

# Canadian Chiropractic Research Bulletin #4

## CCA Research Committee Membership

Dr. Grayden Bridge	- Chair, CCA Research Committee/ CCA Board of Governors
Dr. Chris Beaudry	- CCA Board of Governors
Dr. Ron Carter	- Field Practitioner/ Chair, CFSR Fund Raising Committee
Dr. Guy Beauchamp	- President, Fondation Chiropratique du Québec
Dr. Allan Gotlib	- JCCA Editor/ CCA Research Programs Co-ordinator
Dr. Chris Martin	- CCA Board of Governors
Dr. Benno Nigg	- Public Representative, Secretary, CFSR
Mr. Costa Papadopoulos	- Manager, CCA Professional Affairs & Health Policy
Dr. David Peterson	- President, Chiropractic Foundation for Spinal Research
Dr. Howard Vernon	- Chair, Consortium of Canadian Chiropractic Research Centers (CCCRC)



Dr. Grayden Bridge, DC

## MEETINGS

The Canadian Chiropractic Association (CCA) Research Committee met on October 16, 1999 in Montreal in conjunction with a meeting held by the Chiropractic Foundation for Spinal Research (CFSR) and the Fondation Chiropratique du Québec. I am pleased to report a summary of the initiatives

and activities undertaken by the Committee. As Chair, I have seen research activity levels continue to increase. We are benefiting from many opportunities. The expertise and skill sets of the Committee members go a long way to facilitating our goals and objectives, both short and long term. Dr. Zoltan Szaraz has completed his term on the CCA Board and Dr. Guy Dubé has completed his term as President of the the Fondation Chiropratique du Québec. The Research Committee and I would like to thank these tremendously dedicated professionals for their years of service and commitment to the mission and principles of our association. The committee welcomes with great pleasure, Dr. Chris Martin from Victoria, B.C. as a CCA Board representative, and Dr. Guy Beauchamp as President, Fondation Chiropratique du Québec .

Also on behalf of the CCA Research Committee, I would like to thank and

recognize the extensive contributions of Dr. Allan Gotlib in his role as our Research Program Co-ordinator. The achievements and activities of this Committee are largely a result of Allan's excellent work and the visions which he brings to our efforts to promote chiropractic research. Thank you Allan.

Our next full meeting is scheduled for May 27, 2000 in Calgary and I *invite submissions* from members of the research community at large in Canada on issues that you feel should be placed before the CCA Research Committee for discussion purposes. I would like to consult broadly with all stakeholders who have vested interests in chiropractic research that are resonant with the Canadian Chiropractic Association research agenda.

#### **MRC /CCA PARTNERSHIP TRAINING AWARDS**

As the CCA continues to cultivate healthy robust relations with the Medical Research Council of Canada/CIHR our research strategy is proving fruitful. The Partnership Challenge Fund launched in 1998 was intended to enhance Canada's health research capacity by co-funding with not-for-profit organizations. The resounding success of this pilot program has now led to an expanded Health Research Partnership Fund with \$5 million available for partnerships. Awards will be available in the areas of biomedical, applied clinical, health services and systems, and the social and cultural determinants of health. It is estimated that up to 135 new awards may be available to researchers in this program. The CCA Research Committee will continue to explore and facilitate the realistic opportunities that are presented

which are consistent with the CCA research agenda.

In our *first agreement*, CCA partnered with the MRC very successfully to support three chiropractic researchers. All three recipients hurdled the stringent MRC peer review process and have now undertaken their awards. Greg Kawchuk DC, PhD is at the University of Calgary (\$45,300 per year) in the Faculty of Civil Engineering, McCaig Centre, and is specializing in spinal biomechanics, pathology, and pain. Jill Hayden DC, PhD candidate, is at the University of Toronto (\$45,300 per year) Institute for Work and Health, and is specializing in clinical epidemiology, low back pain and children. Annalyn Mercado, PhD candidate, is at the University of Saskatchewan (\$19,530 per year) Institute for Health and Outcomes Research, Department of Psychology, and is specializing in neck and back pain, motor vehicle collisions, and recovery.

