



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

INNOVATION from cell to society⁷

Seventh Annual Research Conference

February 5 - 7, 2012

Fairmont Royal York, Toronto, Ontario



2012 Annual Conference Planning Committee

Sharon Dell, MD, Chair, AllerGen Annual Conference Planning Committee; Associate Professor, Department of Pediatrics & iHPME, University of Toronto; Senior Associate Scientist, Division of Respiratory Medicine, The Hospital for Sick Children

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Diana Royce, EdD, Managing Director and COO, AllerGen NCE Inc.

Malcolm Sears, MB, AllerGen Research Management Committee and Director, Canadian Healthy Infant Longitudinal Development (CHILD) Study; Professor, Division of Respiratory, Department of Medicine and AstraZeneca Chair in Respiratory Epidemiology, McMaster University

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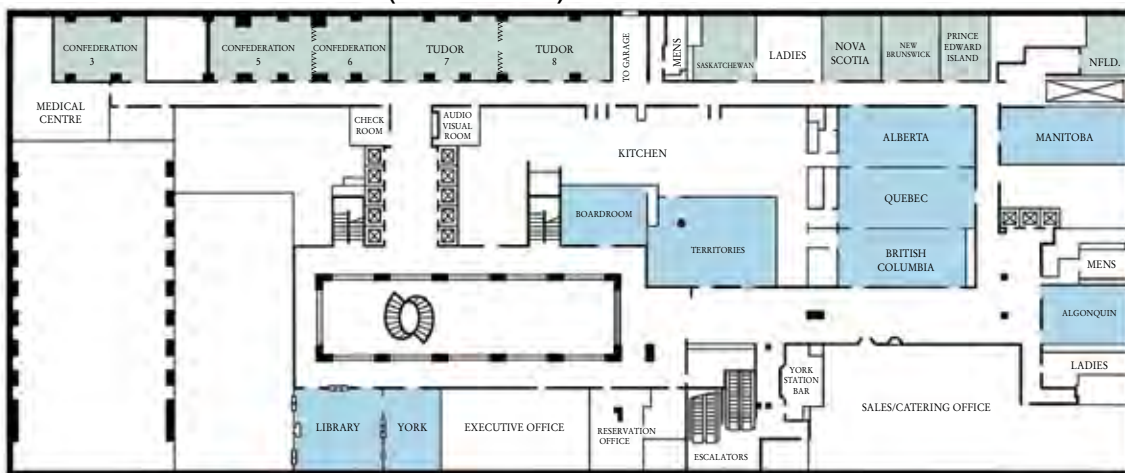
Manager, Communications and Knowledge Mobilization

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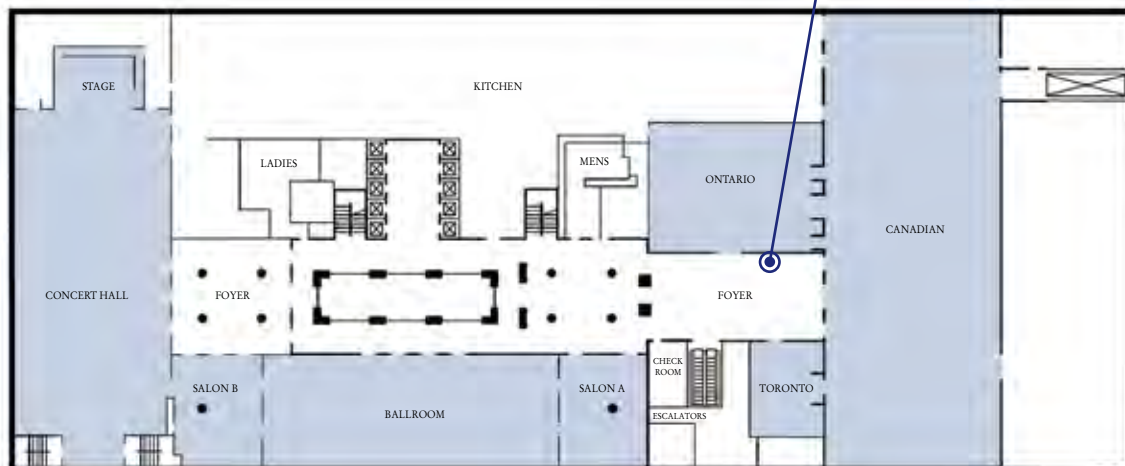
Fairmont Royal York Floor Plan

Main Mezzanine Floor (MM Level)



Convention Floor (C Level)

AllerGen Registration Desk



Conference Information

The registration desk is located in the Canadian Room Foyer on the convention floor (C Level).

The registration desk will be staffed at the following times:

Saturday, February 4 11:00 am to 7:30 pm
Sunday, February 5 7:00 am to 6:30 pm
Monday, February 6 7:00 am to 6:30 pm
Tuesday, February 7 7:00 am to 5:00 pm

Admission to conference sessions and events is by Conference Badge Only. Registrations are non-transferable and badge sharing is not permitted.

Full registration includes:

- All sessions including keynote and other research presentations
- Conference materials
- All meals including Monday night Banquet and Awards Ceremony

Programme des Réseaux de centres d'excellence (RCE)

Le programme :

Le Programme des Réseaux de centres d'excellence (RCE) est un programme conjoint du Conseil de recherches en sciences naturelles et en génie du Canada, du Conseil de recherches en sciences humaines du Canada, des Instituts de recherche en santé du Canada et d'Industrie Canada. Le Programme des RCE a été lancé en 1989 dans le but de gérer les premier réseaux. À l'heure actuelle, le Secrétariat des RCE exécute les quatre programmes nationaux suivants :

- les Réseaux de centres d'excellence (RCE);
- les Centres d'excellence en commercialisation et en recherche (CECR);
- les Réseaux de centres d'excellence dirigés par les entreprises (RCE-E);
- les stages en R et D industrielle (SRDI).

Notre mission :

Nous mobilisons le talent en recherche et en commercialisation afin d'édifier un Canada plus sain, plus avancé, plus concurrentiel et plus prospère.

Notre façon de faire :

Les quatre programmes des RCE réunissent des partenaires du milieu universitaire, des secteurs privé et public et du secteur sans but lucratif afin de mener de la recherche de pointe et des activités de transfert de connaissances dans des domaines d'importance stratégique en croissance et fertiles de possibilités au Canada.

Networks of Centres of Excellence (NCE) Program

Who we are:

We are a joint program of the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada, the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and Industry Canada. Launched in 1989 to manage the original Network of Centres of Excellence (NCE), today the NCE Secretariat runs four national initiatives:

- Networks of Centres of Excellence (NCE)
- Centres of Excellence for Commercialization and Research (CECRs)
- Business-Led Networks of Centres of Excellence (BL-NCEs)
- Industrial Research and Development Internship program (IRDI)

Our mission:

We mobilize research and commercialization to build a healthier, more advanced, more competitive and more prosperous Canada.

How we do it:

The four NCE programs bring together partners from the academic, industry, public and non-profit sectors to conduct leading edge research and knowledge transfer activities in areas of strategic growth and opportunity for Canada.



AllerGen is supported by the Government of Canada through the Networks of Centres of Excellence program.
AllerGen est appuyé par le gouvernement du Canada dans le cadre du programme des Réseaux de centres d'excellence.

AllerGen NCE Inc.

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Welcome from the Board Chair and Scientific Director

On behalf of the AllerGen Board of Directors, Research Leaders, Administrative Centre Staff and our generous conference sponsors and supporters, we welcome you to AllerGen's Annual Research Conference, *Innovation from cell to society*⁷, at the historic Fairmont Royal York Hotel in Toronto, Ontario.

Over the last seven years, AllerGen has fostered the development of a national network of allergy, asthma, anaphylaxis and related immune diseases experts, partners and stakeholders from across Canada and around the world. This annual conference is one of our primary vehicles for knowledge translation and transfer. It also offers a unique opportunity to network with researchers, trainees and new professionals, international experts, industry, government, healthcare and academic partner representatives across disciplines and sectors.

As always, we are delighted to welcome our clinical colleagues to this year's conference. For the first time, we are offering Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada Maintenance of Certification credits, approved by the Canadian Society of Allergy and Clinical Immunology.

