera un Canada en meilleure santé, plus fort et plus viable dans l'avenir.

Au nom du gouvernement du Canada, je tiens à vous remercier pour votre travail inlassable à réduire la souffrance causée par les allergies tout en contribuant à placer le Canada au premier rang de l'économie mondiale du savoir. Je vous souhaite un excellent et fructueux congrès.



L'honorable Jim Prentice
Ministre de l'Industrie

Canada



Conference Chair

Diana Royce
Managing Director and COO
AllerGen NCE Inc.

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Judah A. Denburg
Scientific Director and CEO
AllerGen NCE Inc.

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Charles Frankish
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Susan Wasserman
AllerGen Investigator

Anne Ellis
Chair, AllerGen Students and
New Professionals Network

Samantha Simpkin
Office Manager
AllerGen NCE Inc.

Conference Information

The registration desk is located outside the Wildrose Ballroom on Level 6, South Wing, of the Rimrock Resort.

The Registration/Information Desk will be staffed at the following times:

- ☐ Sunday, February 10: 1:00 pm to 6:00 pm
- ☐ Monday, February 11: 7:30 am to 4:00 pm
- ☐ Tuesday, February 12: 7:30 am to Noon

Admission to conference events is by **CONFERENCE NAME BADGE ONLY**. Registrations are non-transferable and sharing of registration is not permitted.

Full registration includes:

- ☐ Sunday Welcome Reception; breakfasts, breaks, lunches, Reception and Gala Dinner at the Rimrock;
- ☐ All scientific sessions; and
- ☐ Conference handouts.

One-day registration includes:

- ☐ Scientific sessions on specific day;
- ☐ Breakfasts, breaks and lunches; and
- ☐ Conference handouts.

Conference Program

Sunday, February 10

3:30-4:30 pm	Environmental Exposure Workshop: Public Plenary Session <i>Hawthorne, Level 6, South Wing</i> The Cup is half full: Strategies for the selective collection, saving and measurement of estimated exposures in birth cohort studies to test current and future central hypotheses on the origins of allergy and asthma Dr. Diane Gold <i>Associate Professor, Harvard Medical School, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Channing Laboratory, Boston, Massachusetts</i>
5:00-6:00 pm	Opening Ceremonies <i>Wildrose BC, Level 6, South Wing</i> Welcome and Introductions Chaviva Hošek, PhD <i>Vice-Chair, Board of Directors, AllerGen NCE Inc.</i> Messages from Invited Guests Dr. Rose Goldstein <i>Vice-President (Research), University of Calgary</i> Jacques Magnan, PhD <i>Interim President and CEO, Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research</i> Dr. Terry Klassen <i>Director, Maternal, Infant, Child and Youth Research Network, University of Alberta</i> AllerGen: Back to the future Dr. Judah Denburg <i>Scientific Director and CEO, AllerGen NCE Inc.</i>
6:00-7:00 pm	Opening Keynote Speaker <i>Wildrose BC, Level 6, South Wing</i> The relevance of allergen specific IgE antibodies to asthma and other allergic diseases Dr. Thomas Platts-Mills <i>Professor of Medicine and Head, Division of Allergy and Clinical Immunology University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Virginia</i>
7:00-8:00 pm	Welcome Reception for all Conference Delegates <i>Wildrose A, Level 6, South Wing</i>
8:00-11:00 pm	AllerGen Students and New Professionals Network-Hosted Pub Night <i>Divas, Level 7</i>

Monday, February 11

7:30-9:00 am	Breakfast Buffet <i>Wildrose A, Level 6, South Wing</i>
8:55-9:00 am	Welcome <i>Wildrose BC, Level 6, South Wing</i> Dr. Judah Denburg <i>Scientific Director and CEO, AllerGen NCE Inc.</i>
9:00-10:30 am	Research Symposium & Panel Discussion <i>Wildrose BC, Level 6, South Wing</i> Assessment of environmental exposure related to asthma and allergy <i>Moderators: Jeffrey Brook, PhD, AllerGen Research Management Committee (RMC) and Senior Scientist, Air Quality Research Division, Environment Canada Michael Brauer, ScD, AllerGen Investigator, and Professor, School of Environmental Health, University of British Columbia</i>