The CCA/MRC joint partnership program provides for a total of \$221,260 in support of these 3 training awards. In addition, the CCA has internally partnered with Chiropractic Foundation for Spinal Research (CFSR) and the Canadian Chiropractic Examining Board (CCEB), and is most thankful for the commitment made by these organizations in support of these three chiropractic researchers. These awards were designed to sustain dedicated chiropractic research in Canada with federally supported (MRC) dollars.

In our *second agreement*, both the CCA and the CFSR hopefully will *each* partner successfully in support of a scholarship award/ Research Chair. This salary award has provisions for a **5 year**

**commitment to support a chiropractic investigator with an academic appointment in a Canadian university.**

This scholarship award in our joint partnership program initiative would allow for a researcher with a university faculty appointment to perform dedicated chiropractic research and will help to build enduring chiropractic research capacity. The award in the amount of \$50,000 per annum plus on average \$8,250 per annum in fringe benefits is contingent on applicants meeting the MRC's high quality peer review. Each successfully partnered applicant calls for a total commitment of \$291,250 over the term of the award. Both the CCA and the CFSR are each potential MRC partners in this second cycle of awards. If our applicants are successful, we would be making history again. We should know some time in April.

We are in the midst of a *third agreement* with the MRC. The CFSR and the Fondation Chiropratique du Québec are each entertaining a potential partnership in support of a training award.

**CONSORTIUM OF CANADIAN CHIROPRACTIC RESEARCH CENTERS (CCCRC)**

***CIHR Opportunity Fund Submission***

Following a meeting at the MRC, an opportunity arose for the CCCRC with respect to funding. The Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) Opportunities Program was a one time initiative which encourages the research community to develop research agendas and collaborative networks which could effectively compete for funding through the newly created CIHR. The program was open to a broader range of health

research activities than previously available, and supported workshops, consensus conferences, and strategic planning exercises whose outcome would be a research agenda or proposals for a health research consortium, research personnel development and other activities. The program provided one-time non-renewable grants of up to \$50,000 to groups of health researchers to undertake these planning and consultation exercises.

Our Consortium members, led by Dr. Howard Vernon (Chair) from the Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College (CMCC), with the assistance of Dr. Allan Gotlib and Costa Papadopoulos, both from the CCA, submitted an extensive proposal and while we were not successful in the competition, we ranked in the middle third. We are definitely on their radar screen. Federal dollars supporting chiropractic research and chiropractic researchers is becoming reachable. Funding opportunities such as these, will allow for leading chiropractic researchers to be brought together and provide the basis for structured collaborative dialogue in order to chart the course of a substantial chiropractic research agenda, *resonant with* Canada's health care system.

***Symposium***

Symposium 2000 is scheduled for October 21-22, 2000 in Toronto. This is the second Canadian Chiropractic Scientific Symposium and Dr. Howard Vernon DC, the program director has already taken up the reins. Dr. Vernon is Associate Dean, Research at CMCC and Chair of the Consortium of Canadian Chiropractic Research Centers (CCCRC)

is heading the organizational committee. The CCA will facilitate the 2<sup>nd</sup> symposium by sponsoring the event, and the Consortium will host the event. The **Call for Abstracts** has been issued and appears in the March issue of the Journal of the Canadian Chiropractic Association. **The abstracts deadline for submission is July 15, 2000.** Contact Dr. Vernon at [hvernon@cmcc.ca](mailto:hvernon@cmcc.ca) for information regarding the abstract submission protocol.

The CCA's sponsorship role clearly demonstrates the longstanding and continuing commitment the CCA has made to supporting and facilitating chiropractic research in Canada. The second event promises to be as successful and exciting as the first. Mark your calendars now!

#### *Cassidy at University of Alberta*

Dr. David Cassidy DC, PhD has taken up a new position at the University of Alberta in Edmonton. He remains as adjunct professor at the University of Saskatchewan. At the University of Alberta, Dr. Cassidy is an associate professor of epidemiology in the Department of Public Health Sciences, Faculty of Medicine and Oral Health Sciences. He will be continuing his research activities at the Alberta Centre for Injury Control and Research. The mission of the Alberta Centre for Injury Control and Research (ACICR) is to reduce injury mortality, morbidity and the overall burden of injury in Alberta by providing surveillance, program, education and coordination support to Alberta Health, the seventeen Regional Health Authorities and others to fulfill their mandate of injury control.

