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The Institute of Infection and Immunity provides national leadership and creates programs that promote innovative research aimed at reducing the global burden of infectious diseases and disorders of the immune system.

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Message from the Scientific Director



It is with pleasure that I reach you through this newsletter.

Training of the next generation of researchers has always been a priority at the Institute of Infection and Immunity (III). We had our 7th New Investigator Forum (NIF) at Lac-Delage on May 26-28, 2017 (see p. 2). This was the last NIF under this current administration (our end date being June

2018) but I sincerely hope that this tradition will be maintained. Indeed, new investigators are benefiting from the advice of seasoned investigators but more importantly, they are building networks that often lead to exciting new collaborative projects.

We have worked on a number of calls in the field of HIV and antibiotic resistance (see p. 3 & 6) and on upcoming calls on Lyme disease (see p. 4), HPV vaccination (see p. 5), and the microbiome (further details will be provided in the coming months).

The funding of some research activities that the

Institute has helped build in the recent past have now been announced, and Phase 1 of Human Immunology as well as Health System Impact Fellowships are now in peer review. I congratulate all the recipients of the CIHR awards/grants and the best of luck for the applicants in the current and upcoming competitions.

With the summer now upon us, I wish you all the best in your research as well as taking some time off with family and friends.

Marc Ouellette

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The 7th New Investigator Forum

The New Investigator Forum (NIF) took place on May 26-28, 2017 in Lac-Delage, Quebec. The forum welcomed 42 early-career investigators from all CIHR research themes. Over the course of the weekend, they benefited from expert advices provided by experienced researchers in a range of subject areas.

The Bhagirath Singh Early Career Awards in Infection and Immunity for 2015 and 2016 were presented during the forum. [Dr. Matthew Miller](#) (McMaster University) is the awardee for 2015, and [Dr. Laurent Chatel-Chaix](#) (Institut national de la recherche scientifique) is the awardee for 2016 (see below). The two awardees had the highest percentile ranking amongst new investigators in the Project Grant competitions of 2015 and 2016, respectively.



The Bhagirath Singh Early Career Award in Infection and Immunity

Dr. Laurent Chatel-Chaix, Ph.D., Assistant Professor at the Institut national de la recherche scientifique (INRS) – Institut Armand-Frappier is the 2016 winner of the Bhagirath Singh Early Career Award in Infection and Immunity. Dr. Chatel-Chaix's application was entitled "Functional and morphological remodeling of mitochondria and associated endoplasmic reticulum by flaviviruses".

Dr. Laurent Chatel-Chaix completed his Ph.D. at Université de Montréal and carried out postdoctoral training at Centre Hospitalier de l'Université de Montréal; Institute for Research in Immunology and Cancer and at the University of Heidelberg (Germany). Dr. Chatel-Chaix joined the faculty at INRS-Institut Armand-Frappier in August 2016.

[Read more](#)



The recipients of the Bhagirath Singh Award, Dr. Matthew Miller, 2015 (right) and Dr. Laurent Chatel-Chaix, 2016 (left), with Dr. Marc Ouellette, III Scientific Director (center).

CHARAC meeting

The Institute held its CIHR HIV/AIDS Research Advisory Committee (CHARAC) meeting in Regina on June 8-9, 2017. A number of HIV research issues were discussed including upcoming initiatives in biomedical/clinical research. This meeting was the last meeting for Dr. Jonathan Angel as the Chair of CHARAC. Drs. Paul McPherson and Kate Shannon

will also terminate their term soon as members of CHARAC. We thank all three for their excellent work. A special mention for Dr. Angel who has been an Institute Advisory Board member for the Institute of Infection and Immunity as well as the Chair for CHARAC. His hard work has helped shape HIV research in Canada.