Research Symposium & Panel Discussion cont'd

Keynote Speaker

New findings, concepts and hypotheses regarding air pollution, asthma and allergy

Bert Brunekreef, PhD

*Professor, Environmental Epidemiology
Director, Institute for Risk Assessment Sciences
Utrecht University, the Netherlands*

Environmental exposure assessments: A report from AllerGen's environment exposures workshop

Jeffrey Brook, PhD, AllerGen Investigator

Senior Scientist, Air Quality Research Division, Environment Canada

Panel Discussion and Q&A: What environmental exposures are most important to quantify and how much can we realistically know?

Moderator: Frances Silverman, PhD, AllerGen Investigator

*Director of Research, Gage Occupational and Environmental Health Unit, and
Associate Professor, University of Toronto*

Panelists (including Drs Brook, Brauer and Brunekreef):

Dr. Diane Gold

Associate Professor, Harvard Medical School

Dr. Stephanie London

Senior Investigator, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences

James Scott, PhD, AllerGen Investigator

Assistant Professor, University of Toronto

Dr. Tim Takaro, AllerGen Investigator

Associate Professor, Simon Fraser University

10:30-11:00 am

Break

Wildrose Foyer, Level 6, South Wing

11:00 am-12:30 pm

Research Symposium

Wildrose BC, Level 6, South Wing

Birth cohorts in the study of allergy and asthma: Past, present and future

Moderator: Dr. Peter Paré, Programme Leader, Gene-Environment Interactions

Introduction: Growing up with asthma

Dr. Malcolm Sears, Programme Leader, Gene-Environment Interactions

*Research Director, Firestone Institute for Respiratory Health
Professor, McMaster University*

Collaboration among European birth cohorts in the GA²LEN network of excellence

Dr. Susanne Lau

*Assistant Professor, Charité - Medical University Berlin, Germany
Department of Pediatric Pneumology and Immunology, Campus Virchow Klinikum*

Health consequences and environmental burden of allergen exposure: Results of the German birth cohort, LISA

Joachim Heinrich, PhD

Head, Environmental Epidemiology, GSF National Research Center for Environment and Health, Institute for Epidemiology

12:30-2:00 pm

Luncheon and Poster Viewing

Wildrose ABC and Foyer, Level 6, South Wing

2:00-3:30 pm

Research Symposium and Panel Discussion

Wildrose BC, Level 6, South Wing

CHILD is born: Nature and nurture

Moderator: Dr. Malcolm Sears, Programme Leader, Gene-Environment Interactions

Objective assessment of lung function and inflammation in infants: Is it possible?

Dr. Padmaja Subbarao, AllerGen Investigator

Assistant Professor, Hospital for Sick Children

Gender differences in the presentation of atopy and asthma: Implications for longitudinal birth cohort studies

Dr. Piush Mandhane, AllerGen Investigator

Assistant Professor, University of Alberta

Mini-CHILD into CHILD: Lessons learned from piloting the CHILD study in B.C.

Dr. Stuart Turvey, *AllerGen Investigator*
Assistant Professor, University of British Columbia

SAGE (the Manitoba cohort) to CHILD: Looking backward - moving forward!

Dr. Ganesh Srinivasan, *AllerGen Investigator*
Assistant Professor, University of Manitoba

Panel Discussion and Q&A: Lessons for CHILD

Panelists:

Dr. Rick Hegele
Professor, University of British Columbia

Dr. Bruce Ritchie
Assistant Professor, University of Alberta

Kristel Van Steen, *PhD*
*Assistant professor, Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science,
Institut Montefiore / Bioinformatics*

3:30-3:45 pm **Break** *Wildrose Foyer, Level 6, South Wing*

3:45-4:30 pm **Research Symposium** *Wildrose BC, Level 6, South Wing*

Ethics, law and society in the study of allergy

Moderator: Timothy Caulfield, Allergen Investigator & AllerGen Research Management Committee

Ethics: Ethical and legal issues in birth cohort research

Timothy Caulfield, *LL.M., Allergen Investigator*
Research Director, Health Law Institute, University of Alberta

Growing up as a research subject: Ethical and legal issues in birth cohort studies involving genetic research

