

NATIONAL

February is Heart Month

Heart Month is our largest national [grassroots campaign](#). About 90,000 dedicated volunteers across Canada help us collect approximately \$10 million in donations each year. The generosity of Heart & Stroke donors and volunteers provide the critical dollars that fund Heart & Stroke research – and the next medical breakthroughs.

Thank you to all of you in our Heart & Stroke research community who have volunteered your time to knock on the doors of fellow Canadians!

Early award notifications 2017/18

Early notifications have been released for the 2017/18 Grant-in-Aid, Senior Personnel (Provincial and Collective) and Emerging Research Leaders Initiative competitions. The GIA notifications were sent via CIRCULink and all other competitions went out by email. These notifications inform applicants of their likelihood of being funded. Early notifications do not, however, guarantee research funding. Official funding notifications to all applicants will be sent by late March 2017.

Heart & Stroke Research Strategy

As we continue with the Heart & Stroke Research Strategy planning, we greatly appreciate the input we have received to help us get it right. Ongoing updates will be shared as the strategy continues to develop. Please refer to our [December Update](#) for a summary of comments about the strategy from Heart & Stroke Canada Interim CEO and Executive VP, Diego Marchese; information on the strategy's Mission Critical Areas; and links to our Research Strategy webinars.

We continue to seek your input and feedback on the strategy, so please send us your insights at research@hsf.ca. Stay tuned for future strategy updates!

Heart & Stroke 2017 Report on the Health of Canadians

The kids are not alright: How the food and beverage industry is marketing our children and youth to death

The Heart & Stroke 2017 Report on the Health of Canadians examines how industry is marketing unhealthy food and beverages directly to our children and youth, and how this is affecting their preferences and choices, their family relationships and their health. We looked at national and international studies and reports and polled Canadians to understand their perspectives on the issue. We also commissioned one of the country's experts on the topic to examine the volume of food and beverage advertising online to Canadian children and teens, and the quality of the products.

Read the report at heartandstroke.ca/heartreport.

Watch the video of Dr. Monique Potvin Kent talking about her findings [here](#).



The kids are not alright.

How the food and beverage industry is marketing our children and youth to death.

2017 Report on the Health of Canadians.





New Video: Our Heart & Stroke Research Community

Heart & Stroke Research is vital. Our mission is urgent. Research gives longer, more fulfilling lives back to families across the country. Together, we are transforming lives by protecting their core – our hearts and our brains. Watch the [new video](#) about Heart & Stroke research, which was shown at our AGM in December.

Congratulations are in Order!

Our heartfelt congratulations to Drs. Ruth Collins-Nakai, Jean-Lucien Rouleau and Michael Tymianski on being appointed to the Order of Canada. Dr. Don Stuss was also moved up the Order, to an Officer of the Order of Canada.

The Order of Canada is the cornerstone of the Canadian Honours System, recognizing outstanding achievement, dedication to the community and service to the nation. The Order celebrates Canadians who enriched the lives of others and made a difference to our country. On behalf of everyone at Heart & Stroke Foundation, congratulations on your exceptional accomplishments and contributions to improving the health of Canadians!

"Let's be inspired by the examples set by these remarkable Canadians and use this occasion to build a smarter and more caring country," said Gov. Gen. David Johnston.

Upcoming Funding Opportunity: Chair in Hypertension Prevention and Control

This is a new funding opportunity offered by the CIHR Institute of Circulatory and Respiratory Health (ICRH) in partnership with the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada (H&S) and Hypertension Canada (HTC). To find out more about this exciting initiative, please visit the CIHR- ICRH website [here](#).

In memoriam: Remembering Dr. Archibald (Archie) McNicol

The Heart & Stroke research community suffered a great loss in December. Dr. Archibald McNicol passed away suddenly on December 8, leaving behind his wife and two young children. He held several Heart & Stroke awards over the last 20 years.

Dr. McNicol was an active Heart & Stroke supporter at both national and provincial levels. His contributions to the Heart & Stroke research community have been countless, and his positivity and kind manner will always be remembered by our close-knit community. We are most saddened and our thoughts are with his family, friends and colleagues.

To read Dr. McNicol's tribute as shared by the University of Manitoba, please click [here](#).