Drs. Jonathan Angel (left) and Marc Ouellette (right)



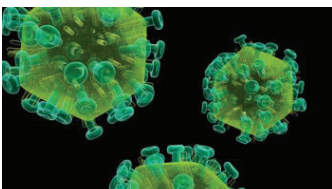
Drs. Marc Ouellette (left) and Paul McPherson (right)

HIV/AIDS Community-Based Research (2017-2018) - Requests for Applications

The HIV/AIDS Research Initiative with strategic leadership from the CIHR Institute of Infection and Immunity (III) and the CIHR Institute of Aboriginal Peoples' Health (IAPH) is pleased to announce the launch of 2 Requests for Applications (RFAs):

1. [Catalyst Grant: HIV/AIDS Community-Based Research \(2017\)](#)
2. [Operating Grant: HIV/AIDS Community-Based Research \(2017-2018\)](#)

Through these RFAs, the initiative is committed to supporting research that focuses on key populations including: men who have sex with men, people who use drugs, Indigenous people, persons currently or previously incarcerated, ethno-racial minority communities, women and youth at risk, and people living with HIV. **The deadline for applications is October 3, 2017.**



Government of Canada announces funding for Lyme disease research

Lyme disease is an infectious disease that is emerging in many parts of Canada, impacting many Canadians and their families.

The Honourable Jane Philpott, Minister of Health, announced on May 30, 2017, up to \$4 million to establish a Lyme disease research network, with the aim of generating new knowledge to improve diagnosis and treatment. [Read more](#)

This investment builds on the Government of Canada's ongoing support to address Lyme disease, through surveillance, research, sharing of

best practices, laboratory diagnostics and testing, prevention education, and public education and awareness.

Also, the Government of Canada released the [Federal Framework on Lyme Disease](#). The Framework, which is intended to help guide a way forward in areas where the federal government has a role, is built around three pillars: surveillance; guidelines and best practices; and education and awareness.

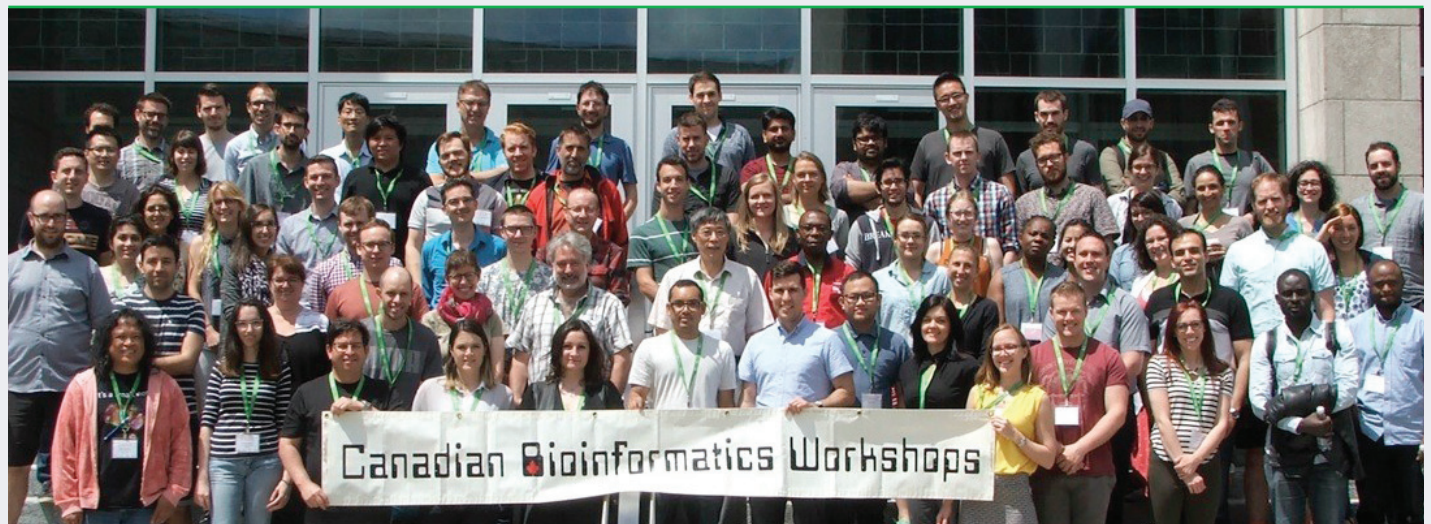
Further details on CIHR's actions will follow in July.

