



# CSACI Newsletter

Volume 4, Issue 1 - Winter 2010

## CSACI Board

### President / Président

Dr. R. Warrington, Winnipeg

### Past-President /

#### Présidente sortant

Dr. C. Frankish, Ottawa

### Vice-President /

#### Vice-président

Dr. S. Carr, Edmonton

### Secretary-Treasurer /

#### Secrétaire-trésorier

Dr. P. Keith, Hamilton

### Board of Directors/

#### Conseil d'administration

Dr. D. Befus, Edmonton

Dr. D. Fisher, Barrie

Dr. L. Gendreau-Reid, Victoria

Dr. R. Kagan, Toronto

Dr. S. Kapur, Halifax

Dr. M.-N. Primeau

### Fellow-in-Training /

#### Fellow stagiaire

Dr. Lori Connors, Hamilton

### Section Heads/Chef de section

Dr. S. Betschel, Toronto

Dr. A. Ellis, Kingston

Dr. D. Hummel, North York

Dr. F. Silviu-Dan, Montréal

Dr. T. Vander Leek, Edmonton

Mme J. Gillespie, Vancouver

### CAAIF CHAIR

Dr. Eric Leith, Toronto

### Head Office / Bureau Chef

Louise Tremblay

Manager/Gestionnaire

774 promenade Echo Drive

Ottawa, ON K1S 5N8

Tel/Tél: 613-730-6272

Fax/Télécopieur: 613-730-1116

E-mail/c-élec: [csaci@rcpsc.edu](mailto:csaci@rcpsc.edu)

Website: [www.csaci.ca](http://www.csaci.ca)

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members,

Just after our Halifax meeting, we heard that our **Journal Allergy, Asthma and Clinical Immunology** is now indexed on PubMed. I would like to thank all those involved, including the CSACI office and our editors, for making this possible.



Since going to BioMed Central, we have found an increasing proportion of submissions are research articles, rather than reviews. The Society does have four free slots for manuscripts each year, if any members are interested in submitting.

Also a thank you to Don Stark and our BC members, for making us and everyone involved in the Olympics, I hope, that it will be the height of the alder pollen season in Vancouver.

We are making progress on a supplement containing review articles dealing with the commoner conditions managed by our subspecialty, which we hope to provide to Canadian medical students and the NREP program continues to be a great success, under the excellent guidance of Anne Ellis and Per Lidman. We hope to soon be able to attract medical students' interest in our subspecialty, to attend the Annual Meeting.

There have been discussions with Air Canada and West Jet regarding their policy of pets in the cabin, and we expect further involvement in discussions regarding the CTA decision about how to provide better protection for passengers with serious food allergies. I look forward to our mid-term meeting at AAAI in New Orleans, and plans for the Victoria meeting are progressing well, under the excellent guidance of Chuck Frankish.

My thanks also to Drs. Primeau, Watson, and Kagan for their hard work on the egg allergy-H1N1 question. Because of this, the Society was well in advance of Public Health Authorities in providing practical guidelines.

Sincerely,

*Richard*

Dr. R. Warrington, CSACI President

## ALLIED HEALTH

The CSACI annual scientific meeting in Halifax is now a memory not to be forgotten. The 2009 meeting provided an opportunity to set aside worldly pressures and enjoy the company of friends and colleagues. Many of our CSACI membership presented along side invited international guests. The allied health membership sessions were well attended. My special thanks go to Dr. Michael Mandl, Dr. Michelle Vine, Ms. Rishma Chooniedass, Ms. Nancy Ross and Ms. Jennifer Protudjer who presented their topics with enthusiasm and passion. The speakers' innovative approach and confidence in their topics made the learning experience energizing and beneficial for all.

In 2010 my goal for the CSACI Allied Health Section membership will be to help broaden their expertise to include allergy disease management. "As an Allied Health group we did identify the need to be more formally educated about food allergies and anaphylaxis so that we may better provide support and education to patients and families," reported Nancy Ross and Rishma Chooniedass. Steps have been taken to make this happen for our membership. At the 2010 Annual Scientific Meeting in Victoria the Clinical Care Allergy Program will be unveiled. Program registrants will have the opportunity to participate in a day long allergy symposium running parallel to the annual scientific program. Everyone will be welcome to attend. The program content will focus on providing practical clinical assessment tools useful for anyone responsible for providing clinical care to patients coping with allergic disease.

The next step involves the CSACI website. Articles posted within the Allied Health Section will not be password protected. The site will be open to anyone who wishes to access the information. The purpose for this change is to remove barriers to education and improve accessibility.