Nola Ries, *LL.M., AllerGen Investigator*
Adjunct Assistant Professor, University of Victoria

Fetal programming of allergic diseases: The role of prenatal stress perception in murine and human pregnancies

Dr. Petra Arck
*Brain Body Institute, Department of Medicine, McMaster University,
Charité - Medical University Berlin, Germany*

4:30-5:30 pm **Research Symposium and Panel Discussion** *Wildrose BC, Level 6, South Wing*

Preserving the future of the specialty: Increasing Canadian capacity in clinical immunology and allergy

Moderators: Dr. Charles Frankish, President of the Canadian Society of Allergy and Clinical Immunology

*Dr. Susan Waserman, AllerGen Investigator, and Associate Professor,
McMaster University*

The U.S. experience in the development of clinical immunology and allergy specialist programmes

Dr. Stephen J. McGeary
Professor, Pediatrics, Thomas Jefferson University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

**Panel Discussion and Q&A: Lessons for capacity building in Canada and ways
AllerGen NCE can facilitate progress**

Panelists:

Dr. Don Stark
*Clinical Immunologist and Chair, Specialty Committee on Clinical Immunology
and Allergy, Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada*

Dr. Wade Watson
*Associate Professor, Department of Child Health, and Head, Section of Allergy and
Clinical Immunology, Dalhousie University*

5:30-7:00 pm **Poster Session and Adjudication** *Wildrose BC and Foyer, Level 6, South Wing*

7:00 pm **Adjournment Day Two**

Tuesday, February 12

7:30-8:55 am	Breakfast Buffet	Wildrose A, Level 6, South Wing
8:55-9:00 am	Overview of Day's Program	Wildrose BC, Level 6, South Wing
	Dr. Judah Denburg <i>Scientific Director and CEO, AllerGen NCE Inc.</i>	
9:00-10:30 am	Research Symposium	Wildrose BC, Level 6, South Wing
	The immunology of allergy and asthma: CanGoFar and Biomarkers <i>Moderator: Dean Befus, PhD, Programme Leader, Diagnostics and Therapeutics Professor of Medicine, University of Alberta</i>	
	Canadian Group on Food and Allergy Research (CanGoFar) overview Jean Marshall, PhD, AllerGen Investigator <i>Professor, Dalhousie University</i>	
	CanGoFar data Dr. Manel Jordana, AllerGen Investigator <i>Associate Professor, McMaster University</i>	
	Non-invasive assessment of atopic diseases: Metabolomic profiling of urine using Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) Dr. Darryl Adamko, AllerGen Investigator <i>Associate Professor, University of Alberta</i>	
	Regulation of CRTh2, a receptor involved in allergic inflammation Lisa Cameron, PhD, AllerGen investigator <i>Assistant Professor, University of Alberta</i>	
10:30-11:00 am	Break	Wildrose Foyer Level 6, South Wing
11:00 am-12:30 pm	Research Symposium	Wildrose BC, Level 6, South Wing
	Health policy issues in allergy, anaphylaxis and asthma <i>Moderators: Dr. Allan Becker, Programme Leader, Public Health, Ethics, Policy and Society, and Professor, University of Manitoba Susan Elliott, PhD, Programme Leader, Public Health, Ethics, Policy and Society, and Dean of Social Sciences and Professor, McMaster University</i>	
	Food labelling and policies for the allergic consumer Dr. Ann Clarke, AllerGen Investigator <i>Associate Professor, McGill University Health Centre</i>	
	Health professionals: Delivering asthma education and support to children with asthma Miriam Stewart, PhD, AllerGen Investigator <i>Professor, University of Alberta</i>	
	Perinatal stress and immigration: Potential impact on allergic disease development in offspring Dr. Claudio Soares, AllerGen Investigator <i>Associate Professor, McMaster University</i>	
12:30-2:00 pm	Luncheon and Poster Viewing	Wildrose ABC and Foyer, Level 6, South Wing
2:00-3:30 pm	Research Symposium	Wildrose BC, Level 6, South Wing
	Clinical Investigator Collaborative <i>Moderator: Dr. Paul O'Byrne, Programme Leader, Diagnostics and Therapeutics Chair, Department of Medicine, McMaster University</i>	
	Ongoing clinical studies Dr. Louis-Philippe Boulet, AllerGen Investigator <i>Professor, Université Laval</i>	
	Completed clinical studies Gail Gauvreau, PhD, AllerGen Investigator <i>Assistant Professor, McMaster University</i>	