2017 Microbiome Summer School: Big Data Analytics for Omics Science

Microbiome research has been a strategic priority at CIHR, including at III. Phase 1 of the Canadian Microbiome Initiative has now been completed. Many institutes are now working on a Phase 2 of this initiative. With the intention of furthering microbiome capacity, we held in collaboration with the Institute of Genetics; Institute of Nutrition, Metabolism and Diabetes; Institute of Circulatory and Respiratory Health; Institute of Musculoskeletal Health and

Arthritis; Institute of Gender and Health, the Université Laval Big Data Research Center, Bioinformatics.ca, the Canada Excellence Research Chairs, along with other partners, the [2017 Microbiome Summer School: Big Data Analytics for Omics Science](#) in Quebec City, QC from June 18 to 22. The event was a success.

[Read more](#)



Pre-announcement: Human Papillomavirus Screening and Vaccination Implementation in Underserved Populations - Catalyst Grant Request for Applications

The CIHR - Institute of Cancer Research (ICR) in partnership with the Institute of Infection and Immunity (III) is pleased to announce an upcoming new Request for Applications (RFA): *Human Papillomavirus Screening and Vaccination Implementation in Underserved Populations*.

This RFA will focus on underserved populations (i.e., Indigenous populations, Newcomers to Canada, Sex workers, injected-drug users, remote populations). A specific pool will support at least two applications for research with Indigenous populations.

This RFA will support community-based projects relevant to the following research areas:

- HPV vaccination in underserved populations;
- HPV screening in underserved populations.

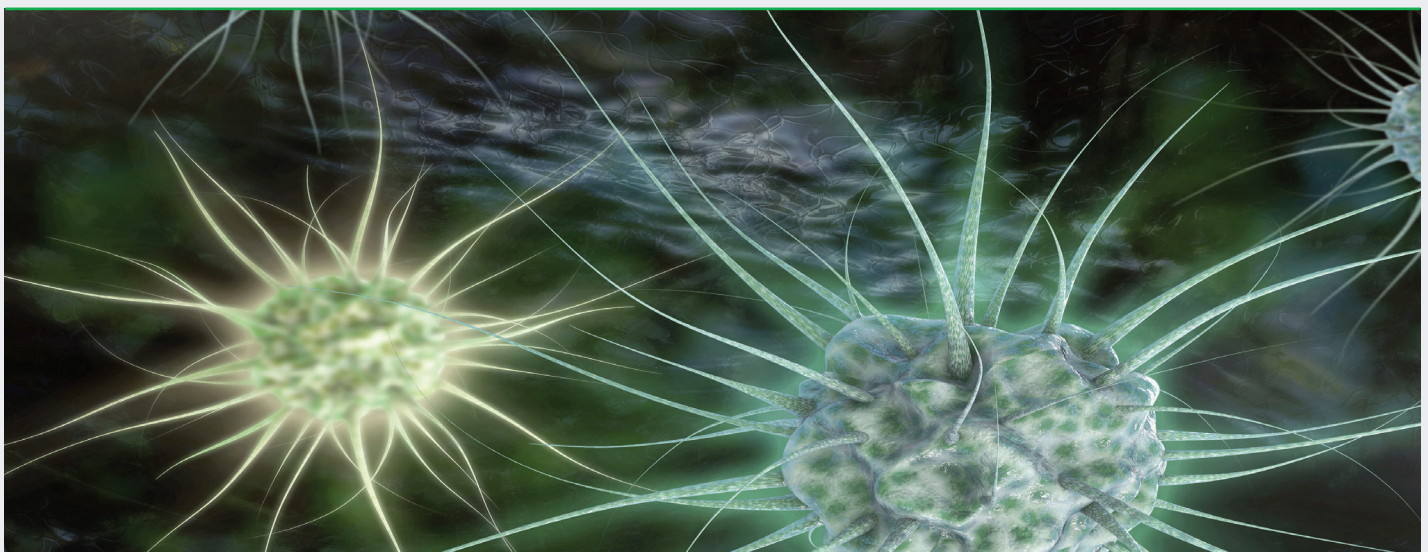
Additional details on the eligible areas for funding will be forthcoming during the summer of 2017.

New Request for Applications from Grand Challenges Canada

Do you have a bold idea for improving reproductive, maternal, newborn and/or child health? Grand Challenges Canada, a program funded by the Government of Canada, has launched a new funding opportunity open to applicants in low- and middle-income

countries and Canada: Stars in Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, and Child Health (RMNCH). Successful proposals will be awarded seed grants of up to \$100,000 CAD over a maximum of 12 to 18 months.