Between 2005 and 2011, AllerGen has invested over \$26 million in allergy, asthma and anaphylaxis research in three priority areas: Gene-Environment Interactions, Diagnostics and Therapeutics and Public Health, Ethics, Policy and Society, generating an additional \$48 million in cash and in-kind support from research partners. AllerGen's research investments have leveraged partner support for its initiatives at a ratio of 1:2.27 – more than doubling the value of its NCE investment.

The theme of this year's conference is birth cohort research. Opening the event on Sunday is Dr. John Henderson, Professor of Paediatric, Respiratory Medicine, University

of Bristol. He will present key findings and lessons learned from the *Avon Longitudinal Study of Parents and Children (ALSPAC) Cohort*.

Complementing the UK study are presentations about AllerGen's Canadian birth cohort - the *Canadian Healthy Infant Longitudinal Development (CHILD) Study*, led by Dr. Malcolm Sears, Director, the *CHILD Study* and Professor, Division of Respiriology, Department of Medicine, McMaster University and his national team. Dr. Sears and his team will present various components of the *CHILD Study*, which is studying 5,000 Canadian infants from conception through to early childhood focusing on risk factors for developing allergies and asthma, including viral infections, environmental exposures, diet and stress.

Roger Martin, MBA, Chairman, Institute for Competitiveness & Prosperity and Dean, Joseph L. Rotman School of Management, University of Toronto, will close the conference with his views on innovation in Canada, including current and future opportunities and challenges.

Also, back by popular demand are the "lightning-round" trainee scientific poster presentations where each AllerGen trainee makes a one minute presentation to conference delegates about their research results. This process is part of a broader evaluation where students compete for cash prizes based on the excellence of their research posters and presentations. We encourage you to take time during the conference to discuss the research posters and learn more about the exciting research underway within the Network.

Finally, we would like to thank the many sponsors and supporters who have contributed to making this year's conference both possible and successful.

We hope you enjoy this year's event!



A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Graham Scott'.

Mr. Graham W.S. Scott, C.M., Q.C
Chair, AllerGen Board of Directors
AllerGen NCE Inc.



A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Judah Denburg'.

Dr. Judah Denburg, MD, FRCP(C)
Scientific Director and CEO
AllerGen NCE Inc.

Minister of State
(Science and Technology)



Ministre d'État
(Sciences et Technologie)

Message de l'honorable Gary Goodyear, ministre d'État (Sciences et Technologie)



L'honorable Gary Goodyear
Ministre d'État
(Sciences et Technologie)

Au nom du gouvernement du Canada, je vous souhaite la bienvenue à la septième conférence annuelle de recherche d'AllerGen.

Notre gouvernement est fier d'appuyer le programme des Réseaux de centres d'excellence et s'est engagé à soutenir AllerGen jusqu'en 2019. Les investissements en recherche d'AllerGen contribuent à améliorer la vie de millions de Canadiens qui souffrent de complications dues aux maladies allergiques.

De nos jours, plus de 50 pour cent des familles canadiennes sont touchées directement ou indirectement par l'asthme et les maladies allergiques. Au cours des sept dernières années, la recherche et les connaissances d'AllerGen ont été un motif d'espoir pour les Canadiens en ce qui a trait à la mise au point de nouvelles méthodes pour prévenir, contrôler et traiter les allergies, l'asthme, l'anaphylaxie et les maladies auto-immunes connexes. La recherche d'AllerGen a été intégrée à de nouvelles politiques publiques et aux nouveaux outils pédagogiques, ce qui fait du Canada un chef de file en matière de mobilisation des connaissances et d'innovation sociale.

La recherche et développement constitue l'une des principales priorités de notre gouvernement. Les investissements en sciences et en technologie — guidés par la stratégie des sciences et de la technologie du gouvernement — contribueront à faire du Canada un chef de file au sein de l'économie mondiale axée sur le savoir. La poursuite de nos investissements dans les Réseaux de centres d'excellence, comme AllerGen, améliorera la qualité de vie des Canadiens, renforcera l'économie et appuiera la création d'emplois.

Je tiens à féliciter les organisateurs de cet événement qui ont réuni des conférenciers de marque, des partenaires, des patients et des stagiaires de recherche.

Au nom du Premier ministre Stephen Harper, je tiens à encourager les chercheurs, les organismes partenaires et les stagiaires d'AllerGen ainsi que les patients à poursuivre leurs efforts afin de découvrir de nouvelles façons d'améliorer la santé et le bien-être des Canadiens.

Je vous offre à tous mes meilleurs vœux de succès et je me réjouis d'avance des progrès scientifiques qui résulteront de ce réseau remarquable.

Canada

Minister of State
(Science and Technology)



Ministre d'État
(Sciences et Technologie)

Message from the Honourable Gary Goodyear, Minister of State (Science and Technology)



The Honourable Gary Goodyear
Minister of State
(Science and Technology)

On behalf of the Government of Canada, it is my pleasure to welcome you to AllerGen's Seventh Annual Research Conference.

Our government is proud of the Networks of Centres of Excellence program, and we will continue to support AllerGen through to 2019. AllerGen's research helps to improve the lives of millions of Canadians suffering from the complications of allergic diseases.

Today over 50 percent of Canadian families are directly or indirectly affected by asthma and allergic diseases. Over the past seven years, AllerGen's research and knowledge has offered Canadians hope for the development of new methods to prevent, manage and treat allergies, asthma, anaphylaxis and related immune diseases. AllerGen's research has been integrated into new public policies and educational tools, positioning Canada as a leader in knowledge mobilization and social innovation.

Research and development is one of our government's major priorities. Investments in science and technology—guided by the government's science and technology strategy—will help to position Canada as a leader in the global knowledge-based economy. Our continued investment in Networks of Centres of Excellence, such as AllerGen, will improve the quality of life of Canadians, strengthen the economy and support job creation.

Congratulations to the event organizers for assembling a program of distinguished speakers, partners, patients and research trainees.

On behalf of Prime Minister Stephen Harper, I encourage AllerGen's researchers, trainees, partner organizations and patients to continue to discover new ways to improve the health and well-being of Canadians.

I wish you all a very successful conference and look forward to the scientific advances that will arise from this outstanding Network.

Canada

Conference Learning Objectives

- Familiarize delegates with the most current science and practical knowledge relevant to the etiology of childhood asthma and allergy and to learn about unique data that will help determine environmental effects on childhood allergy and asthma
- To provide delegates with opportunities to share their experiences and discuss challenges with renowned Canadian and international experts in allergy, asthma, anaphylaxis and related immune disease research through interactive and dynamic educational sessions
- To give delegates an opportunity to interact with their colleagues on the latest clinical trends in the fields of allergy, asthma and anaphylaxis
- To offer delegates pragmatic take-home messages with a view towards enhancing their clinical practice
- To allow graduate, post-doctoral, and medical students opportunities to share and discuss their research findings with experts to enhance knowledge and networking opportunities.

Accreditation

This event is an Accredited Group Learning Activity (Section1) as defined by the Maintenance of Certification program of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, and approved by the Canadian Society of Allergy and Clinical Immunology.

About AllerGen

AllerGen NCE Inc., the Allergy, Genes and Environment Network, (est. 2004), is a national research network funded by Industry Canada through the Networks of Centres of Excellence (NCE) Program. AllerGen's mandate is to support research, networking, commercialization, knowledge mobilization and capacity building activities that contribute to reducing the morbidity, mortality and socio-economic impacts of allergic diseases.

AllerGen's long-term goal is 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.

AllerGen invests in leading-edge, multidisciplinary allergy, asthma and anaphylaxis research of strategic importance to the generation of new knowledge that contributes to improved health and productivity of Canadians and benefits the Canadian economy.

