



**Canadian Consortium for the Investigation of Cannabinoids**

Annual Report | 2016

## MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The world of cannabis research and education is heading into uncharted waters. The era of prohibitionist policy is coming to an end, and progressive harm reduction-based policies are emerging. Behind the political shifts, our understanding of the cannabinoid system and its role in animal and human physiology continues to unfold and enlighten. The twin arms of scientific discovery and policy deployment need to be coordinated, and it is in this space that the CCIC must find its way.

Since our incorporation as a non-profit enterprise in 2007, the CCIC has excelled in medical education efforts, developing, delivering and evaluating online and live educational programs in both small and large scale formats. Our 2016 CCIC Cannabinoids in Clinical Practice symposium reached maximum capacity and clearly reflected an appetite for balanced education and the need for interaction among health care professionals. We continue to support trainees in the form of travel awards and to engage the cannabinoid research units across Canada. At this, our 10 year anniversary, it is a good opportunity to think of what role we want to play in the future.

From the Canadian cannabis policy perspective, 2016 will probably be best remembered for the development and release of the Task Force on Legalization and Regulation of Cannabis in Canada. I had the distinct privilege of serving as vice-Chair of this important working group, and to participate in an enormous number of discussions and to read through a mountain of submissions reflecting on the impact of cannabis on health-related concerns. As such I was able to develop a keen awareness not only of the research and educational challenges that are ahead of us, but also of how much expertise already exists in Canada in terms of research and knowledge translation capacity. I was impressed by how many CCIC members came forward to contribute their



positions, and how many others there are out there working on the front lines of cannabis research.

Now that the legislation has been drafted, we must look at how we, as an organization, can meet the challenges and navigate the gaps between policy and science. The evolving cannabis industry is taking centre stage in terms of implementation, and we must find a balance between involving them as partners and holding to them to account for their responsibilities. There are other loud voices calling for attention and these messages need to be fact-checked and interpreted. We have the very stark reality of an epidemic of opioid related mortality, which provides both challenge and opportunity for cannabis policy.

No other country in the world has taken the steps in drug policy that Canada has initiated, and each one of us has a role to play in how this evolves. Anyone who is familiar with cannabis and cannabinoids knows the potential that lies ahead, but it will be up to all of us to ensure that we meet the challenge of maximizing benefit and minimizing risk. The CCIC needs to evolve to meet these challenges. Please help us understand how best to do this, and engage with us to make it happen.

As always, I must close by thanking Daniel Ziemianski and Linda Ferguson for their sterling efforts to keep the organization running, and for minding the shop during long absences while I served on the Task Force.

We are evolving with these changing times. Let's make sure Canada takes its rightful place as a leader in the exploration of this new frontier.



Dr. Mark A. Ware



## THE CONSORTIUM

The CCIC first came together in the spring of 2000 as a result of initial funding from the CIHR under the leadership of Dr. Mary Lynch. Since that time the CCIC has grown to include basic science and clinical researchers and other health care practitioners. The CCIC has been consulted for Senate committee reports and regulatory guidelines for medical marijuana, and CCIC members have conducted and published research on cannabinoids.

The purpose of the Canadian Consortium for the Investigation of Cannabinoids (CCIC) is to promote evidence-based research and education concerning the endocannabinoid system and therapeutic applications of endocannabinoid and cannabinoid agents.

In June 2007 the CCIC became a federally incorporated non-profit organization to continue to further our understanding of cannabinoids. The need for educational initiatives has also become clear and the CCIC aims also to provide a credible source of information on cannabinoids for the public and health care practitioners.



# THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## President of the Board

Linda Parker, PhD  
University of Guelph  
Guelph, ON

## President Elect

Paul Daeninck, MD, FRCPC  
University of Manitoba  
Winnipeg, MB

## Past President

A John Clark, MD, FRCPC  
QEII Health Sciences Centre  
Halifax, NS

## Secretary/Treasurer

Jonathan Page, PhD  
University of British Columbia  
Vancouver, BC

## Members of the Board

Matthew Hill, PhD  
University of Calgary  
Calgary, AB

Melanie Kelly, PhD  
Dalhousie University  
Halifax, NS

Mary Lynch, MD, FRCPC  
QEII Health Sciences Centre  
Halifax, NS

Colleen O'Connell, MD, FRCPC  
Stan Cassidy Centre for Rehabilitation,  
Fredericton, NB

Joel Singer, PhD  
University of British Columbia  
Vancouver, BC

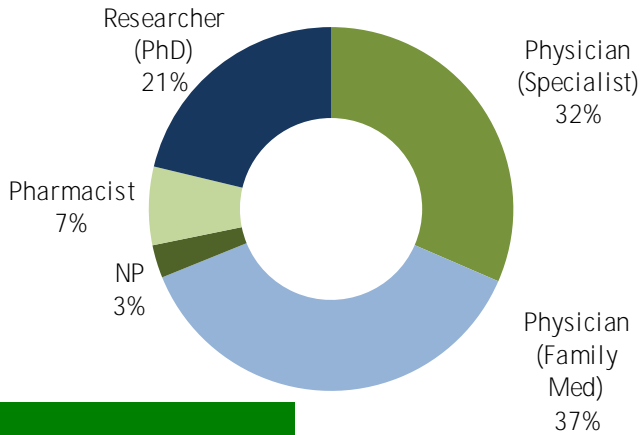
Mark Ware, MBBS MRCP MSc  
McGill University  
Montreal, QC