## **RESEARCH CHAIRS**

The CCA Research Committee, in concert with the Chiropractic Foundation for Spinal Research (CFSR) are continually examining all possible strategies as part of their long term goals of establishing chiropractic research chairs in several universities in across Canada. Obviously, an Endowment Fund approach provides the necessary permanency to the chair, but the capital requirements necessary are substantial. This long term initiative dovetails with the second CCA/MRC agreement and the CFSR objective of establishing a series of six Centers of Excellence linked across Canada. Recently the CFSR announced a significant fund raising campaign to raise one million dollars for chiropractic research in Canada. Each of these Centers of Excellence will require approximately one million dollars to establish and fund for the first three to five years. The CFSR Board has identified the first Center of Excellence to be the Center of Excellence in Spinal Research at the University of Calgary, headed by Dr. Walter Herzog and focussed on the bio-mechanical relationship between chiropractic and the spine. We will keep you informed as the campaign continues to unfold.

## **CANADIAN INSTITUTES OF HEALTH RESEARCH (CIHR)**

The Canadian Institutes of Health Research, expected to be in operation by April 1, 2000 is currently chaired by Dr. Henry Friesen, President of the MRC. The CIHR will be inclusive of the *full range* of health research, broadening the base of health research to include disciplines which have been traditionally under-represented. This creates a more

level playing field for example with chiropractic researchers.

The exact Institutes that are to be created will be prescribed by regulation in a process to be determined by the Council of the CIHR. **The CCA was an active participant with submissions related to the creation of a slate of Institutes.** It is anticipated that there will be 10 to 15 Institutes within the CIHR, each with annual funding ranging from \$20 - \$80 million dollars, and that each Institute would support 200-500 researchers.

Symposium 2000 provides the Consortium of Canadian Chiropractic Research Centers with the platform to develop a chiropractic research agenda as well as capacity, which falls within the CIHR themes and therefore allows us to effectively compete for future CIHR funding. An *anticipated* Institute for Musculoskeletal/Arthritis Disorders will provide a home for chiropractic researchers.

**Dr. Mark Bisby**, Director of Programs at the Medical Research Council addressed the Executive Officers of the Canadian Chiropractic Association recently in Ottawa on the latest developments regarding the CIHR. He explained that the CIHR process will differ from the MRC process in that *Health Research* will be directed by the health needs of Canadians rather than the funding interests of researchers and that the process of health research must be better linked to the health care system. In order to successfully access federal dollars, any proposed chiropractic research must cut across at least two of the four research themes of the CIHR and must be multidisciplinary, collaborative and create new knowledge.

## **CFSR TRANSITION PLAN UPDATE**

The Board of Directors of the Chiropractic Foundation for Spinal Research (CFSR), soon to be the renamed the Chiropractic Research Foundation (CRF)) is currently composed of:

Dr. David Peterson (Alberta) – President  
Dr. Ron Carter (Alberta) – Chair, Fund Raising Committee (FRC)  
Dr. Martin Gurvey (Manitoba) - Chair Fund Allocating Committee (FAC)  
Dr. Benno Nigg (Alberta) - Secretary  
Dr. Rob Allaby (New Brunswick) - Treasurer

The Board has been quite active over the year with setting goals, objectives and strategies designed to enhance the profile and funding of chiropractic research in Canada.

The FAC currently consists of Dr. Martin Gurvey (Manitoba), Dr. Jeff Balon (Ontario), Dr. Carlo Ammendolia (Ontario), Dr. Reg Nicholson (Ontario), Dr. Grayden Bridge (Alberta). Following rigorous peer review utilizing an expert Advisory Committee, those projects meeting the CFSR funding criteria are approved by the FAC. The submission process for funding by CFSR, as well as the peer review process utilized, are currently under review and the revised criteria will be published at a later date.

The FRC consists of Dr. Ron Carter (Alberta) and Dr. Rob Allaby (New Brunswick). The Committee has been working intensely with the consulting firm of Carter-McRae Associates of Calgary to solicit funds from individuals, corporations and government

organizations. The CFSR has undertaken a fundraising campaign committed to raising \$1 million dollars by December of 2000 in support of chiropractic research in Canada. As well, there are plans calling for the establishment of six Centers of Excellence across Canada with the University of Calgary under the direction of Dr. Walter Herzog designated as the first supported Center.