AllerGen's research investments are directed towards three overarching themes:

1. **Programme A - Gene-Environment Interactions**
Strategic Focus: Genetics, environmental exposures and gene-environment interactions in allergy and asthma
2. **Programme B – Diagnostics and Therapeutics**
Strategic Focus: Biomarkers, immune monitoring and drug development/discovery
3. **Programme C – Public Health, Ethics, Policy and Society**
Strategic Focus: Allergic disease management and surveillance

Within these three themes, AllerGen also invests in four cross-programmatic, multidisciplinary research teams:

Established Cross-programmatic Teams

The Canadian Healthy Infant Longitudinal Development (CHILD) Study
Food Allergy and Anaphylaxis

Emerging Cross-programmatic Teams

Mind-Body Interactions and Allergic Disease
Occupational and Work-related Allergy and Asthma



Keynote Speakers



Dr. John Henderson, MD, ChB (Manc), FRCP is a Professor of Paediatric Respiratory Medicine at the University of Bristol and Bristol Royal Hospital for Children. He qualified MB, ChB from the University of Manchester in 1981 and completed his MD through the same university in 1991. He trained in paediatrics in Manchester and London before being appointed research fellow to Dr. Fleming Carswell in Bristol in 1986. He then won a travelling fellowship to spend a year at the University of Western Australia. He returned to the University of Aberdeen as a lecturer and was appointed to a Consultant post in Bristol in 1993, moving to his current position in 1995.

Professor Henderson's research interests are in the early life origins of asthma and allergy. He has more than 100 original publications in this field. His recent research activities have centred on asthma epidemiology within the

Avon Longitudinal Study of Parents and Children (ALSPAC), where he is co-Director and heads the research theme of asthma and allergy. ALSPAC is a unique longitudinal birth cohort study recruited in pregnancy, which receives multi-million pound funding from the MRC (UK) and the Wellcome Trust. His current work is exploring the phenotypic variation of wheezing in young children and genetic and environmental factors associated with the development and natural history of asthma during childhood.

Prof. Henderson is co-editor of *Respiratory Disorders in Forfar & Arneil's Textbook of Paediatrics*. He has served as Deputy Editor of the *Archives of Disease in Childhood* and is currently on the editorial boards of the *American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine* and *Thorax*.



Dr. Malcolm Sears, MB, ChB, FRACP, FRCPC, FAAAAI was recruited from New Zealand in 1990, as the Director of the Firestone Regional Chest and Allergy Unit in Hamilton, Director of Respiratory Medicine at St. Joseph's Healthcare and Professor in the Department of Medicine at McMaster University. In 2002, he stepped down as Clinical Director and became Research Director of the Firestone Institute until 2009. Dr. Sears is involved in a number of critical studies investigating the epidemiology and natural history of asthma, with particular focus on its frequency, risk factors, and characteristics in large populations. Of note, is an important longitudinal study that he has been conducting for more than 25 years, studying the incidence and impact of asthma in a birth cohort of New Zealanders from infancy to adulthood.

Other research includes assessment of many asthma therapies, especially β -agonists, and the effects of indoor environmental allergens, viral infections, air pollutants, smoking, and hormones in respiratory disease. He is Principal Investigator and Director of the *Canadian Healthy Infant Longitudinal Development (CHILD) Study*, a birth cohort study of 5000 children, funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and AllerGen NCE Inc.

Dr. Sears has published over 200 peer-reviewed papers and book chapters, together with numerous abstracts. He continues to lecture frequently at national and international scientific meetings. Dr. Sears is a fellow of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians, the Royal College of Physicians (Canada), and the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology.



Roger L. Martin, MBA, received his AB from Harvard College and his MBA from the Harvard Business School. Roger has served as Dean of the Rotman School of Management since 1998. Previously, he spent 13 years as a Director of Monitor Company, a global strategy consulting firm based in Cambridge, Massachusetts, where he served as co-head of the firm for two years.

His research work is in Integrative Thinking, Business Design, Corporate Social Responsibility and Country Competitiveness. In 2011, Roger placed 6th on the Thinkers50 list, a biannual ranking of the most influential global business thinkers, sharing the top ten with Clay Christensen, Michael Porter and Malcolm Gladwell among others.

In 2010, he was named one of the 27 most influential designers in the world by Business Week. In 2007 he was named a Business Week 'B-School All-Star' for being one of the 10 most influential business professors in the world. Business Week also named him one of seven 'Innovation Gurus' in 2005, and in 2004, he won the Marshall McLuhan Visionary Leadership Award.

He serves on the Boards of Thomson Reuters Corporation, Research in Motion, The Skoll Foundation, and the Canadian Credit Management Foundation and he chairs the Ontario Task Force on Competitiveness, Productivity and Economic Progress.

Conference Programme

Sunday, February 5, 2012

7:00 - 8:30 AM	BREAKFAST BUFFET	ONTARIO ROOM
8:15 - 8:30 AM	WELCOME REMARKS	CANADIAN ROOM
	<p>Dr. Diana Royce, EdD, Managing Director and COO, AllerGen NCE Inc.</p> <p>Dr. Sharon Dell, MD, FRCPC, Associate Professor, Department of Pediatrics & iHPME, University of Toronto and Senior Associate Scientist, Division of Respiratory Medicine, The Hospital for Sick Children</p> <p>Dr. Teresa To, PhD, Professor, Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto and Senior Scientist, Child Health Evaluative Sciences, The Hospital for Sick Children</p>	
8:30 - 9:30 AM	ALLERGEN TRAINEE POSTER "LIGHTNING" PRESENTATIONS	CANADIAN ROOM
	PUBLIC HEALTH, ETHICS, POLICY & SOCIETY (PROGRAMME C)	
9:30 - 11:00 AM	OPENING CEREMONIES	CANADIAN ROOM
	<p>WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS</p> <p>Mr. Graham W.S. Scott, C.M., Q.C., Chair, Board of Directors, AllerGen NCE Inc. and CEO, Graham Scott Strategies Inc.</p> <p>Dr. Alain Beaudet MD, PhD, President, Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)</p> <p>Mr. Jean-Claude Gavrel, Executive Vice-President, Networks of Centres of Excellence</p> <p>Dr. Shoo Lee, MBBS, FRCPC, FAAP, PhD, Scientific Director, CIHR Institute of Human Development, Child and Youth Health</p> <p>Dr. Marc Ouellette, PhD, Scientific Director, CIHR Institute of Infection and Immunity</p> <p>Dr. Janet Rossant, PhD, FRS, FRSC, Chief of Research, Research Institute, The Hospital for Sick Children, Senior Scientist, Development and Stem Cell Biology and Professor, University of Toronto</p> <p>Dr. Judah Denburg, MD, FRCP(C), Scientific Director and CEO, AllerGen NCE Inc., Professor of Medicine, Department of Medicine, McMaster University</p>	
11:00 - 11:45 AM	OPENING KEYNOTE:	CANADIAN ROOM
	<p>AVON LONGITUDINAL STUDY OF PARENTS AND CHILDREN (ALSPAC) COHORT - KEY FINDINGS AND LESSONS LEARNED FROM A NETWORKED, BIRTH COHORT APPROACH TO RESEARCH ON CHILDHOOD ASTHMA AND ALLERGY</p> <p>Dr. John Henderson, MD, ChB (Manc), FRCP, Professor of Paediatric, Respiratory Medicine, University of Bristol</p>	
	<p>Moderator: Dr. Judah Denburg, MD, FRCP(C), Scientific Director and CEO, AllerGen NCE Inc., Professor of Medicine, Department of Medicine, McMaster University</p>	

Q & A
15 Minutes

O Canada!

O Canada!
 Terre de nos aïeux,
 Ton front est ceint de fleurons glorieux!
 Car ton bras sait porter l'épée,
 Il sait porter la croix!
 Ton histoire est une épopée
 Des plus brillants exploits.
 Et ta valeur, de foi trempée,
 Protégera nos foyers et nos droits.
 Protégera nos foyers et nos droits.

O Canada!

O Canada!
 Our home and native land!
 True patriot love in all thy sons command.
 With glowing hearts we see thee rise,
 The True North strong and free!
 From far and wide,
 O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.
 God keep our land glorious and free!
 O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.
 O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.

