

Research Grants and Training Awards 2014-2015

The Alzheimer Society Research Program (ASRP) celebrates 27 years of funding Canadian researchers in the field of Alzheimer's disease and other dementias. We are pleased to announce the following 2015 ASRP grants and awards:

- Biomedical Doctoral and Post-doctoral Awards ;
- Biomedical Grants and New Investigator Grants ;
- Quality of Life Doctoral and Post-doctoral Awards ;
- Quality of Life Grants and New Investigator Grants ;
- CCNA Training Awards

We would like to acknowledge and thank our donors and partners in these grants and awards, including, Michael Albert Garron Foundation, Brain Canada Foundation, Mrs. Pauline Spatz, Fonds de recherche du Québec – Santé, the Firefly Foundation, Canadian Nurses Foundation and Fasken Martineau.

We also extend our thanks to the Alzheimer Societies who generously contribute to the Alzheimer Society Research Program, each year.

- Alzheimer Society of B.C.
- Alzheimer Society of Alberta and Northwest Territories
- Alzheimer Society Of Saskatchewan
- Alzheimer Society of Manitoba
- Alzheimer Society of Ontario and Chapters (Belleville-Hastings-Quinte, Brant, Cambridge, Chatham-Kent, Cornwall & District, Dufferin County, Durham Region, Elgin-St. Thomas, Simcoe County, Grey-Bruce, Guelph-Wellington, Haldimand-Norfolk, Hamilton and Halton, Huron County, Kenora/Rainy River Districts, Kingston, Kitchener-Waterloo, Lanark County, Leeds-Grenville, London and Middlesex, Muskoka, Niagara Region, North Bay & District, Ottawa and Renfrew County, Oxford, Peel, Perth County, Peterborough Kawartha Lakes Northumberland & Haliburton, Prince Edward County, Sarnia-Lambton, Sault Ste. Marie & Algoma District, Sudbury-Manitoulin, Thunder Bay, Timmins-Porcupine District, Toronto, Windsor-Essex County, York Region)
- Federation of Quebec Alzheimer Societies and Chapters (Bas Saint-Laurent, Centre du Québec, Chaudière-Appalaches, Côte-Nord, l'Estrie, Gaspésie les Îles, Granby et Régions, Haut-Richelieu, Lanaudière, Laurentides, Laval, Maskoutains-Vallée des

Patriotes, Montréal, Outaouais Québécois, Québec, Rouyn-Noranda, Sagamie-Saguenay-Lac St-Jean, Suroît, Vallée de l'Or)

- Alzheimer Society of New Brunswick
- Alzheimer Society of Nova Scotia
- Alzheimer Society of Prince Edward Island
- Alzheimer Society of Newfoundland & Labrador

Based on excellence and relevance, we are pleased to announce the following grants and awards approved by the Peer Review Panels for the 2014-2015 granting year:

Contents

Biomedical Doctoral Awards.....	4
Philippe Bourassa.....	4
Zeinab Noroozian.....	4
Eva Vico Varela.....	4
Nikhil Bhagwat.....	4
Biomedical Post-Doctoral Awards.....	4
Amanpreet Badhwar.....	4
Yuzi Zheng.....	4
Tina Roostaei.....	5
Biomedical Grants.....	5
Donald Weaver.....	5
Sylvain Williams.....	5
Linda Mah.....	5
Paul Brassard.....	5
Sébastien Hébert.....	5
Andrea LeBlanc.....	5
Brian M Bennett.....	6
Claudio Cuello.....	6
Biomedical New Investigator Grants.....	6
Joel Watts.....	6