In the background, Dr. Allan Gotlib has successfully completed the transitional administrative phases, and all financial and administrative elements are now centered in Toronto. He continues to facilitate the administrative aspects of all the committees at the CFSR.

## **LA FONDATION CHIROPRACTIQUE DU QUÉBEC**

The Quebec Chiropractic Foundation is dedicated to promoting and supporting research studies in chiropractic. In the last 4 years it has solicited over \$400,000 dollars. In the last 3 years it has supported 26 student grants and currently has 2 research projects in progress. Two of its researchers are members of the Consortium.

The Foundation has a Board of 12 non-DC and 5 DC members. The new Executive Committee consists of Dr. Guy Beauchamp (President), Dr. Christian Beaudry (Vice-President), Dr. Richard Dussault (Treasurer), Dr. Richard Verreault (Secretary), and Dr. Normand Danis (Administrator) Dr. Grayden Bridge, Chair of the CCA Research Committee, is a Governor of the Foundation.

Pour assurer le bon fonctionnement de la **Fondation** plus d'un chiropraticien a répondu à l'appel lancé par les dirigeants

pour assumer la direction des divers comités qui verront à assurer tout au long de l'année les entrées de fonds nécessaires pour que la **Fondation** remplisse les divers objectifs qu'elle s'est fixés.

The Foundation in the coming year will continue to promote and support chiropractic research initiatives, which are oriented mainly in neuro-physiology. It is also considering negotiating a Memorandum of Understanding with the Medical Research Council of Canada in support of a training award such as the Doctoral Research Award or a Fellowship Award. This is a very exciting initiative. The Foundation's website is [www.fcq.qc.ca](http://www.fcq.qc.ca) and provides good information.

## **HEALTH CANADA INITIATIVES**

It is clear that major changes will be happening over the next few years. Over the past 18 months, the federal government has been examining the impact that complementary and alternative health care approaches has on the health system in Canada and internationally, using a *population health approach*. Their interests are focussed on issues such as product regulation, practitioner regulation, **evidence-base**, health management and information dissemination. The Office of Natural Health Products at the Health Protection Branch will co-ordinate these interests.

An Advisory Group on Alternative and Complementary Practices and Therapies was formulated and is composed of leading experts across Canada. Dr. Jeff Balon, a chiropractor, is a member of this group. The Group's mandate is to

look at developing a conceptual model for a future integrative health system and collaborating with the Office of Natural Health Products. Issues being addressed include knowledge development, service delivery, scope of practice, product safety and informed choice.

The York University Centre for Health Studies undertook a project awarded by Health Canada, to explore the current status of non-traditional health care in Canada. It was recently completed and provides the baseline to initiate more detailed research projects in the near future. It is an extensive document with 400 pages and has three components: conceptual base, coverage and regulatory issues, consumer use and knowledge. It is available at cost from York.

The Tzu Chi Institute for Complementary and Alternative Medicine undertook a study to review integration in Australia, China, Great Britain and the United States. The document should be completed shortly.

Health Canada is currently preparing a synthesis document identifying the policy issues related to complementary and alternative health care and is addressing issues such as consumer utilization, informed choice, information dissemination, service delivery regulation of practitioners, education and training of practitioners, research development and research capacity. Clearly, the profession of chiropractic is well positioned as a leader in all of these areas.

It seems that the federal government has finally turned its mind to seriously addressing the tremendous growth of

non-traditional health care in Canada. The MRC is partnering with the chiropractic profession in support of training and salary awards for the first time, federal committees include chiropractors for the first time, wide-scale studies are exploring chiropractic and the federal government has turned to our association for consultation. This is an exciting time to be involved with non-traditional health care research.

### **INTEGRATIVE MEDICINE AND HEALTH NETWORK (IMHN)**

This network was established recently to link researchers, practitioners, educators, administrators and other individuals with the common interest of integrating complementary and alternative health approaches with traditional medicine. Given the diversity of the network, its members share a commitment to promoting CAM practices through research, capacity building, integration and knowledge transfer, as well as peer reviewed practice guidelines for integrated care models.