NOVA SCOTIA

Heart & Stroke annual research reception

Local Nova Scotia student researchers were celebrated at the annual Heart & Stroke Research Reception on Monday, December 5, 2016. This year we honoured five outstanding investigators in their early research careers.

Congratulations to the Nova Scotia *BrightRed* student researchers Christiane Whitehouse, Myles O'Brien, Stephanie Legere, Matthew Nichols and Brittney Allen, who were each awarded \$5,000.

Celebrating five early career investigators, and encouraging the continuation of their exceptional work in cardiovascular and cerebrovascular research within Nova Scotia, the Heart & Stroke *BrightRed* awards are made possible thanks to funding from the local community and donors.

The reception allowed for great conversations among the research awardees, Heart & Stroke staff, donors, survivors, board members, volunteers and community members. It was a great opportunity for everyone in the room to hear more about the number of notable medical advancements.



From left to right: Myles O'Brien, Stephanie Legere, Brittney Allen, Matthew Nichols. Missing: Christiane Whitehouse

ALBERTA

Reaching for Impact: Alberta research roadmap implementation in 2016/17

The Alberta Research Roadmap continues to provide guidance for implementing Alberta-specific research investments since 2013. The goal of the Roadmap is to nurture New Investigators and have an impact on Heart & Stroke's mission priorities.

One example is the **Alberta New Investigator Award**. This award aims to nurture and build the capacity of Alberta's cardio and cerebrovascular research and increase impact on Heart & Stroke's mission to prevent disease, save lives and promote recovery. This year's **Alberta New Investigator Award in collaboration with the National New Investigator Award** provides a higher value and longer duration (\$65K per year for four years). The recipient is Dr. Georg Schmolzer, from University of Alberta's department of pediatrics, for his study "Novel resuscitation to improve the recovery of asphyxiated newborns." Congratulations Dr. Schmolzer!

Alberta research ambassadors inspire philanthropy

Since its inception in 2012, **participation in our Heart & Stroke Research ambassador program has doubled**. In 2016, **Alberta research ambassadors took part in 114 opportunities** to represent Heart & Stroke. They inspired the public by sharing their research successes through the media, in web/print profiles and in supporter communications. We are very grateful to all researchers for the generous gift of their time and expertise – thank you!

Alberta research news

Congratulations to these outstanding Alberta researchers for national recognition of their work.



Dr. Michael Hill

Dr. Michael Hill: 2016 Heart & Stroke Award of Merit

This award is presented to a volunteer who demonstrates an exceptional contribution to the Heart & Stroke mission. The recipient is a truly outstanding Canadian who has, by his/her longstanding leadership, service, and/or extraordinary support to Heart & Stroke's cause in his/her field, moved our mission forward.

Dr. Michael Hill's contributions to the advancement of stroke care is truly exceptional. As the lead researcher on the ESCAPE trial, involving innovative treatment options for the worst ischemic stroke cases, the work of his team created a major paradigm shift in acute stroke treatment around the world. He

has also helped shape the Quality of Stroke Care in Canada report series, and is an ongoing Heart & Stroke media spokesperson. We are extremely grateful for his commitment and dedication to our cause.

Dr. Robert Sheldon: 2016 Annual Canadian Cardiovascular Society Achievement Award

The Annual Achievement Award is given to a Canadian in recognition of their outstanding contributions in their career within the cardiovascular field. Dr. Robert Sheldon has had a long and distinguished career as a clinician scientist, leader and mentor. He is a cardiac arrhythmia specialist, who focuses on syncope (fainting) and arrhythmia care.

Dr. Brent Mitchell: 2016 Canadian Heart Rhythm Society's Annual Achievement Award

This award is given to a Canadian who has made outstanding contributions in the heart rhythm field. Dr. Brent Mitchell is an expert in the area of clinical cardiac electrophysiology, specifically tachyarrhythmias, and has made many contributions to the cardiac sciences.

Dr. Kathryn King-Shier: Canadian Nurses Association Order of Merit for Nursing Research

Dr. Kathryn King-Shier received the CNA's Order of Merit for Nursing Research, recognizing her sustained program of research, funding and sharing of her expertise and knowledge. She is at the forefront of research in cardiovascular disease and ethnicity. Her work with ethnic communities in Calgary and across the country for more than 13 years focuses on the ethno-cultural and gender differences in cardiovascular disease symptoms, access to care and prevention.



Dr. Kathryn King-Shier