Timothy Kennedy	6
Viviane Labrie.....	6
Quality of Life Doctoral Awards	7
Emma Smith	7
Natalie Warrick	7
Camille Branger.....	7
Quality of Life Grants	7
Katherine McGilton.....	7
Sharon Kaasalainen.....	7
Linda Garcia.....	7
Gina Bravo.....	8
Jennifer Knopp-Sihota.....	8
Paul Villeneuve.....	8
Quality of Life New Investigator Grants.....	8
Véronique Provencher	8
Marjorie Silverman	8
Sébastien Grenier.....	8
CCNA Training Awards	9
Jennifer Bethell	9
Sarah Atwi	9
Yulong Sun	9
Lindsay Wallace.....	9
David Stock.....	9
Jake Davidson.....	9
Natalie Kozyrev	10
Sharlene Webkamigad	10
Amir Ali Sepehry.....	10
Saisampath Thammisetty.....	10

Biomedical Doctoral Awards

Philippe Bourassa

Laval University

\$ 66,000

Using gene therapy to treat Alzheimer's disease by targeting RAGE receptors in cerebral capillary endothelial cells

This project is jointly funded by the Alzheimer Society Research Program and the Fonds de recherche du Québec – Santé

Zeinab Noroozian

University of Toronto

\$ 66,000

Anti-amyloid gene therapy in a mouse model of Alzheimer's disease

Recipient of the Dr. and Mrs. Albert Spatz Award

Eva Vico Varela

McGill University

\$ 66,000

Modulating memory circuits: electrophysiology of Deep Brain Stimulation treatments to improve memory function.

Nikhil Bhagwat

University of Toronto

\$ 66,000

Development of biomarkers and diagnostic applications for Alzheimer's disease leveraging machine-learning techniques

Biomedical Post-Doctoral Awards

Amanpreet Badhwar

University of Montréal

\$ 83,000

Patient-specific measures of resting-state functional connectivity based on individual cortical and tract anatomy for improved sensitivity to the progression of Alzheimer's disease

Yuzi Zheng

University of British Columbia

\$ 100,000

Characterizing TDP-43 isoforms to investigate disease pathogenesis

Recipient of the Firefly Spark Award

Tina Roostaei

University of Toronto

\$ 83,000

Identifying the genetic correlates of the homocysteine risk pathway for Alzheimer's disease: a genome-wide interaction study

Biomedical Grants

Donald Weaver

University Health Network

\$149,700

Small molecule modulators of the kynurenine metabolic pathway for AD therapy

Recipient of The Michael Albert Garron Foundation Biomedical Research Grant

Sylvain Williams

McGill University

\$150,000

Causes and functional impact of amyloid-independent alterations in hippocampal circuits in a mouse model of Alzheimer disease

Linda Mah

University of Toronto

\$150,000

Development of an Emotional Memory Screening Tool for Preclinical Alzheimer's Disease

Paul Brassard

McGill University

\$137,993

Influence of the structural differences of statins on the risk of incident Alzheimer's disease

Sébastien Hébert

Laval University

\$150,000

MicroRNA-132 replacement therapy for Alzheimer's disease in a mouse model

Andrea LeBlanc

McGill University

\$150,000

Using stem cell-derived neurons for sporadic Alzheimer Disease modeling and drug discovery.

Brian M Bennett

Queen's University

\$149,643

Mechanisms of altered CREB signalling in an oxidative stress model of cognitive impairment and Alzheimer's Disease

Claudio Cuello

McGill University

\$148,800

Nerve Growth Factor Dysmetabolism and Early Inflammation in Preclinical Alzheimer's Disease?

Biomedical New Investigator Grants

Joel Watts

University of Toronto

\$225,000

Strains of A β ² aggregates in Alzheimer's disease

This project is jointly funded by the Alzheimer Society Research Program and the Brain Canada New Investigator Grant

Timothy Kennedy

McGill University

\$224,952

Novel Cellular and Molecular Mechanisms Regulating Synapse Dysfunction in Alzheimer's Disease

This project is jointly funded by the Alzheimer Society Research Program and the Brain Canada Career Change Grant

Viviane Labrie

University of Toronto

\$224,040

The interplay of DNA regulatory elements and epigenetics in Alzheimer's disease

This project is jointly funded by the Alzheimer Society Research Program and the Brain Canada New Investigator Grant

Quality of Life Doctoral Awards

Emma Smith

University of British Columbia
\$66,000

Collaborative Power mobility Innovative Learning Opportunity (CoPILOT): A shared control approach to power mobility training.