Sunday, February 5, 2012

11:45 - 12:30 PM THE CHILD STUDY - UNCOVERING THE ORIGINS OF ASTHMA AND ALLERGIC DISEASE CANADIAN ROOM

Moderator: Dr. Judah Denburg, MD, FRCP(C), Scientific Director and CEO, AllerGen NCE Inc., Professor of Medicine, Department of Medicine, McMaster University

Panel Participants:

Dr. Malcolm Sears, MB, ChB, FRACP, FRCPC, FAAAAI, Director, Canadian Healthy Infant Longitudinal Development (CHILD) Study; AstraZeneca Chair in Respiratory Epidemiology, Professor, Division of Respiriology, Department of Medicine, McMaster University

Dr. Jeff Brook, PhD, Assistant Professor, Occupational and Environmental Health, University of Toronto, Senior Scientist, Air Quality Research Branch, Environment Canada

Dr. Andrew Sandford, PhD, Associate Professor, Department of Medicine, University of British Columbia, The James Hogg iCAPTURE Centre for Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Research, Institute for Heart + Lung Health

Q & A
15 Minutes

12:30 - 1:30 PM BUFFET LUNCH ONTARIO ROOM

1:30 - 3:30 PM ALLERGEN TRAINEE POSTER "LIGHTNING" PRESENTATIONS CANADIAN ROOM

Moderator: Dr. Teresa To, PhD, Professor, Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto and Senior Scientist, Child Health Evaluative Sciences, The Hospital for Sick Children

DIAGNOSTICS & THERAPEUTICS (PROGRAMME B)

GENE-ENVIRONMENT INTERACTIONS (PROGRAMME A)

3:30 - 5:15 PM POSTER VIEWING, JUDGING AND NETWORKING: WINE AND CHEESE CANADIAN ROOM

5:15 - 6:00 PM FREE TIME

6:00 - 7:30 PM JUDGES MEET TO ADJUDICATE POSTER COMPETITION ALGONQUIN ROOM

6:00 - 7:30 PM ALLERGEN TRAINEES (HQP) AND ASNPN DINNER MEETING TERRITORIES ROOM

Invitation Only - Mandatory for all HQP's and ASNPN members

7:30 - 10:00 PM ALLERGEN TRAINEES (HQP) AND ASNPN NETWORKING NIGHT SALON 1

All Delegates are Invited to Attend

Conference Evaluation

An online overall conference evaluation form will be forwarded to all delegates immediately following the event.

Kindly take the time to complete this online survey to assist our planning of future conferences.

Learning Objectives

Individual session abstracts and learning objectives can be found under the Session Abstracts tab.

Sunday

Conference Programme

Monday, February 6, 2012

7:00 - 8:20 AM	BREAKFAST BUFFET	ONTARIO ROOM
8:20 - 8:30 AM	DAY TWO WELCOME	CANADIAN ROOM

Dr. Sharon Dell, MD, FRCPC, Associate Professor, Department of Pediatrics & iHPME, University of Toronto and Senior Associate Scientist, Division of Respiratory Medicine, The Hospital for Sick Children

8:30 - 10:00 AM	ALLERGEN KEYNOTE PRESENTATION	CANADIAN ROOM
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THE CANADIAN HEALTHY INFANT LONGITUDINAL DEVELOPMENT (CHILD) STUDY: DIRECTIONS, DRIVERS AND DESTINATION

Dr. Malcolm Sears, MB, ChB, FRACP, FRCPC, FAAAAI, Director, Canadian Healthy Infant Longitudinal Development (CHILD) Study, AstraZeneca Chair in Respiratory Epidemiology, Professor, Division of Respiratory Medicine, Department of Medicine, McMaster University

Panel Participants:

Viral Infections and Lung Function in CHILD

Dr. PJ Subbarao, MD, FRCP(C), Deputy Director of the CHILD Study, Clinician-Scientist and Assistant Professor, Hospital for Sick Children, Department of Paediatrics, Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto.

Dietary Assessments in CHILD

Dr. Piush Mandhane, MD, Clinician-Scientist, Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatrics, University of Alberta and Edmonton CHILD Study Site Leader

Value-Added Partnerships: Health Canada and CHILD

Dr. Amanda Wheeler, PhD, Research Scientist, Exposure Assessment Section, Health Canada

Value-Added Partnerships: Environment Canada and CHILD

Dr. Jeff Brook, PhD, Assistant Professor, Occupational and Environmental Health, University of Toronto, Senior Scientist, Air Quality Research Branch, Environment Canada

Q & A
15 Minutes

10:00 - 10:30 AM	BREAK	CANADIAN ROOM
10:30 - 12:00 PM	CLINICAL TRIALS	CANADIAN ROOM

Moderator: Dr. Gail Gauvreau, PhD, Associate Professor, Division of Respiratory Medicine, Department of Medicine, McMaster University

Presenters:

Clinical Models of Asthma for Drug Discovery

Dr. Gail Gauvreau, PhD, Associate Professor, Division of Respiratory Medicine, Department of Medicine, McMaster University

The Development of Peptide Vaccines for Allergies

Dr. Mark Larché, PhD, Professor, Division of Clinical Immunology & Allergy, McMaster University and Canada Research Chair, Allergy & Immune Tolerance

Research Collaborations Involving Allergen Challenges and Exposures

Dr. Scott Tebbutt, PhD, Chief Scientific Officer for the Prevention of Organ Failure (PROOF) Centre of Excellence, and Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, Division of Respiratory Medicine, University of British Columbia

Expansion of AllerGen CIC to Severe Asthma

Dr. Parameswaran Nair, MD, PhD, FRCP, FRCPC, Associate Professor, Division of Respiratory Medicine, Department of Medicine, McMaster University and Canada Research Chair in Airway Inflammometry

Q & A
15 Minutes

Monday, February 6, 2012

12:00 - 1:00 PM	BUFFET LUNCH	ONTARIO ROOM
1:00 - 1:30 PM	AIR AWARE PRESENTATION - CLEAN AIR CHAMPIONS	CANADIAN ROOM
Q & A 15 Minutes	On your marks - get set - get Air Aware! Ingrid Liepa , Clean Air Champions, Canada Air Aware – The Economic Dimensions of Air Quality, Asthma and Allergies in the School and Sport/Recreation Sectors	
1:30 - 3:00 PM	TRAINEE POSTER AWARD COMPETITION: ORAL PRESENTATION FINALISTS	CANADIAN ROOM
	Moderator: Dr. Teresa To, PhD , Professor, Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto and Senior Scientist, Child Health Evaluative Sciences, The Hospital for Sick Children	
	1:30 - 2:00 PM	GENE-ENVIRONMENT INTERACTIONS
	2:00 - 2:30 PM	DIAGNOSTICS & THERAPEUTICS
	2:30 - 3:00 PM	PUBLIC HEALTH, ETHICS, POLICY & SOCIETY
3:00 - 3:30 PM	BREAK	CANADIAN ROOM
3:30 - 4:30 PM	FROM THE BUMS OF BABES: CLUES TO CHILDHOOD ASTHMA AND ALLERGIES	CANADIAN ROOM
	Moderator: Dr. Catherine Field, PhD , Professor, Department of Agricultural, Food & Nutritional Science, University of Alberta	
	Presenters:	
	Introduction to SyMBIOTA and Microbiome Research in Canada Dr. Anita Kozyrskyj, PhD , Research Chair and Associate Professor, Maternal-Child Health and the Environment, Women and Children's Health Research Institute, Department of Pediatrics, Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, University of Alberta	
	Dr. James Scott, PhD , Associate Professor, Occupational and Environmental Health, Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto and CEO and Scientific Director of Sporometrics Inc.	
	Microbiome Research Methods: DNA Sequencing and Taxonomy Dr. Heather Maughan, PhD , University of Toronto	
	Preliminary Results from SyMBIOTA: Impact of the Home Environment on Infant Intestinal Microbiota Tedd Konya, MAT , Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto	
	Preliminary Results from SyMBIOTA: Impact of Infant Diet on Intestinal Immunity and Microbiota Dr. Meghan Azad, PhD , University of Alberta	
Q & A 15 Minutes	Immunomodulation by Commensal and Probiotic Bacteria: Animal Models Dr. Paul Forsythe, PhD , Assistant Professor, Division of Respiriology, Department of Medicine, McMaster University	
4:30 - 7:00 PM	FREE TIME	
7:00 - 7:30 PM	CONFERENCE RECEPTION	IMPERIAL ROOM
7:30 - 11:00 PM	CONFERENCE BANQUET AND AWARDS CEREMONY	IMPERIAL ROOM

