

Canadian Chiropractic Research Bulletin Update #2



Dr. David Peterson DC
Chair, CCA Research Committee

Since I last reported to you in March, several activities have been undertaken by the Committee. As you know, the committee consists of myself as Chair, Dr. Grayden Bridge(CCA Governor), Dr. Zoltan Szaraz(CCA Governor), Dr. Howard Vernon(CCCRC), Dr. Martin Gurvey(CFSR), Dr. Benno Nigg(public representative), Mr. Costa Papadopoulos(CCA), Dr. Ron Carter(field practitioner) Dr. Allan Gotlib(JCCA Editor).

Our composition fairly allows for representation by the CCA, the Consortium for Chiropractic Research Centres, the CFSR, the public, the JCCA and the field at large. We introduced Dr. Benno Nigg in our first bulletin. He is the Director of the Human Performance Laboratory at the University of Calgary, one of the world's largest and best equipped research centers for musculoskeletal research. His participation and expert guidance has tremendously helped steer us toward successful paths.

A variety of short and longterm initiatives related to our strategic plan have been implemented. We are

tracking the approaches taken both nationally and internationally. Our activities are focused on raising the profile of chiropractic research in Canada and establishing enduring and sustainable targeted research initiatives while building intellectual **chiropractic** academic capacity.

SCOTIABANK FUND

The Scotiabank research endowment fund, if brought to fruition, will allow for a research chair, doctoral and post doctoral research fellowships. In order to establish a permanent self sustainable endowment, and ensure that chiropractic research will survive with **dedicated** funding, this proposal is an essential component to our long term strategy. The CCA Board of Governors approved its participation in the funding formula at it's May meeting. We are vigorously pursuing this with Scotiabank. The proposal calls for an self sustaining endowment fund able to provide \$80,000 per year in support of a research chair and research fellowship.

MRC PARTNERSHIP

In June, at the University of Calgary, I met with Dr. Henry Friesen, President of the MRC, the major government health funding agency in Canada. We pushed hard for access to funding for chiropractic research and young chiropractic researchers. We proposed that a 'Center for Chiropractic Research' be established that would provide for chiropractic research by making necessary resources available to conduct high quality research and create opportunities for training of our young chiropractic researchers. We came away with a CCA/MRC partnership proposal to fund young researchers via personnel

training awards. The logistics have been finalized. The Partnership is a program aimed at strengthening linkages between the MRC, health researchers and the CCA. The total funding for the joint partnership program will support two Chiropractic Fellowships and two Doctoral Research Awards to a maximum of \$271,696 over a two year period. The CCA was successful in securing 4 awards of only 100 available with a funding package of \$1.5 million dollars. This is a magnificent opportunity for the CCA to provide training awards specifically for chiropractic research. The building of such an historic bridge with the MRC will have substantial long terms benefits for our profession and will build not only our academic capacity but also raise the profile of the profession in terms of being a key player in the health care system. We will continue to capitalize on such initiatives in a proactive manner.

We are now on the doorstep of Prime Minister Chrétien asking for dedicated funding for a Center of Research Excellence. Who knows?

MEETINGS

The CCA Research Committee met in Vancouver in July at the ICSM to discuss many issues related to funding, direction and planning, which I will outline for you briefly below.

CONSORTIUM/SYMPOSIUM

The Consortium of Chiropractic Research Centers, with participants from CMCC, Institute for Work and Health, UQTR, University of Calgary, University of Saskatchewan, and the University of Waterloo is continually

establishing linkages with university based chiropractic researchers so that our network becomes well entrenched and the potential for collaborative ventures is enhanced.

The CCA Research Committee visited the British Columbia Institute of Technology(BCIT) facility in Burnaby, and viewed its research infrastructure. Shortly, the Consortium will consider inviting the BCIT into the Consortium. Dr. Brad Yee DC, a faculty member will represent the BCIT.

The CCA will sponsor the first scientific symposium for the newly created Consortium. The symposium will be hosted by Dr. Walter Herzog at the University of Calgary on November 14-15, 1998. Mark your calendars. There are dozens of abstracts, excellent presenters and international researchers. Join us and help build our research community!

The next symposium is tentatively scheduled for November 1999 at the UQTR. We will keep you abreast as information becomes available.

RESEARCH AGENDA

*The critical issue of setting a research agenda for the Canadian Chiropractic Association for the next 5 to 10 years is a priority. Project leaders Costa Papadopoulos MHA, at the CCA and Marja Verhoef PhD, at the University of Calgary will undertake this initiative which is essential if we are to meet the **needs of our profession**. We undertake this project because firstly, we need a plan and secondly, because I am concerned that consensus methodology must be sensitive to all 5000 of us, not to a select few. We must all participate and*

determine what course of research we chart over the next 5 years in order to ensure our market share in the health system and even our very existence.

RESEARCH CHAIRS

On the issue of creating 'Centres of Chiropractic Research Excellence', the Committee undertook to examine options to secure funding for **research chairs**. The first Chair would be in position by the year 2001 and by the year 2003, a total of 3 Chairs would be in position. Obviously such a bold strategy calls for commitment, vision and planning. We need to set roots within the university based system to foster chiropractic research and chiropractic researchers. The Committee will be examining all avenues to bring this goal to fruition.