Research Symposium cont'd

Proposed clinical studies

Dr. Mark Fitzgerald, Allergan Investigator
Director, Centre for Clinical Epidemiology and Evaluation, Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute

New initiatives: Vaccine trial development

Mark Larché, PhD, Allergan Investigator
Professor, McMaster University

Pharmacogenetic platform

Scott Tebbutt, PhD, Allergan Investigator
Assistant Professor, University of British Columbia

3:30-3:45 pm	Break	<i>Wildrose Foyer, Level 6, South Wing</i>
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3:45-4:30 pm	Research Symposium	<i>Wildrose BC, Level 6, South Wing</i>
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Occupational asthma

Moderator: Dr. Nicola Cherry, Allergan Investigator
Professor, University of Alberta

Work-related asthma: An evaluation of two surveillance programs

Mieke Koehoorn, PhD, Allergan Investigator
Associate Professor, University of British Columbia

Niki Garzia, Allergan Trainee
University of British Columbia

Surveillance and spin-off studies

Dr. Nicola Cherry, Allergan Investigator
Professor, University of Alberta

Dr. Jeremy Beach, Allergan Investigator
Associate Professor, University of Alberta

Igor Burstyn, PhD, Allergan Investigator
Associate Professor, University of Alberta

Yuxin Liu, Allergan Trainee
University of Alberta

4:30-5:30 pm	Keynote Speaker	<i>Wildrose BC, Level 6, South Wing</i>
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"A Journalist's Perspective" Science As I've Seen It

Bob McDonald
Host of CBC Radio's Quirks and Quarks

5:30 pm	Closing Remarks	<i>Wildrose BC, Level 6, South Wing</i>
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Dr. Judah Denburg
Scientific Director and CEO, Allergan NCE Inc.

5:30-6:30 pm	Poster Session and Final Adjudication	<i>Wildrose BC and Foyer, Level 6, South Wing</i>
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6:30-10:00 pm	Reception & Gala Dinner, Trainee Awards	<i>Wildrose A and Foyer, Level 6, South Wing</i>
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**Mark your
calendars!**

Fourth Annual Research Conference

INNOVATION
from **cell.**
to **society⁴**

February 15-17, 2009 • Ottawa, Ontario

Featured Speakers

Thomas Platts-Mills, MD

After training in Oxford and St. Thomas Hospital, Dr. Thomas Platts-Mills spent three years in the laboratory of Dr. Kimismige Ishizaka at Johns Hopkins in Baltimore. From 1974-1982, he worked for the Medical Research Council in London where his studies focused on understanding the role of dust mites in asthma and atopic dermatitis. In 1982, he was appointed head of the Division of Allergy and Clinical Immunology at the University of Virginia. His work there extended to the investigation of other indoor allergens, cockroach and cat. Using studies on school children and emergency room patients, his group provided much of the primary evidence that indoor exposure is a major cause of asthma.



Dr. Platts-Mills has played a prominent role in the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology and was president in 2006-2007. He is currently chair of the Coordinating Committee for the Asthma and Allergic Disease Cooperative Research Centers for the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. In the past two years, his studies have identified a major cross-reactive carbohydrate determinant (CRCD) present on mammalian proteins. This CRCD is relevant to anaphylaxis, both with a monoclonal antibody and with exposure to mammalian proteins.

Stephen J. McGeedy, MD

Dr. Stephen J. McGeedy is an experienced allergist and immunologist with a long history of leadership in that medical community.

After completing his Fellowship in Allergy/Immunology at Duke University Medical Center in North Carolina, Dr. McGeedy went on to hold key positions at numerous hospitals, including Chief of Allergy/Immunology at the duPont Hospital for Children, Wilmington, Delaware.