Conference Programme

Tuesday, February 7, 2012

7:00 - 8:20 AM	BREAKFAST BUFFET	ONTARIO ROOM
8:20 - 8:30 AM	DAY THREE WELCOME	CANADIAN ROOM
	Dr. Diana Royce, EdD, Managing Director and COO, AllerGen NCE Inc.	
8:30 - 9:30 AM	THE CHILD STUDY: ISSUES, INITIATIVES AND IMPACT	CANADIAN ROOM
	<p>Moderator: Dr. Malcolm Sears, MB, ChB, FRACP, FRCPC, FAAAAI, Director, Canadian Healthy Infant Longitudinal Development (CHILD) Study, AstraZeneca Chair in Respiratory Epidemiology, Professor, Division of Respiriology, Department of Medicine, McMaster University</p> <p>Ethical Challenges and Cohort Studies: What Have We Learned?</p> <p>Prof Tim Caulfield, LLM, FRSC, Professor, Faculty of Law and School of Public Health, Canada Research Chair in Health Law and Policy, Senior Health Scholar with the Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research, and Research Director, Health Law and Science Policy Group, University of Alberta</p> <p>Using CHILD for Exploration of Common Pathways of Multiple Exposure Effects</p> <p>Dr. Tim Takaro, MD, Associate Professor, Faculty of Health Sciences, Simon Fraser University</p> <p>CHILD Study Immunology</p> <p>Dr. Stuart Turvey, MBBS, DPhil, FRCPC, Associate Professor, Division of Infectious and Immunological Diseases, Department of Pediatrics, University of British Columbia and British Columbia Site Leader for the CHILD Study</p>	
	<div>Q & A 10 Minutes</div>	
9:30 - 10:15 AM	GENE-ENVIRONMENT INTERACTIONS	CANADIAN ROOM
	<p>Moderator: Dr. Andrew Sandford, PhD, Associate Professor, Department of Medicine, University of British Columbia, The James Hogg iCAPTURE Centre for Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Research, Institute for Heart + Lung Health</p> <p>Presenters:</p> <p>Dr. Denise Daley, PhD, Assistant Professor, Respiratory, Department of Medicine, University of British Columbia and Canada Research Chair in Genetic Epidemiology of Complex Diseases</p> <p>Dr. Fiona Brinkman, PhD, Associate Professor, Bioinformatics and Genomics, Department of Molecular Biology and Biochemistry, Simon Fraser University</p>	
	<div>Q & A 10 Minutes</div>	
10:15 - 10:45 AM	BREAK	CANADIAN ROOM
10:45 - 11:45 AM	IMMUNE MARKERS AND THERAPEUTICS	CANADIAN ROOM
	<p>Moderator: Dr. Mark Larché, PhD, Professor, Division of Clinical Immunology & Allergy, McMaster University and Canada Research Chair, Allergy & Immune Tolerance</p> <p>Can We Identify IL-13 Responsive Asthmatics?</p> <p>Dr. Del Dorscheid, MD, PhD, Associate Professor of Medicine, University of British Columbia, Researcher, The James Hogg Research Centre and Institute for Heart + Lung Health</p> <p>Tolerogenic Dendritic Cell Therapy for Allergic Disease</p> <p>Dr. John Gordon, PhD, Director, Canadian Centre for Health and Safety in Agriculture (CCHSA) and Professor, Division of Respiriology, Critical Care & Sleep Medicine, Department of Medicine, University of Saskatchewan</p> <p>Pre-CHILD Cohort Results on Innate Immune Ontogeny</p> <p>Dr. Tobias Kollmann, MD, PhD, Clinician Scientist, Child & Family Research Institute; Assistant Professor, Division of Infectious and Immunological Diseases, Department of Pediatrics, University of British Columbia and Pediatric Infectious Disease Consultant, BC Children's Hospital</p>	
	<div>Q & A 10 Minutes</div>	

Tuesday

Tuesday, February 7, 2012

11:45 - 12:30 PM	ASTHMA EDUCATION	CANADIAN ROOM
Q & A 10 Minutes	<p>Moderator: Cheryl Connors, Executive Director, Canadian Network for Respiratory Care</p> <p>'All the doctor ever did was give him inhalers': Engaging Aboriginal Families Affected by Allergies and Asthma in Support-Education Program Development</p> <p>Dr. Heather Castleden, PhD, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Management, School of Resource and Environment Studies, Dalhousie University</p> <p>All I Really Need to Know (about Asthma), I Learned in Kindergarten: Lessons from the Roaring Adventures of Puff's 17 Years</p> <p>Shawna McGhan, RN, BN, CAE, MN, Director, Health Innovation, Alberta Asthma Centre, Research Associate and Associate Faculty Member, Faculty of Nursing, University of Alberta</p> <p>Respondant:</p> <p>Ana MacPherson RRT CRE MASc, Provincial Coordinator, Primary Care Asthma Program (PCAP), Ontario Lung Association</p>	
12:30 - 1:30 PM	BUFFET LUNCH	ONTARIO ROOM
1:30 - 3:00 PM	RESEARCH BENEFITING PATIENTS: FUTURE RESEARCH PRIORITIES AND OPPORTUNITIES	CANADIAN ROOM
Interactive Discussion 50 Minutes	<p>Moderator: Dr. Susan Elliott, PhD, Professor and Dean, Faculty of Applied Health Sciences, University of Waterloo</p> <p>Presenters:</p> <p>They say 'Stay Away From Me, I Have Touched Peanuts': Exploring Social Exclusion Among Youth with Anaphylaxis</p> <p>Dr. Nancy Fenton, PhD, Assistant Professor, School of Public Health and Health Systems, University of Waterloo</p> <p>Sara Shannon, Anaphylaxis Safety and Awareness Advocate and Sabrina Shannon's mother</p> <p>Parental Preferences for Asthma Control in Children</p> <p>Dr. Wendy Ungar, PhD, Associate Professor, Health Policy, Management and Evaluation, University of Toronto; Senior Scientist, Child Health Evaluative Sciences, The Hospital for Sick Children</p> <p>Discussants:</p> <p>Dr. Susan Waserman, MD, FRCPC, Professor, Clinical Immunology and Allergy, Department of Medicine, McMaster University; Clinician, Hamilton Health Sciences Corporation and Director, Adverse Reactions Clinic, Firestone Institute of Respiratory Health</p> <p>Dr. Larry Lynd, PhD, Associate Professor, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of British Columbia; Scientist, Centre for Health Outcomes Research and Evaluation</p> <p>Laurie Harada, Executive Director, Anaphylaxis Canada</p> <p>Dr. Robert Oliphant, President, Asthma Society of Canada</p> <p>Bill Swan, Co-Chair, National Asthma Patient Alliance (NAPA)</p>	
3:00 - 3:15 PM	BREAK	CANADIAN ROOM
3:15 - 4:15 PM	CLOSING KEYNOTE SPEAKER	CANADIAN ROOM
Q & A 15 Minutes	<p>INNOVATION IN CANADA: OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES 2012 AND BEYOND</p> <p>Roger L. Martin, MBA, Chairman, Institute for Competitiveness & Prosperity and Dean, Joseph L. Rotman School of Management, University of Toronto</p> <p>Moderator: Dr. Diana Royce, EdD, Managing Director and COO, AllerGen NCE Inc.</p>	
4:15 - 4:30 PM	CLOSING REMARKS AND CONFERENCE ADJOURNMENT	CANADIAN ROOM
<p>Dr. Judah Denburg, MD, FRCP(C), Scientific Director and CEO, AllerGen NCE Inc., Professor of Medicine, Department of Medicine, McMaster University</p>		

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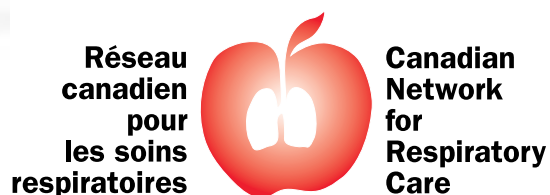


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Featured Speakers

Sunday, February 5, 2012



Diana Royce, EdD, is the Managing Director and COO of Allergan NCE Inc. Dr. Royce obtained her BA (Waterloo) and MA (Queen's) in Political Science and a Doctor of Education degree from the University of Toronto. Before becoming involved with the NCE program in 1998, she spent 13 years as a Senior Policy Advisor with the Ontario government in post-secondary education and finance policy.



Sharon Dell, MD, FRCPC, Associate Professor, Department of Pediatrics & iHPME, University of Toronto and Senior Associate Scientist, Division of Respiratory Medicine, The Hospital for Sick Children. Dr. Dell's research program, funded by the OLA, Health Canada, CIHR, and NIH, focuses on childhood airways disease epidemiology and outcomes. She volunteers on many committees including the OLA's Provider Education Program, the OTS Executive, and the CTS Asthma Clinical Assembly expert panel.