2010 promises to be an exciting year. Not only is British Columbia hosting the Winter Olympics in Vancouver, we are hosting the next CSACI Annual Scientific Meeting in Victoria!

In closing:  
"Work," like you don't need to  
"Sing," like know one is listening  
"Love," like you have never been hurt  
"Dance," like know one is watching

Cheers,  
Jo-Anna Gillespie  
Allied Health Chair

## IMMUNOLOGY SECTION

At the CSACI meeting in Halifax the immunology interest section discussed important issues faced by clinical immunologists across Canada. Fundamental immunology and bench research was also discussed and it was agreed that encouraging the recruitment and participation of basic bench researchers and trainees was essential to the maintenance of cutting edge fundamental and translational immunology research in Canada. We discussed difficult cases and there was good input and suggestions from the members of the section.

One important issue that became clear is the need to have practical consensus guidelines for the diagnosis and management of PID in Canada. It was agreed that we are fortunate to have the availability of Canadian experts who will hopefully take a leadership role in the development of these guidelines. Over the next year we will be approaching our clinician experts in the areas of T cell deficiencies, B cell deficiencies, innate deficiencies and immune dysregulation syndromes for their approach to the diagnosis and management of these diseases. An integral component to the guideline will be resource information of Canadian centers providing specific testing for immune deficiencies as well as international resources. Finally, consensus on short and long-term management as well as future therapeutics will be included.

All in all it was a successful session and we will hopefully be able to develop Canadian PID guidelines which will help patients and families today and in the future.

Dr. Christine McCusker  
Immunology Chair

## FELLOWS-IN-TRAINING

Fellows-in-training attended the FIT Symposium at the Annual Meeting in Halifax, NS. Topics covered during the symposium ranged from clinical reviews to practice management. Dr. Greg Rex's talk on alternative diagnosis in allergy led to much discussion about current methods of allergy diagnosis. A review on drug allergy, by Dr. Gina Lacuesta, facilitated dialogue among participants on regional practices in this area. We are grateful for the career planning and office planning advice provided by Dr. Anne Ellis and Dr. Harold Kim. A new immunotherapy manual is nearing completion and fellows are excited to participate in an immunotherapy workshop in the near future.

Plans are underway for the FIT symposium at next year's meeting. If any current fellows-in-training have any ideas or suggestions for content at the next symposium please contact me at [lconnors@dal.ca](mailto:lconnors@dal.ca)

Dr. Lori Connors  
Fellows-in-Training chair

# INTEREST SECTION REPORTS

## PEDIATRIC SECTION REPORT

The Pediatric Section had a very successful meeting at the recent annual meeting of the CSACI this past fall in Halifax. As in past years, the meeting consisted of a round table discussion and informal business meeting. The consensus from previous meetings has been that the group favors this format, in which members are able to discuss current topics of interest. Members have also indicated that they appreciate a forum in which they are able to compare their practices with colleagues across the country.

Topics of discussion included the recent publication of the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of *Anaphylaxis in Schools & Other Settings*. Some members desire better regional representation on the anaphylaxis guidelines committee. There was further discussion about an upcoming revised anaphylaxis position statement from the Canadian Pediatric Society, socioeconomic implications of recommendations regarding the number of devices an individual carries, dosing recommendations for epinephrine auto-injector devices and school anaphylaxis policies across Canada.

The group discussed an early draft document regarding dietary recommendations during pregnancy and early life. It was decided that the ultimate goal is a concise summary of the recent American Academy of Pediatric diet guidelines with commentary by local Canadian experts.

Concern was raised about the paucity of representation by allergists/immunologists on both adult and pediatric Canadian asthma guidelines committees. Other areas of concern that were discussed were the recent developments in British Columbia increasing the scope of practice of naturopaths that could affect the care of atopic patients.

During our meeting, we performed an informal “needs assessment” for topics for the 2010

CSACI annual meeting. It was wonderful to see that several of the suggestions raised at last year’s Pediatric section meeting have been incorporated into this year’s meeting, including presentations on oral food immunotherapy, cutaneous and sublingual immunotherapy for aeroallergens and eosinophilic esophagitis. Additionally, the group expressed a desire for more audience participation sessions and pro-con debates, and these formats were incorporated into this year’s meeting as well.

Dr. Tim Vander Leek  
Section Chair

## CAAIF NEWS

Dear colleagues,

I would like to thank you all for your continuous support in donating towards CAAIF. The Silent auction in Halifax helped raise more funding to help further research into the causes, prevention and treatment of allergic diseases.

