

A Newsletter from the CIHR Institute of Nutrition, Metabolism and Diabetes

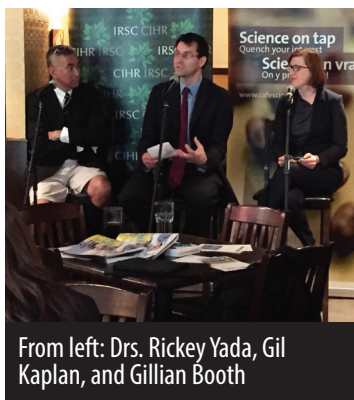
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# INMD *Connections*

## Message from Philip Sherman, INMD Scientific Director

The Institute Advisory Board (IAB) met in Calgary last month to discuss implementation of the INMD Strategic Plan Refresh, 2015-2018. The INMD Strategic Plan Refresh has three overlapping and complementary strategic research priorities: (1) Food and Health; (2) Environments, Genes and Chronic Disease; and (3) Obesity and Healthy Body Weight: Seeking Solutions. The Strategic Plan Refresh reiterates the INMD commitment to work with partners to support capacity building.

The IAB also discussed changes to institutes that are underway at [CIHR](#). As a result of a recent review undertaken by Governing Council, CIHR is making changes to the institutes that will impact on INMD, including: restructuring of IABs, investing in a common fund (termed the Roadmap Accelerator Fund), integrating Ottawa based Institute staff into CIHR portfolios, and creating a framework to support ongoing assessment of institute performance.



From left: Drs. Rickey Yada, Gil Kaplan, and Gillian Booth

Many thanks to Dr. Jon Meddings, Dean of the Cumming School of Medicine at the University of Calgary, for his exceptional hospitality while we were in Calgary. A shout out also to Drs. Braden Manns and Bruce Verchere for providing stimulating lectureships. Thanks also to Drs. Gillian Booth (Univ. Toronto), Gil Kaplan (Univ. Calgary) and Rickey Yada (Univ.

British Columbia) who participated in a Café Scientifique held in conjunction with the IAB meeting entitled, *Our Cities: Our Health – How Urban Environments Impact our Health*.

The IAB bid a fond farewell to Dr. Keith Sharkey (Univ. Calgary) who will complete his second term on the IAB in August. Keith always brought a passion for science and health research to all of our meetings.



Dr. Keith Sharkey, Departing Institute Advisory Board Member

Best wishes for the summer holiday season,

Philip M. Sherman, MD, FRCPC  
Scientific Director, INMD

## Café Scientifique: Pulse of the Prairies

INMD was pleased to host a Café Scientifique on May 27, 2015 in Winnipeg in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Canadian Nutrition Society (CNS). The Café focused on the Manitoban diet and health benefits of locally produced foods such as flax, pulses, and canola oil. The Café was well attended thanks to the local CNS host, Jim House (Univ. Manitoba). Many thanks to the dynamic speakers: Drs. Lee Ann Murphy (Manitoba Agri-Health Research Network), Peter Jones and Paul Fieldhouse (Univ. Manitoba) and to the café moderator, Dr. Catherine Field (Univ. Alberta).



From left: Drs. Lee Ann Murphy, Peter Jones, Catherine Field, and Paul Fieldhouse

# RESEARCHER PROFILE

## John L. Sievenpiper, MD, PhD, FRCPC, University of Toronto Recipient of 2015 Canadian Nutrition Society/CIHR Young Investigator Award



John Sievenpiper completed his MSc, PhD, and postdoctoral fellowship training in the Dept. Nutritional Sciences at Univ. Toronto. John completed his MD at St. Matthew's Univ. School of Medicine in the Cayman Islands and England, followed by residency training in Medical Biochemistry

at McMaster Univ. in Hamilton. John is currently an Associate Professor in the Dept. Nutritional Sciences at Univ. Toronto and a Staff Physician in the Division of Endocrinology & Metabolism, a Scientist in the Li Ka Shing Knowledge Institute, and Knowledge Synthesis Lead of the Toronto 3D Knowledge Synthesis & Clinical Trials Unit at St. Michael's Hospital. John was honoured with receipt of the 2015 Canadian Nutrition Society/CIHR Young Investigator Award. Congrats, John!

## Canadian Association of Gastroenterology/CIHR Fellowships

INMD congratulates the following successful applicants who received funding in this competition:

| Nominated Principal Investigators | Supervisor (s)                             | Institution                    | Title   |
|-----------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|
| <b>Gastroenterology</b>           |  |                                |   |
| Kevin Brennan                     | Yutaka Yasui,<br>Megan Hitchins            | Univ. Alberta                  | Genotype-dependent epigenetic regulation associated with cancer predisposition  |
| Mohammed Sarhan                   | Michael Houghton                           | Univ. Alberta                  | GSK3B inhibitors prevent HCV release through perturbation of VLDL assembly  |
| <b>Inflammatory Bowel Disease</b> |  |                                |   |
| Hong Law                          | Brian Coombes                              | McMaster Univ.                 | The influence of acute gastroenteritis and antibiotic use on the pathogenesis of adherent-invasive <i>E. coli</i> (AIEC) in a murine model of Crohn's disease |
| Kathryn Sexton                    | John Walker,<br>Charles Bernstein          | Univ. Manitoba                 | Understanding health anxiety in a chronic illness population: Longitudinal impact on disease activity, health care utilization, and quality of life in IBD    |
| Laura Greenfield                  | Nicola Jones                               | Hospital for Sick Children     | The role of autophagy in inflammatory bowel disease-associated colorectal cancer  |
| Farhad Peerani                    | Richard Fedorak,<br>Jean-Frédéric Colombel | Mount Sinai Hospital, New York | Inflammatory cell recruitment and cytokine response in elderly adult-onset compared to young adult-onset Ulcerative Colitis                                   |
| Aze Suzanne Wilson                | Richard Kim                                | Univ. Western Ontario          | Trimethylamine-N-oxide: a link between bile acid dysmetabolism and IBD pathogenesis   |

## Knowledge Translation & Commercialization Funding Opportunities—Final Launch



Alison Bourgon,  
Manager, Knowledge  
Translation Strategy,  
CIHR

Implementation of the CIHR new Open Suite of Programs and peer review processes includes a transition plan to gradually phase-out existing Open Knowledge Translation programs while phasing-in two new funding schemes, the Project Scheme and Foundation Scheme. Therefore, the final launches of these programs will be on **June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2015**, with the competitions: **Partnerships for Health System Improvement: 2015-2016; Operating Grant - Knowledge to Action: 2015-2016; Knowledge Synthesis Grant: Fall 2015; Proof of Principle – Phase I and II: Fall 2015; Industry Partnered Collaborative Research: Fall 2015**. Please refer to the specific Funding Opportunities for more details on

objectives and competition timelines. Contact [Alison Bourgon](#) for more information.

## Network News

View the spring newsletter of the Canadian Children Inflammatory Bowel Disease Network, a joint partnership of CIHR and the CH.I.L.D. Foundation [here!](#)

## CONTACT US

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The Institute of Nutrition, Metabolism and Diabetes (INMD) supports research to enhance health in relation to diet, digestion, excretion, and metabolism; and to address causes, prevention, screening, diagnosis, treatment, support systems, and palliation for a wide range of conditions and problems associated with hormone, digestive system, kidney, and liver function.

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