Currently a Professor of Pediatrics at Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Dr. McGeedy has published and lectured throughout his career, and is a reviewer for the *New England Medical Journal* and the *Journal of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology*. He has made contributions to basic and clinical research on the pathogenesis natural history of transient Hypogammaglobulinemia, Immune Mechanism of Eosinophilic Esophagitis, Latex Allergy and Asthma.

He has been active in professional organizations such as the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology, Pennsylvania Allergy Society, and the Philadelphia Allergy Society. He has been cited in "America's Top Doctors."

Bert Brunekreef, PhD

Bert Brunekreef, PhD, is Professor of Environmental Epidemiology in both the faculties of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine at Utrecht University in the Netherlands.



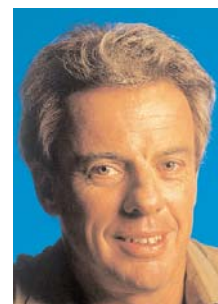
Specializing in air pollution and environmental health in his graduate and undergraduate studies, Dr. Brunekreef obtained his PhD in Environmental Epidemiology in 1985 at the Wageningen University, the Netherlands. In the following year, he studied the health effects of air pollution episodes and of living in damp homes at the Harvard School of Public Health.

He has coordinated numerous European Union-funded studies in air pollution, allergy and health, partnered on international collaborations and led two projects funded by the U.S. Health Effects Institute. As an advisor in the field of environmental health, Dr. Brunekreef has served on national and international panels, including the Dutch National Health Council, the World Health Organization and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

He is co-author of more than 300 peer reviewed journal articles in the field of environmental epidemiology and exposure assessment.

Bob McDonald

Bob McDonald has been communicating science internationally through television, radio, print and live presentations for more than 30 years. He is the host of CBC Radio's Quirks and Quarks, the award-winning science program with a national audience of nearly 500,000 people. He is also a regular reporter for CBC Television's The National as well as host and writer of the Gemini-nominated children's series Head's Up.



As a print journalist, McDonald has authored two science books for children and contributed to numerous science textbooks, newspapers and magazines including *The Globe and Mail*, *Owl Magazine* and many others.

McDonald has been honoured for his outstanding contribution to the promotion of science in Canada as the 2001 recipient of the Michael Smith Award from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council, the 2001 Sir Sanford Fleming Medal from the Royal Canadian Institute, Canada's oldest scientific institution; and the 2005 recipient of The McNeil Medal for the Public Awareness of Science, through The Royal Society of Canada. He has received two honorary Doctorates, from the University of Guelph and Carleton University.

About AllerGen

AllerGen NCE Inc. is dedicated to improving the quality of life for people suffering from allergic and related immune diseases.

Our Vision

To create an enduring network of allergy and immune disease experts whose discovery and development efforts contribute to reducing the impact of allergic and related immune diseases nationally and globally.

Our Mission

To catalyze and support discovery, development, networking, capacity building, commercialization and knowledge translation that contribute to reducing the morbidity, mortality and socio-economic burden of allergic and related immune diseases.

Our Strategic Goals

1. Catalyze and support innovative research that contributes to the discovery of the causes of, and ways to prevent, control or eliminate allergic and related immune diseases.
2. Create new opportunities for the training of highly qualified entrepreneurial personnel in allergy research, patient care, innovation and the health system, and advance professional and lay knowledge about allergic and related immune diseases.
3. Catalyze and facilitate the development of new research platforms, tools, processes, products and services arising from discoveries, and promote their commercialization, their use and their influence on public policy.
4. Develop and maintain networking and partnership arrangements that enable knowledge and technology exchange and exploitation (KTEE).
5. Provide responsible, cost effective and accountable management, administration and support to all aspects of AllerGen's activities.



THE HEIGHTS WE REACH
DEPEND ON THE DEPTH OF OUR ROOTS.



At McMaster, we know complex issues require integrated solutions. Digging deep is second nature to us. Our innovative and multi-disciplinary approach to research has earned us international acclaim. But more than that, it's helped to save lives and contribute to the nation's social and economic well-being.