The auction was a tremendous success and I would like to thank all those who donated a gift for the Silent auction in particular Drs. Wade Watson, Sandy Kapur, Greg Rex and Gina Lacuesta for their coordination in providing an array of gifts from the Halifax area. I would especially like to thank Dr. Wade Watson for his exceptional drive and enthusiasm in his bidding technique as well as Drs. Greenwald and Vander Leek for their serious bidding and Dr. Mitch Persaud for his substantial donation to CAAIF.

Last but not least, I would like to thank our corporate donors for their ongoing partnership and support. We are pleased to announce that in 2010 there will be three grant awards: AAIA, Talecris and a CAAIF grant. More information will be available at a later date. The board is also looking into sponsoring a one-year fellowship – we will keep you posted.

Dr. Eric Leith  
CAAIF Chair

## CSACI NEWS

Dear colleagues,

Vaccination with Arepanrix has led to far more reports of anaphylaxis or significant allergic reactions than is normally expected for a flu vaccine. The chief of Vaccine Safety at Health Canada would like to have the cases evaluated uniformly across Canada, to help understand the mechanisms underlying such reactions, which may not be IgE mediated. The final details are not finalized but would include a standardized questionnaire to identify risk factors, and a common approach for testing. GSK, the company that manufactured the vaccine, might also be able to supply individual components for skin testing.

We would ask, if possible, that you delay testing the cases that may have been referred to you, so that patients will not need to be evaluated or tested twice. It is important, from the point of view of vaccine safety, that we are able to assess as many patients as possible, and some may not be willing to go through testing twice.

Also, we would like to know if you would be interested in participating in this national common approach to evaluate patients with allergic reactions to Arepanrix. We will therefore send further information when it becomes available.

We will keep you informed of subsequent developments on this subject.

Richard Warrington MB, BS; PhD.  
President, CSACI

Marie-Noël Primeau MD

# CSACI NEWS cont..

## **IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES**

- **AllerGen NCE Inc. 2010 Conference– February 7-9, 2010– Quebec City. QC**
- **AAAAI Meeting - February 26 to March 2, 2010 - New Orleans, LA**
- **CSACI Mid-Term Canadian Dinner - Saturday, February 27, 2010**
- **1st International Congress on Controversies in Allergology & Immunology April 29 to May 1, 2010, Sorrento , Italy**
- **Anaphylaxis Canada Spring Conference, May 8, 2010, Toronto, ON**
- **CSACI Annual Scientific Meeting, November 4-7 2010, Victoria, BC**

**\*\*FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CLICK ON THE CSACI WEBSITE CALENDAR\*\***



## **NOTICES:**

### **Amex Payments:**

The Royal College has converted to an Oracle system and unfortunately the administration time in posting AMEX payments into the database became more complex and time consuming. After some discussion within the Finance Department it was determined that AMEX payments for dues and all other forms of revenue type payments can no longer be offered as of 2010. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause you.

# CSACI CANADIAN DINNER

## IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO REGISTER

Deadline for online registration is February 17, 2010

## JOIN YOUR COLLEAGUES IN NEW ORLEANS CSACI CANADIAN DINNER

FEBRUARY 27, 2010

For more information - visit the CSACI website at: [www.csaci.ca](http://www.csaci.ca)

CSACI Mid-Term Canadian Dinner - Saturday, February 27, 2010 at the  
Omni Royal Orleans Hotel  
621 St. Louis Street, New Orleans, LA 70140

### CANCELLATION POLICY

The registration fee will be refunded if a written notice of cancellation is received on or before February 17, 2010. An administration charge of \$50 will apply to all refunds.

REFUNDS NOT PROVIDED AFTER FEBRUARY 17<sup>TH</sup>, 2010

PLEASE NOTE THAT TICKETS WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE  
ON-SITE



# 2009 CSACI ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS



**Dr. Warrington presenting Dr. Arthur Leznoff with the Jerry Dolovich Award.**



**Dr. Sandy Kapur congratulates Dr. Søren Pedersen on receiving the Bram Rose Memorial Lectureship**



**Dr. Eric Leith presenting AAIA with a recognition plaque for their contributions of \$20,000 to CAAIF. AAIA representatives from left to right: Monika Gibson, Ontario Coordinator, Ruth Roberts, Atlantic Coordinator and Mary Allen, CEO**



**Dr. Watson enthusiastically bidding away a painting**