Teresa To, PhD, is a Senior Scientist at the Child Health Evaluative Sciences, the Hospital for Sick Children Research Institute and holds a PhD in Epidemiology and Biostatistics. She is a Professor in the Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto. She is the founder of OASIS, the Ontario Asthma Surveillance Information System. Her program currently focuses on measuring long-term asthma health outcomes and in developing indicators to measure and benchmark the quality of asthma care in primary care settings.



Graham W.S. Scott, C.M., Q.C., is President of Graham Scott Strategies Inc. and counsel to McMillan LLP. He has extensive experience in public policy, governance in the voluntary sector and in the assessment of boards and management teams in both the voluntary and private sectors with a particular emphasis on health care policy and issues. He served as Associate Secretary of the Cabinet followed by Deputy Minister of Environment and subsequently became Deputy Minister of Health. Mr. Scott serves as Chair of the Board of the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI), Chair of Allergan NCE Inc., Vice Chair of OEB Enterprise and Vice Chair of the Institute for Research on Public Policy. He is a Director of Sanofi Pasteur Limited; Revera Inc; the Atlantic Salmon Federation; the Association of the Faculties of Medicine of Canada and Mental Health Partnerships of Canada. He is a Governor of Rothesay Netherwood School and a former Chairman of Organ Donation Ontario.



Alain Beaudet, MD, PhD, is the President of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR). As President, Dr. Beaudet acts both as Chair of the Governing Council and Chief Executive Officer of CIHR. Dr. Beaudet was a Professor and researcher at McGill University for over 20 years. He has served as President and CEO of the Fonds de la recherche en santé du Québec (FRSQ) and as Associate Director (Research) at the Montreal Neurological Institute.



Jean-Claude Gavrel was appointed Associate Vice-President of the Networks of Centres of Excellence Program in October 2007, having served as Program Director since 2000. Under his leadership, the program has doubled in size and launched several new initiatives, including the Centres of Excellence for Commercialization and Research (CECRs), the Business-led Networks and the Industrial R&D Internship program. Mr. Gavrel has a broad and intimate knowledge of R&D collaborations and partnerships, gained over 25 years working with both private and public research organizations.



Shoo K. Lee, MBBS, PhD, FRCPC, is a neonatologist and health economist. He is Professor of Paediatrics, Obstetrics & Gynaecology and Public Health, and Head of the Division of Neonatology, University of Toronto; Paediatrician-in-Chief and Director of the Maternal-Infant Care Research Centre at Mt. Sinai Hospital; Chief of the Department of Newborn and Developmental Paediatrics at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre; The Women's Auxiliary Chair in Neonatology and Head of the Division of Neonatology, The Hospital for Sick Children; and Senior Scientist at SickKids Research Institute. He did his medical degree at the University of Singapore, paediatric training at the Janeway Children's Hospital, Newfoundland, neonatal fellowship training at Boston's Children's Hospital and received his PhD in Health Policy (Economics) from Harvard University.



Marc Ouellette, PhD, is the Scientific Director, Institute of Infection and Immunity, Canadian Institutes of Health Research; Canada Research Chair in Antimicrobial Resistance and Professor, Microbiology, Université Laval. He received his PhD at Laval University on antibiotic resistance in bacteria. His postdoctoral studies were done under the mentorship of Pr. Piet Borst of the Netherlands Cancer Institute in Amsterdam. In 1990 he joined the Centre de Recherche en Infectiologie, of Laval University as an Assistant Professor and is now full Professor. Dr. Ouellette's research is focused on antimicrobial resistance, where he has made seminal discoveries on resistance mechanism in protozoan parasites.



Janet Rossant, PhD, FRS, FRSC, is the SickKids Chief of Research and a world-renowned expert in developmental biology. Widely known for her studies of the genes that control embryonic development in the mouse, Dr. Rossant has pioneered techniques for following cell fate and altering genes in embryos. Firmly planted on the front lines of technological change, Dr. Rossant has established SickKids as a global forerunner in genetic research. From 1985 to 2005, she was a leading researcher at the Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute at Mount Sinai Hospital in Toronto. In 2005, she joined SickKids and became the first female Chief of Research of the Research Institute since its founding in 1954. She is also Professor in the Departments of Medical Genetics and Microbiology and Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of Toronto.



Judah Denburg, MD, FRCP(C), is Director and Chief of Service of Clinical Immunology and Allergy at Hamilton Health Sciences, McMaster Division. He is a Professor in the Department of Medicine, Faculty of Health Sciences having received his Professorship in 1988, and holds the William J. Walsh Professorship in General Internal Medicine. In addition to his other duties, Dr. Denburg is the Scientific Director and CEO of AllerGen NCE Inc. Dr. Denburg is active as a physician, with one of the largest practices in allergy and immunology in Canada. Dr. Denburg's primary research interest is the developmental biology of eosinophils, basophils and mast cells, and their regulation in allergic inflammation; his pioneering investigations on the systemic nature of allergy have had a profound impact on clinical and basic scientific investigations in the field. Dr. Denburg is also a recognized expert on autoimmune diseases such as systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE).



Jeffrey R. Brook, PhD, is a senior scientist at Environment Canada in Toronto. He is also an Assistant Professor in the Dalla Lana School of Public Health and Department of Chemical Engineering at the University of Toronto. He currently co-leads the Genes and Environment Programme for AllerGen, which is a Canadian national Network of Centres of Excellence based at McMaster University. He leads the environmental exposure assessment component of the AllerGen CHILD Study, a national birth cohort examining the influences of environmental factors on children's health.



Andrew Sandford, PhD, is an Associate Professor in the Department of Medicine, University of British Columbia. His research is focused on the investigation of the genetic basis of obstructive lung disease.

Featured Speakers

Monday, February 6, 2012



Padmaja Subbarao MD, MSc, FRCP(C), is a Clinician-Scientist and pediatric respirologist, Division of Respiratory Medicine, The Hospital for Sick Children. She received her medical degree at the University of Toronto before training in pediatrics at the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario in Ottawa. She was awarded a CIHR-Merck Frosst Fellowship and completed an M.Sc. in Epidemiology at McMaster University. She further trained in infant pulmonary function at Great Ormond Street in England and once back in Canada, she returned to The Hospital for Sick Children where she has set up the first Canadian infant pulmonary function laboratory performing a combination of lung function and airway assessment tests. She currently holds a CIHR New Investigator award for her work in the CHILD Study.



Piush Mandhane, MD, FRCP(C), is a clinician scientist and Paediatric Pulmonologist at the University of Alberta. His research is focused on sleep and childhood development through a national cohort study. He is the Edmonton site leader and executive member for the Canadian Healthy Infant Longitudinal Development (CHILD) Study. Dr. Mandhane has a keen interest in supporting other clinician scientists and is the site leader for the CCHCSP in Edmonton.



Amanda Wheeler, PhD, is a Research Scientist with the Exposure Assessment Section in the Healthy Environments and Consumer Safety Branch at Health Canada. Dr. Wheeler investigated children's personal exposure to airborne particulate matter while she obtained her Ph.D. in Environmental Health from Middlesex University in London, UK. Her current work with Health Canada, focuses on personal exposures to air pollution from residential and ambient sources, as well as understanding the intra-urban variability of air pollutants. This research builds on studies Dr. Wheeler undertook while a Research Fellow at the Harvard School of Public Health where her research focused on susceptible populations' personal exposure to air pollution and cardiovascular health effects.



Gail Gauvreau, PhD, is an Associate Professor, Department of Medicine, Faculty of Health Sciences at McMaster University. She holds a PhD (1998) in Medical Sciences from McMaster University and completed her post-doctoral training at Johns Hopkins University, USA. Dr. Gauvreau's research, evaluating efficacy of novel therapeutics using clinical models of asthma, is founded on her PhD work, which investigated the pharmacological modulation of airway inflammation in allergic asthma. She has published over 50 peer-reviewed papers and over 100 abstracts related to mechanisms of allergic asthma. Gail is a member of the American Thoracic Society, the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology, and is an AllerGen NCE investigator.