Natalie Warrick

University of Toronto
\$66,000

The Costs and Consequences of Supporting Low-Income Dementia Caregivers

Camille Branger

University of Saskatchewan
\$66,000

Finding Meaning in Caregiving for Persons with Dementia: Themes, Variations, and Outcomes.

Quality of Life Grants

Katherine McGilton

University of Toronto
\$120,000

Development of a Clinically Effective Sensory Screening Tool for Residents with Alzheimer's Disease (AD) in Long Term Care (LTC)

Sharon Kaasalainen

McMaster University
\$119,780

The Feasibility, Acceptability, and Effects of the Namaste Care Program for Residents with Advanced Dementia in Long Term Care

Linda Garcia

University of Ottawa
\$120,000

Feel the difference. Can a training module using virtual reality help address responsive behaviors in dementia?

Gina Bravo

University of Sherbrooke
\$118,943

Attitudes of stakeholders towards medical aid in dying for patients with advanced Alzheimer's disease

Jennifer Knopp-Sihota

Athabasca University
\$120,000

Improving Assessment of Pain in Nursing Home Residents with Moderate to Severe Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias

Paul Villeneuve

Carleton University
\$48,150

Environmental risk factors for Alzheimer's Disease: does long term exposure to air pollution play a role?

Quality of Life New Investigator Grants

Véronique Provencher

Université de Sherbrooke
\$83,854

Optimizing post-hospitalization home safety for people with Alzheimer's disease: learning from the experience of patients and their caregivers

Recipient of the Fasken Martineau New Investigator Grant

Marjorie Silverman

University of Ottawa
\$59,921

The everyday experiences of place, space and neighbourhood of care partners of people with dementia

This project is jointly funded by the Alzheimer Society Research Program and the Fasken Martineau New Investigator Grant

Sébastien Grenier

University of Montréal
\$175,974

Evaluation of a new cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT) to reduce psychological distress and improve quality of life for patients with Alzheimer's type dementia and their caregivers

CCNA Training Awards

Jennifer Bethell

University of Toronto

Quality of Life Postdoctoral Award

\$90,000

Identifying research priorities from Canadians with dementia and their caregivers and clinicians

Sarah Atwi

University of Toronto

Biomedical Doctoral Award

\$75,000

Achieving brain benefits in covert stroke through aerobic exercise.

Yulong Sun

University of Toronto

Biomedical Doctoral Award

\$75,000

Application of spatially targeted optical micro proteomics in dementias

Lindsay Wallace

Dalhousie University

Biomedical Doctoral Award

\$75,000

Investigating the role of frailty in the relationship between biomarkers and cognitive status in Alzheimer's disease

David Stock

University of Toronto

Biomedical Postdoctoral Award

\$90,000

Menopausal timing among women with traumatic brain injury as a risk factor for dementia

Jake Davidson

Wilfrid Laurier University

Quality of Life Masters Award

\$40,000

Predicting Long-Term Care Admission and Determining Rates of Quality Indicators for Home Care Clients with Dual Sensory Impairment

Natalie Kozyrev

University of Western Ontario

Biomedical Postdoctoral Award

\$90,000

The role of Neuroinflammation in Alzheimer's Disease

Sharlene Webkamigad

Laurentian University of Sudbury

Quality of Life Masters Award

\$20,000

Adapting Alzheimer's disease and dementia-related health promotion materials to meet the needs of Aboriginal people in Northern Ontario

This project is jointly funded by the Alzheimer Society Research Program and the Canadian Nurses Foundation

Amir Ali Sepehry

University of British Columbia

Biomedical Postdoctoral Award

\$90,000

Depression in Frontotemporal Lobar Degeneration

Saisampath Thammisetty

Laval University

Biomedical Doctoral Award

\$75,000

The role of TDP-43 protein in early neuroinflammation and in the onset of cognitive deficits.