There are 35 participants currently in the network. Chiropractic is represented by Costa Papadopoulos MHA, Allan Gotlib DC, Sil Mior DC, Francois Hains DC, and Jeff Balon DC, MD.

*Initial* thoughts of the network focussed on a submission to the CIHR calling for the establishment of an *Institute* for Complementary and Alternative Practices under the CIHR model. However, in the current climate, strategically a submission for an *Office* of Complementary and Alternative Health Care would be better received than a designated Institute. If you would like a copy of the submission made by

the CAM Working Group and funded in part by the CCA, please contact Dr. Allan Gotlib at the CCA.

### **CCA RESEARCHER OF THE YEAR AWARD**

The 1999 CCA Researcher of the Year Award was formally presented Dr. Dr. Pierre Côté at the President's Reception in Toronto held in November 1999. Dr. Côté is a Research Fellow at the Institute for Work and Health and is a doctoral candidate in the Department of Public Health Sciences at the University of Toronto.

The Committee is reviewing the current criteria for this award and invites the views of the research community. Please direct any suggestions or comments to Dr. Allan Gotlib.

### **ADVANCING RESEARCHERS**

Dr. Jeffrey Quon DC has received his Master of Health Science degree and is teaching graduate level courses (clinical epidemiology and biostatistics) in the Faculty of Medicine in the Department of Health Care and Epidemiology at UBC. He is now a Clinical Assistant Professor.

Dr. Pierre Boucher DC, DABCN received his PhD in September 1999 and was appointed program director of the doctorate program of chiropractic at UQTR.

Dr. Greg Kawchuk DC (MRC Fellowship recipient) received his PhD in December 1999 from the University of Calgary.

Congratulations to these individuals for continuing to pursue their research interests.

### **RESIDENCY PROGRAM**

University Health Services at the University of Calgary has established a chiropractic residency program which consists of a unique clinician/researcher position that will see the successful candidate practice chiropractic in a leading multi-disciplinary environment in addition to participating in a university-based program of spinal research. The program is intended for post-graduate students at chiropractic colleges, college faculty who wish to upgrade their skills or exceptional new graduates who possess a distinct interest in research and multidisciplinary practice. Contact Dr. Greg Kawchuk DC, MSc at University Health Services, Chiropractic Residency Program, University of Calgary 2500 University Drive N.W. Calgary, Alberta, Canada T2N 1N4, tel: 403-220-5765 email: <kawchuk@mccaig.ucalgary.ca>

### **NATIONAL RESEARCH FUND**

The CCA National Research Program continues to benefit from provincial and stakeholder support of our national research strategies. The CCA uses these funds to leverage significant opportunities which build research capacity and strategic relationships. The historic partnerships with the MRC are clear examples of such opportunities. Building long term relationships is essential to leveraging our resources through partnerships with federal agencies and other stakeholders that will eventually position chiropractic research in the forefront where it rightfully belongs, and ensure long term growth. I

want to thank all of the provinces and in particular, Alberta, British Columbia, Saskatchewan and New Brunswick, for their continued support of the CCA national program.

## **BONE & JOINT DECADE**

The CCA has been invited to participate on the planning committee of the Canadian National Network for the Bone and Joint Decade 2000-2010 for the prevention and treatment of musculoskeletal disorders. This initiative is endorsed by the United Nations and is committed to improving the quality of life for people with bone and joint diseases and injuries throughout the world.

## **AWARDS**

The JCCA Award of Excellence acknowledging authors who advance the scholarly scientific literature of the profession were recently made to the following:

### **a. Original designed research (experimental/observational)**

Erfanian P, Hagino C, Guerriero R. A preliminary study assessing adverse effects of a semi-customized cervical pillow on asymptomatic adults. JCCA 1998; 42(3):156-162.

Perossa DR, Dziak M, Vernon HT, Hayashita K. The intra-examiner reliability of manual muscle testing of the hip and shoulder with a modified sphygmomanometer: a preliminary study of normal subjects. JCCA 1998; 42(2): 73-82.