It is indeed fitting that McMaster University is home to **AllerGen NCE Inc.**, a dynamic centre of excellence that shares our philosophy and approach to research.

mcmaster.ca/research



Novartis Pharmaceuticals Canada Inc., a leader in the healthcare field, is committed to the discovery, development and marketing of innovative products to improve the well-being of all Canadians. Novartis Pharmaceuticals Canada conducts hundreds of clinical trials across the country seeking new treatments for cardiovascular disease, diabetes, cancer, organ transplantation and ophthalmic diseases. In 2006, the Company invested over \$69 million in research and development. Novartis Pharmaceuticals Canada Inc. employs approximately 850 people in Canada and its headquarters are located in Dorval, Quebec.

Novartis Pharmaceuticals Canada Inc.
385 Bouchard Blvd., Dorval, QC H9S 1A9
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Welcome from the Board Chair and Scientific Director

On behalf of the AllerGen Board of Directors, Research Leaders, Administrative Centre and our generous conference sponsors, we welcome you to our third Annual Research Conference, Innovation from Cell to Society³. This year our focus is on a pressing issue of great concern to Canadians and to people around the world: "Allergy and the Environment."

Since its launch in 2004, AllerGen has enabled more than 500 researchers, trainees, business leaders, industry entrepreneurs, policy makers, healthcare providers and patient advocates to form national and international communities of investigators and stakeholders who are collectively focused on reducing the impact of allergy, asthma and anaphylaxis. These partnerships, supplemented by the recent establishment of linkages between AllerGen and a range of international research organizations and networks, underpin the Network's ability to undertake research that can be translated into economic and social benefits for Canadians, and position Canada as a leader on the world stage in translational research addressing allergic and related immune diseases.

This conference programme provides opportunities to learn more about state-of-the-art research in allergy and asthma across multiple disciplines. It also provides a forum in which we can strengthen our professional and personal ties, and identify new opportunities for collaboration and partnership.

We hope that this conference will inspire and encourage you to move forward with novel ideas and build new scientific and community relationships that will lead to an improved quality of life for children and adults suffering from allergic and related immune diseases.



Graham W.S. Scott

Mot de bienvenue du président du conseil d'administration et du directeur scientifique

Au nom du conseil d'administration d'AllerGen, de nos chercheurs de pointe, de nos administrateurs et de nos généreux commanditaires, il nous fait le plus grand plaisir de vous accueillir à la troisième conférence de recherche annuelle du Réseau, Innovation de la cellule à la société³. Cette année, notre thème porte sur un enjeu qui préoccupe grandement les Canadiens et les citoyens de tous les pays : « les allergies et l'environnement ».

Depuis son inauguration en 2004, AllerGen a aidé à plus de 500 chercheurs, scientifiques en formation, sommités du secteur privé, partenaires industriels, décideurs et défenseurs des droits des patients à former, à l'échelle nationale et internationale, des partenariats de recherche et d'intervention qui travaillent ensemble à réduire l'impact des allergies, de l'asthme et de l'anaphylaxie. Étayés par de nouveaux liens établis avec d'importants réseaux et organismes de recherche à l'échelle internationale, ces partenariats viennent renforcer notre capacité de réaliser des projets de recherche qui auront une incidence positive marquée sur l'économie et la qualité de vie de tous les Canadiens, en plus de positionner le Canada parmi les chefs de file mondiaux de la recherche appliquée dans le domaine des affections allergiques et immunitaires.

Le programme de la conférence vous invite à approfondir votre connaissance de la recherche multidisciplinaire de pointe portant sur l'asthme et les affections allergiques, en plus d'offrir de nombreuses occasions de réseautage professionnel et personnel qui mèneront, nous l'espérons, à de nouvelles initiatives de collaboration et de partenariat.

Nous souhaitons que cette conférence servira de source d'inspiration, qu'elle vous encouragera à aller de l'avant avec de nouvelles idées et à établir de nouveaux partenariats scientifiques et communautaires qui amélioreront la qualité de vie des enfants et des adultes souffrant d'asthme et d'affections allergiques et immunitaires.



Dr. Judah Denburg

Graham W.S. Scott, C.M., O.C./C.M., c.r.
Chair, AllerGen Board of Directors
président du conseil d'administration

Judah Denburg, MD, FRCP(C)
Scientific Director and CEO, AllerGen NCE Inc.
directeur scientifique et DG, AllerGen NCE Inc.



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