Mark Larché, PhD, completed his PhD in Immunology at the Royal Postgraduate Medical School, Hammersmith Hospital in 1990. He spent 3 years in the USA at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Memphis, TN as a postdoctoral fellow. Dr. Larché is Canada Research Chair in Allergy & Immune Tolerance and Professor in the Department of Medicine at McMaster University as well as an Associate Editor of *Respiratory Research* and a member of the editorial board of *Clinical Experimental Immunology* and *Clinical Experimental Allergy*. Together with Professor AB Kay, he founded "Circassia Ltd.," a biotechnology company to develop vaccines for allergic diseases. Research interests extend beyond asthma and allergies into transplantation, coeliac disease and autoimmune diseases.



Scott Tebbutt, PhD, is Assistant Professor in the Department of Medicine, Division of Respiratory Medicine, University of British Columbia, and Principal Investigator at the James Hogg Research Centre, Institute for HEART+LUNG Health, St. Paul's Hospital, Vancouver, Canada. Dr. Tebbutt's research programme is focused on the genomics of complex respiratory disease, including the early and late reactions in allergic asthma and rhinitis. He is also Chief Scientific Officer of the NCE CECR Prevention of Organ Failure (PROOF) Centre of Excellence, focused on heart, lung and kidney failure.



Parameswaran Nair, MD, PhD, FRCP, FRCPC, is an Associate Professor of Medicine in the Division of Respiriology at McMaster University, and a Staff Respirologist at the Firestone Institute for Respiratory Health and St. Joseph's Healthcare, Hamilton. He holds a Canada Research Chair in Airway Inflammometry. He obtaining his medical degree from the University of Kerala in India, then trained at the University of Kerala Medical College Hospital, the Royal Sunderland and Royal Sussex County Hospitals in England, and at McMaster University. He joined the Faculty of Health Sciences, McMaster University in 2004 after completing a research fellowship and a PhD.



Ingrid Liepa is a two-time Olympian in speedskating and former lawyer who has been addressing air quality, climate change and environmental sustainability issues for the last 16 years. Her main arenas are public policy, multi-stakeholder collaboration, education and community-based projects. Ingrid has been a Clean Air Champion since 2007.



Catherine J. Field, PhD, RD, is a Professor of Nutrition in the Departments of Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Science and Medicine, University of Alberta. She is a member of the SyMBIOTA team, the Alberta Diabetes Institute and the Alberta Institute of Human Nutrition. Her research focuses on the effect of nutrition on the immune system, particularly during early development. She is a co-PI in an Alberta maternal infant cohort, is the Associate Editor for *Advances in Nutrition* and *Annals of Nutrition and Metabolism*, a scientific advisor for ILSI-North America's Project Committee on Early Nutrition and a member of the Board of the Danone Institute of Canada.



Anita Kozyrskyj, PhD, is WCHRI Research Chair in Maternal-Child Health & the Environment, Department of Pediatrics, Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, University of Alberta. Trained as an epidemiologist, she designed the novel SAGE database linkage cohort study in Manitoba. She co-leads the SyMBIOTA project on environmental shaping of the infant intestinal microbiota and subsequent allergic disease, one of the 7 CIHR Microbiome team grants awarded in 2010.



James Scott, PhD, is Associate Professor, Occupational and Environmental Health, Dalla Lana School of Public Health Sciences, University of Toronto. His focus is occupational and environmental hazards posed by microbes, and the role of the environmental and human microbiome in disease. Dr. Scott owns Sporometrics Inc., a commercial environmental microbiology laboratory and specialty consulting company. James also serves as the southern Ontario region medical mycology consultant to the Ontario Region Poison Information Centre for mushroom poisonings.



Heather Maughan is an evolutionary microbiologist currently working as a post-doctoral fellow at the University of Toronto. Her research is focused on understanding the microbial communities in Cystic Fibrosis lungs for improvement of patient therapies.



Tedd Konya, is an MPH candidate, Gage Occupation and Environmental Health Unit, University of Toronto. Tedd studies environmental factors in shaping human health and is particularly interested in areas of research investigating the effects of environmental exposures to microbial populations on human health. Current work investigates possible links between indoor exposures to certain bacterial communities and the infant's gut microbiome.



Meghan Azad, PhD, is a postdoctoral fellow in the Department of Pediatrics, University of Alberta. She received her PhD in Biochemistry and Medical Genetics from the University of Manitoba in 2010, and is currently pursuing a Masters in Epidemiology through the University of London, UK. As a member of the SyMBIOTA (Synergy in Microbiota Research) team and within the CHILd framework, Meghan is investigating the impact of birth mode, infant diet, and antibiotic exposure on gut microbiota, with potential implications for atopic disease.



Paul Forsythe, PhD, obtained his PhD from Queen's University Belfast, UK, before coming to Canada as a post-doctoral fellow at the University of Alberta. He then moved to the Brain-Body Institute, McMaster University and joined the Faculty of Medicine in 2008. Dr Forsythe's research interests include understanding how the nervous and immune systems interact to control inflammatory responses and investigating the role of commensal bacteria in modulating the immune system, particularly in relation to allergic diseases and asthma.

Featured Speakers

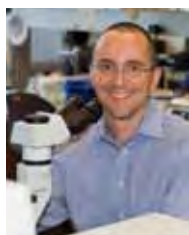
Tuesday, February 7, 2012



Tim Caulfield, LL.M. F.R.S.C., is a Canada Research Chair in Health Law and Policy and Professor, Faculty of Law and the School of Public Health, University of Alberta. He was the Research Director of the Health Law Institute at the University of Alberta from 1993 to 2011 and is now leading the Faculty of Law's Health Law and Science Policy Group (HeaLS). He is a Senior Scholar and Principal Investigator for several projects including AllerGen NCE, and the Stem Cell Network. Professor Caulfield is and has been involved with a number of national and international policy and research ethics committees, including Canadian Biotechnology Advisory Committee, Genome Canada's Science Advisory Committee, and the Federal Panel on Research Ethics. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences. He teaches biotechnology in the Faculty of Law and is the editor for the Health Law Journal and Health Law Review.



Tim Takaro, MD, is a physician-scientist and Associate Professor at Simon Fraser University's Faculty of Health Sciences. His research interests are in environmental and occupational lung disease and the human health effects of climate change with collaborations in the US and Canada, Cuba, Mongolia, Iraq, Bangladesh, Ecuador and Suriname.



Stuart Turvey, PhD, is an Associate Professor of Pediatrics at the University of British Columbia, a Pediatric Immunologist based at BC Children's Hospital, and Co-Director of the Immunity in Health & Disease research cluster at the Child & Family Research Institute. He provides clinical care while his research program focuses on pediatric infectious and inflammatory diseases - major causes of death and illness of children in Canada and throughout the world. Specifically, Stuart is interested in the role of innate immunity and Toll-like receptor signalling in protecting infants and young children from infectious agents, and how abnormalities of the innate immune system contribute to inflammatory diseases of childhood.



Denise Daley, PhD, is an Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine at the University of British Columbia, and currently holds a Canada Research Chair in Genetic Epidemiology of Complex Diseases, a Michael Smith Foundation Career Investigator Award. Dr. Daley is a Principal Investigator at the James Hogg iCAPTURE Centre and studies complex diseases such as asthma, cancer, and heart disease, with a focus on gene-gene and gene-environment interactions and is currently investigating genes that may predispose children to developing asthma.



Fiona Brinkman, PhD, is a Professor in Genomics and Bioinformatics, Department of Molecular Biology and Biochemistry, Simon Fraser University. She completed her PhD at the University of Ottawa in 1996, and postdoctoral training at the University of British Columbia in 2001. Originally trained as a microbiologist, she developed her computational skills to become an early expert in Pathogen Bioinformatics and develop several internationally leading computational tools for analysis of both human and microbe responses to infection. She is a Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research Senior Scholar and received numerous awards including Canada's Top 100 Women from the Women's Executive Network and a TR100 award from MIT for being one of the "top 100 of the world's young innovators in science and technology".



Del Dorscheid, MD, PhD, obtained both his degrees from McGill University in 1993. He moved onto the University of Chicago to complete Internal Medicine and subsequently a fellowship in Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine. After one year on the Faculty at the University of Chicago, he relocated with his family to Vancouver to take a position in Critical Care Medicine at University of British Columbia and is now a tenured Associate Professor. Dr. Dorscheid attends in the medical intensive care unit at St. Pauls, is Director of the Severe Asthma Clinic and is a researcher in the James Hogg Research Centre. As a physician-scientist, his goal for his research program is to promote and translate research findings into new treatments and improved patient care to reduce the burden of respiratory diseases worldwide.