### **b. Literature reviews (clinical/historical)**

Biggs L, Hay D, Mierau D. Canadian chiropractors' attitudes towards chiropractic philosophy and scope of practice: implications for the implementation of clinical practices guidelines. JCCA 1997; 41(3): 145-154.

Morgan LG. Pertussis immunization: an update. JCCA 1997; 41(2): 86-90.

### **c. Case studies/reports**

Hadida C, Lemire JJ. Missed upper cervical spine fracture: clinical and radiological considerations. JCCA 1997; 41(2): 77-85.

Crawford JP, Gotlib AC, Injeyan HS. Pertinent case studies illustrating the need for laboratory accessibility for Doctors of Chiropractic: a clinical conundrum. JCCA 1997; 41(4): 231-236.

## **WORKS IN PROGRESS**

Dr. Walter Herzog PhD at the University of Calgary has the following works in progress:

1. The theoretical modeling of biomechanics of spinal manipulative treatment,
2. The experimental determination of internal spinal forces produced during chiropractic spinal manipulative therapy,
3. Reflex inhibition following chiropractic SMT,
4. Reflex activation of back, arm, and leg muscle during and following SMT and mechanical treatments,
5. The origin and measuring of cavitation during SMT,
6. Stiffness release of hyperactive spinal musculature.

As well, Dr. Herzog has edited and contributed directly to a textbook entitled Clinical Biomechanics of Spinal Manipulation, due to be released in April 2000.

Dr. Greg Kawchuk DC, PhD has begun his post doctoral fellowship from the CCA/MRC program at the University of Calgary and his work will involve the development of an animal model of spinal degeneration and the non-invasive assessment of the mechanics of that model.

Dr. Howard Vernon DC at the Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College in Toronto has received a \$1 million research grant from the Ontario Ministry of Health to undertake a 3 year randomized clinical trial comparing chiropractic and medical treatments for tension headache. Co-investigators include Dr. Gwen Jansz (St. Michael's Hospital), Dr. Cam McDermaid (CMCC) and Dr. Charles Goldsmith (McMaster University).

### **CHIROPRACTIC RESEARCH JOURNAL EDITORS COUNCIL (CRJEC)**

The Chiropractic Research Journal Editors Council (CRJEC), established in 1990 as a forum for chiropractic scientific editors, enhances standardization of scientific publishing practices. The group consists of the editors of the profession's leading scholarly journals. CRJEC acknowledges a grant from the **Canadian Chiropractic Protective Association (CCPA)** to support the

continuing activities of this unique group of individuals.

The CRJEC is currently considering the feasibility of an Editors workshop on scientific writing immediately before Symposium 2000 at CMCC on October 21-22, 2000. We will keep you posted on this workshop.

The next CRJEC meeting is July 20, 2000 in Chicago during the RAC V Conference.

### **NEXT 6 MONTHS**

The CCA Research Committee will monitor closely the CIHR process and legislative proceedings as they unfold. The second cycle of MRC/CCA awards in our Program presents exciting potential opportunities for chiropractic research. The possibility of an Institute for Musculoskeletal Disorders will provide a home for our researchers. The Health Canada initiatives surrounding complementary and alternative health approaches are very positive events and we will continue to maximize these opportunities to the profession's benefit.

All of these projects and programs have grown from the CCA vision of improving the health and quality of life for Canadians through chiropractic research.

For further information contact Dr. Allan Gotlib, CCA Research Programs Co-ordinator at tel: 416-781-5656, fax: 416-781-0923, email: [algotlib@ccachiro.org](mailto:algotlib@ccachiro.org)

This Bulletin is distributed to the Canadian chiropractic research community. (31/03/00)

# **2<sup>nd</sup> CANADIAN CHIROPRACTIC SCIENTIFIC SYMPOSIUM**

## *CALL FOR ABSTRACTS*

Hosted by the Consortium of Canadian Chiropractic Research Centres

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

**Date:** October 21-22, 2000

**Place:** Toronto, Ontario  
Canada

**Program Director:** Dr. Howard Vernon DC

For information regarding abstract submission protocol

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**ABSTRACT SUBMISSION DEADLINE - JULY 15, 2000**

**Held in conjunction with CMCC's Advances in Chiropractic Annual Conference and sponsored by the Canadian Chiropractic Association**

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