CFSR TRANSITION PLAN

Dr. Gotlib who has been working on the transition plan for the CFSR tabled the plan at the CCA Research Committee meeting in Vancouver in July. The plan outlines the restructuring of the foundation. The CFSR Board of Directors has agreed to restructure the present organizational framework to fit our strategic plan arising from the Task Force report. The foundation will be split into 2 divisions, one of which will be an enhanced Grants Allocation committee, while the second will be development of a Fundraising body consisting of strong business and industry leaders, government and academic leaders. *Dr. Martin Gurvey* was appointed Chair of the Fund Allocating Committee while *Dr. Ron Carter* was appointed Chair of the Fund Raising Committee. There are further appointments to be made and I will report these to you at a later date.

QUEBEC FOUNDATION

The Fondation Chiropratique du Québec chaired by Dr. Guy Dubé, currently has a 17 member Board (12 public, 5 chiropractors). The foundation has a 1998 goal of raising \$200,000 and is currently providing financial support to four chiropractic research projects and five student grants.

RESEARCHER OF THE YEAR

At the meeting of the CCA Research Committee, Dr. Herzog was nominated and unanimously approved as this year's recipient of Researcher of the Year Award. The award will be present at the Symposium in Calgary November 14/15, 1998. The Committee extends to Dr. Herzog its congratulations and acknowledges Dr. Herzog as a leader in chiropractic research.

DATABASE

Dr. Allan Gotlib continues the process of creating a database on current 'works in progress'. Please notify Dr. Gotlib if you are a masters or doctoral candidate or if you hold a faculty position at any Canadian university. This information is vital to the database and will assist the CCA and provincial associations with maintaining current and factual information for the dissemination of news releases to the public, for tracking funding agency participation in chiropractic research, and for identifying the research community in order to facilitate collaborative linkages.

PROFILES

In an effort to raise the profile of our Canadian chiropractic researchers, the *JCCA and Chiropractic Business continue to profile our researchers detailing their research activities,*

publications and funding sources. The March issue of the JCCA focused on the significant contributions of Dr. David Cassidy at the University of Saskatchewan. The June issue focused on Dr. Vernon at CMCC, and the September issue on Dr. Kawchuk at the University of Calgary. We will continue to acknowledge the special contributions that our researchers make to the chiropractic research community.

NATIONAL RESEARCH FUND

In an effort to further our provincial partnership strategies, a \$100 per member contribution to research was formally requested at the last Provincial Presidents meeting in Banff. This funding was to be earmarked for provincial projects while channeled through the national allocating committee in a manner consistent with our national research agenda. To allow more opportunity to share in the fund's development, the CCA Research Committee has struck a new funding formula which it will present to the CCA Board of Governors in November. The Committee will recommend that 50% of new membership growth revenues over the three year period from 1999 to 2001 be directed towards research and be provided on an ongoing basis thereafter in order to establish sustainable funding. This would provide approximately \$100,000 per year to our research strategy.

RESEARCHER INFO

Dr. Pierre Côté, a research fellow at the Institute for Work and Health, who has been awarded a National Health PhD Fellowship, reports that Health Canada's National Research and Development

Program has awarded a grant to Claire Bombardier, Pierre Côté, John Frank, David Cassidy, Sheila Hogg-Johnson and Linda Carroll in the amount of \$107,270 during the period from 1998 – 2001. The project is entitled “Is there choice of care provider associated with health outcomes after whiplash?”. This project serves as Dr. Côté's PhD thesis. Congratulations!

NEXT 6 MONTHS

In the past six months we have endeavoured to: 1) facilitate the CFSR restructuring process, 2) approve the implementation of a research agenda process, 3) manage the first chiropractic scientific research symposium in Canada, 4) establish a mechanism to fund our intellectual academic pool of researchers. All of these initiatives are clear indications of CCA's significant long term commitment to chiropractic research in Canada. In the next 6 months we hope to:

- 1) complete CFSR transition
- 2) take up the research agenda process
- 3) explore funding options
- 4) coalesce strategic long term planning
- 5) strengthen our academic pool

We must continue to develop our research capabilities in both the intellectual and infrastructure streams in order to ensure our continued survival.

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18/09/98

PLAN TO ATTEND

1st CANADIAN CHIROPRACTIC SCIENTIFIC SYMPOSIUM

ITS TIME TO REGISTER

Hosted by the Consortium of Canadian Chiropractic Research Centres

University of Waterloo, University of Saskatchewan, University of Calgary,
Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières(UQTR), Institute for Work and Health(Toronto),
and Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College(CMCC)

Date: November 14-15, 1998
Place: University of Calgary
Program Director: Dr. Walter Herzog PhD

Registration for the conference is \$250.00 CDN. This fee includes a copy of the proceedings and the welcome reception. Late registration, after October 15, 1998 is \$300.00 for the full conference or \$150.00/day. On-site registration is possible at the late registration fee rate. Conference venue, accommodation and travel information may be obtained from:

Contact: Holly Hanna at the University of Calgary

Voice: 403-220-8525

Fax: 403-284-3553

Email: hhanna@acs.ucalgary.ca

Speakers include

.Cassidy/Conway/Côté/Coulter/Gitelman/Grice/Haldeman/McGill/Vernon

REGISTER NOW!