John Gordon, PhD, received his PhD at the University of Saskatchewan in 1984, then did PDF's at Mill Hill, U.K. (1984-87) and Harvard Medical School (1987-91). He returned to Saskatchewan in 1991 as an Associate Professor (Veterinary Microbiology), where he is presently a professor in the Department of Medicine. Dr. Gordon's area of research is immunotherapeutics, wherein he has developed and patented a series of anti-inflammatory drugs. His lab, which has published some 90 peer-reviewed reports, is also interested in developing regulatory dendritic cell therapies for immunologic diseases such as asthma and food allergies.



Tobias Kollmann, MD, PhD, received his MD and PhD (Microbiology & Immunology) at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Bronx NY, and graduated with distinction as an AOA National Honor Medical Society scholar. He received his training in Pediatrics at Children's Hospital and Regional Medical Center in Seattle where he also completed a Fellowship in Pediatric Infectious Disease with the support of the Pfizer Post-doctoral Fellowship. His clinical interests and expertise are in pediatric infectious diseases, with special emphasis on the newborn and immune compromised individual and optimizing neonatal vaccination.



Cheryl Connors, HBA, has served since 2004 as the Executive Director of the Canadian Network for Respiratory Care (CNRC). Cheryl has over 25 years' experience with association management and has particular expertise in marketing/communications, public relations, crisis management, strategic planning, fundraising and government relations. Cheryl has also worked as the executive director of a number of professional and trade associations and took a "hiatus" from the association world to work for a number of years with the Ontario government, in a variety of communications positions including strategic communication planning at Management Board Secretariat.



Heather Castleden, PhD, is a tenure-track Assistant Professor in the School for Resource and Environmental Studies with cross-appointments in the Departments of Bioethics and Community Health & Epidemiology at Dalhousie University. She has published widely in health, environment and education literatures. She is a co-principal investigator of the Atlantic Aboriginal Health Research Program. In 2010 the Canadian Association of Geographers presented Dr. Castleden with the Julian M. Szeicz Award for Early Career Achievement.



Shawna McGhan, RN, CRE, MN, has led the development, implementation and evaluation of a number of asthma education initiatives targeting children, adults, school staff and health professionals. She has been involved in eight national and provincial research and strategic planning initiatives that challenge how to improve health support offered to families with asthma and allergies. She worked with AllerGen teams and National Lung Health Framework projects to increase access and knowledge of child-friendly educational supports in rural and aboriginal communities, provide training for health providers using Roaring Adventures of Puff program, create an asthma education program in El Salvador and assess how policy impacts allergy related school practices.



Ana MacPherson, RRT, CRE, MASc, has worked in different capacities including critical/acute care, diagnostic, private/public partnership, and chronic disease management. Recently, she was the Project Lead for an Asthma Education Program for the First Nations Communities funded by Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC). She is a Facilitator for the National RespTrec and SpiroTrec Program for the Lung Association of Saskatchewan. Her current focus is the implementation of a primary care program to assist in the assessment, diagnosis and management of asthma.



Susan Elliott, PhD, is Dean of the Faculty of Applied Health Sciences at the University of Waterloo, where she holds joint appointments in the Department of Geography and Environmental Management, and Health Studies and Gerontology. She is also an adjunct professor at the United Nations University, Institute for Water, Environment and Health. Dr. Elliott is a medical geographer, and her primary research interests are in the area of environment and health, the global environment, urban social geography, and philosophy and method in the social sciences. Dr. Elliott is a program co-leader, research management committee member, and funded researcher at AllerGen. She also holds research grants from CIHR, SSHRC, the Heart and Stoke Foundation and Cancer Care Ontario.



Nancy Fenton, PhD, is currently an Assistant Professor in the School of Public Health and Health Systems at the University of Waterloo. She began her career as a registered dietician and worked in various clinical and administrative capacities in large tertiary care hospitals. She is a qualitative health researcher with a particular emphasis on the psychosocial and emotional aspects of environment and health. Her recent research projects involve evaluating asthma education programs for children and youth in First Nations and Inuit communities; exploring perceptions and experiences of Ontario students with anaphylaxis and their parents regarding school as a 'safe' place, and precautionary food labelling.



Sara Shannon is the mother of Sabrina Shannon who died in 2003 at the age of 13 after suffering a fatal allergic reaction. Since that day, Sara has dedicated her life to educating people about anaphylaxis in the hope of preventing a similar tragedy from happening to other children and families. Sara's anaphylactic advocacy was heard and Ontario passed *Sabrina's Law* in 2005, which requires schools to have anaphylaxis policies. Not content with Sabrina's Law just for Ontario kids, Sara is promoting similar legislation in other provinces and across the United States. She works with numerous advocacy and patient organizations and is committed to educating Canada and the world about this issue.

Featured Speakers

Tuesday, February 7, 2012 (continued)



Wendy Ungar, MSc, PhD, is a Senior Scientist in Child Health Evaluative Sciences at The Hospital for Sick Children, an Associate Professor in Health Policy, Management and Evaluation, University of Toronto, and an Adjunct Scientist at the Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences. Dr. Ungar is the University of Toronto Program Director for the International Masters in Health Technology Assessment & Management. In 2010, Dr. Ungar's book, *Economic Evaluation in Child Health*, was published by Oxford University Press. In 2007 Dr. Ungar started TASK (Technology Assessment at Sick Kids), a health technology assessment research unit focusing on technology assessment of pediatric health interventions.



Susan Waserman, MD, FRCPC, is currently a Professor of Medicine, in the Division of Clinical Immunology/Allergy at McMaster University in Hamilton. She is the Director of the Adverse Reactions Clinic at the Firestone Institute of Respiratory Health, St Joseph's Hospital also in Hamilton. Research interest and activities are in mechanisms and treatment of peanut allergy and food-related anaphylaxis. She is the past President of the Ontario and Canadian Societies of Allergy and Clinical Immunology where activities included CME for health professionals, as well as practice guidelines in areas such as anaphylaxis, rhinitis and immunotherapy.



Larry Lynd, PhD, is an Associate Professor in the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences and is the Associate Director of the Collaboration for Outcomes Research and Evaluation (www.core.ubc.ca) at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, Canada. He is a Scientist at the Centre for Health Evaluation and Outcomes Sciences at Providence Health, an Associate of the School of Population and Public Health, and a Scholar in the Peter Wall Institute for Advance Studies at UBC. He is a Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research Scholar and a Canadian Institutes of Health Research New Investigator.



Laurie Harada is the Executive Director of Anaphylaxis Canada. She joined the organization in 2003 and is responsible for building partnerships with government, industry, healthcare professionals, researchers and allergy associations internationally. She has been instrumental in many national initiatives, including the passing of Sabrina's Law, the writing of *Anaphylaxis in Schools & Other Settings*, and advocating successfully for improved food labelling. She has a personal connection to food allergies, as one of her two children has multiple food allergies.



Robert Oliphant, DMin, was recently appointed President and CEO of the Asthma Society of Canada. Most recently he served as the Member of Parliament for the riding of Don Valley West. Rob is an ordained minister in The United Church of Canada, having worked in Newfoundland and Labrador, Quebec, British Columbia, Yukon and Ontario. He chaired the national United Church Committee on Economic Justice and Social Well-Being for eight years, which included the Church's direct delivery of health care and formulation of health policy. Prior to his career as a minister, Rob worked as an accountant in industry.



Bill Swan, MHA, is a well-controlled severe asthmatic diagnosed when he was two. He is impassioned about the need for patients to take a more active role in all aspects of health care in Canada. He is a Patient Representative on Health Canada's Scientific Advisory Body on Respiratory and Allergy Therapies and writes periodically about these issues on his blog LifeWithAsthma. He has published research on the Canadian health care system, but for the past fifteen years has run international and national academic health associations. He holds a Masters of Health Administration, University of Ottawa and a BComm from Saint Mary's University. He volunteers his time with AllerGen NCE, the National Asthma Patient Alliance, the Asthma Society of Canada and the Nova Scotia Citizens' Health Care Network.

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