[Read more](#)



Requests for Applications

In the event of a discrepancy between the information provided here and the information on ResearchNet, the latter shall prevail.

For a complete list of all the current requests for applications, please click [here](#)

Project/Foundation Program Grants

[Project Grant Program](#)

As [announced by the CIHR Acting President on May 5](#), the Project Grant registration that was to close on May 30, 2017 will be delayed until August 15, 2017, with an application deadline of September 15, 2017.

[Foundation Grant: 2017-2018](#)

Registration Deadline: 2017-08-08

Application Deadline - Stage 1: 2017-09-12

Of particular interest for the III community

[Catalyst Grant: HIV/AIDS Community-Based Research \(2017\)](#)

Application Deadline: 2017-10-03

[Operating Grant : 5th Joint Programming Initiative on Antimicrobial Resistance \(JPIAMR\)](#)

Application Deadline: 2017-07-04

[Operating Grant: Operating Grant: HIV/AIDS Community-Based Research \(2017-2018\)](#)

Application Deadline: 2017-10-03

[Team Grant : HIV Implementation Science – Component 2](#)

Application Deadline: 2017-08-22

[2017 Large-Scale Applied Research Project Competition: Genomics and Precision Health](#)

For those with successful letter of intent

Application Deadline for full applications to Genome Canada: 2017-10-05

Of general interest for III community

[Doctoral Research Award: Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarships \(2017-2018\)](#)

Application Deadline: 2017-11-01

[Fellowship: Banting Postdoctoral Fellowships Program \(2017-2018\)](#)

Application Deadline: 2017-09-20

[Operating Grant: Impact Grant: Canadian Epigenetics, Environment, and Health Research Consortium \(CEEHRC\) Phase II](#)

Registration Deadline: 2017-07-18

[Operating Grant: SPOR & JDRF - ICT Multi-Year Grant](#)

Letter of intent - Application Deadline: 2017-08-08

Full application - Application Deadline: 2017-11-14

[Operating Grant: SPOR Innovative Clinical Trial Multi-Year Grant \(2017\)](#)

Letter of intent - Application Deadline: 2017-09-12

Full application - Application Deadline: 2018-01-16

Funding decisions

The Institute of Infection and Immunity would like to congratulate the members of its community who were successful in various competitions.

- [Operating Grant: Optimizing the VSV Vector towards an HIV Vaccine](#)
- [Operating Grant: Improved Immunization Coverage Initiative](#)
 - [First Nations/Inuit/Métis](#)
 - [Recent newcomers](#)
- [Operating Grant: Antimicrobial Resistance: Point of Care Diagnostics in Human Health](#)
- [Canadian Immunization Research Network](#)
- [Collaborative Centres of HIV/AIDS Community-Based Research - General Stream](#)
- [Collaborative Centres of HIV/AIDS Community-Based Research - Aboriginal Stream](#)
- [Pathways Implementation Research Team – Component 2 \(2016\) - Tuberculosis](#)

As well as the recipients of funding from the following opportunities:

- [CIHR Fellowship: 2016-2017](#)
- [Planning & Dissemination Grants – ICS](#)
- [Project Grant: Fall 2016 & Bridge Grant](#)
- [Doctoral Foreign Study Award \(DFSA\)](#)
- [Frederick Banting and Charles Best Canada Graduate Scholarships Doctoral Awards \(CGS-D\)](#)
- [Operating Grant: Collaborative Health Research Projects \(NSERC Partnered\) \(2016-2017\)](#)
- [Undergraduate: Summer Studentship Award](#)

Meetings of interest

[2017 Forum and Annual General Meeting of the Canadian Academy of Health Science \(CAHS\)](#), September 14 to 15, 2017, Ottawa, ON.

[Canadian Society of Transplantation and The Cell Transplant and Regenerative Medicine Society Joint Meeting](#), September 26 to 29, 2017, Halifax, NS.

[Association of Medical Microbiology and Infectious Disease Canada Annual Conference](#), May 2 to 5, 2018, Vancouver, BC.

[Canadian Society of Immunology](#), June 1 to 4, 2018, London, ON.