# MEMBERS

The CCIC is a federally registered not-for-profit membership based organization. Involvement with the CCIC is divided into two categories; Members and Supporters. Members have voting rights and strict qualification criteria. As of December 2016 there were 275 ratified Members of the CCIC. A summary of the demographic information of CCIC Members up to, and including 2016, is presented below:

## Members' Professions



## Members' Provinces



ON	48%
BC	18%
QC	11%
AB	10%
NS	6%
NB	3%
MB	2%
NL	1%
SK	1%

## Supporters' Countries

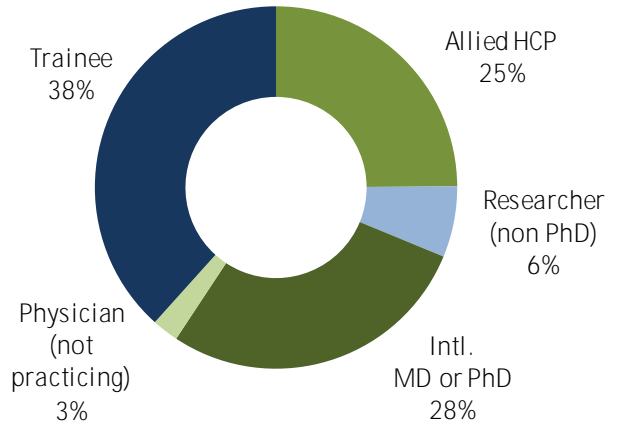


Map of World with Countries -  
Single Color by FreeVectorMaps.com

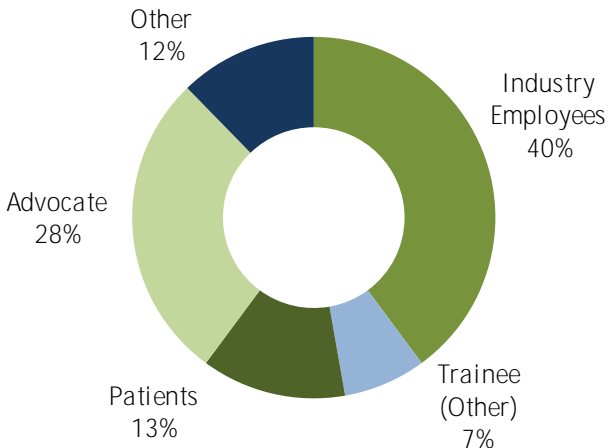
## SUPPORTERS

Supporters are sub-divided into Associates, and Observers. Supporters criteria are more widely accessible and enable individuals to have access to CCIC information and resources. As of December 2016 there were 259 Associates and 328 Observers. A summary of the demographic information of CCIC Supporters is presented below:

## Associates' Professions



## Observers' Professions



## PODCAST



In 2016 the CCIC continued publishing PODCASTS as an outreach initiative. Each podcast features an interview by Dr. Mark Ware of an international key opinion leader in the field of cannabis, cannabinoids, or endocannabinoids.

Podcasts in 2016 featured informative and insightful interviews with Steph Sherer and Dan Werb. The podcasts received on average over 3000 views, for a total podcast outreach of over 33,500 views .



The CCIC Podcasts are available for free download at the iTunes Store.

## Social Media

The CCIC continues grow as a trusted source of online information about cannabinoids. The CCIC website ([www.ccic.net](http://www.ccic.net)) is a trusted source for research based information on cannabinoids, cannabis, and the endocannabinoids. Beyond [www.ccic.net](http://www.ccic.net) as our online hub, we are actively engaged online through Twitter, Facebook, and YouTube.



Twitter: [ccictweeter](https://twitter.com/ccictweeter): 482 tweets and 1403 followers



Facebook: 228 CCIC page likes and 226 people following



YouTube: [CCICannabinoids](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCiCannabinoids): over 67 000 views



## EDUCATION AND EVENTS



The CCIC organized the Cannabinoids in Clinical Practice conference April 7-8, 2016 at the Allstream Centre, Exhibition Place, Toronto, Ontario.

This two-day accredited continuing professional development event presented practical evidence-based education on cannabinoids in clinical practice. Participants benefited from presentations by nationally renowned experts including key researchers and stakeholders. This event assisted Canadian health care professionals with the safe and effective use of cannabinoids in clinical practice.

This sold out event included 230 participants from across Canada attended this event. The exhibit hall featured fifteen booths from national and international companies

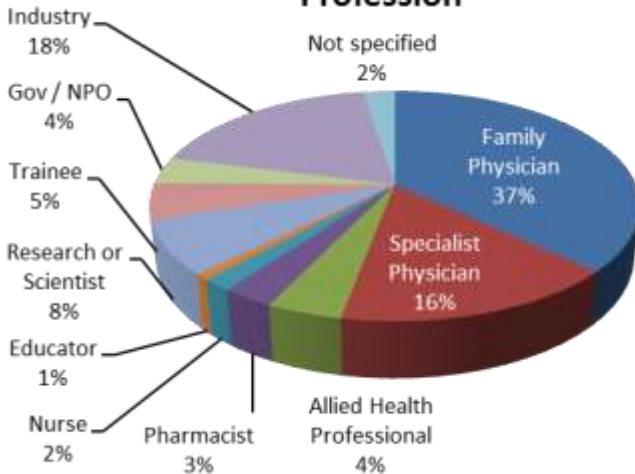




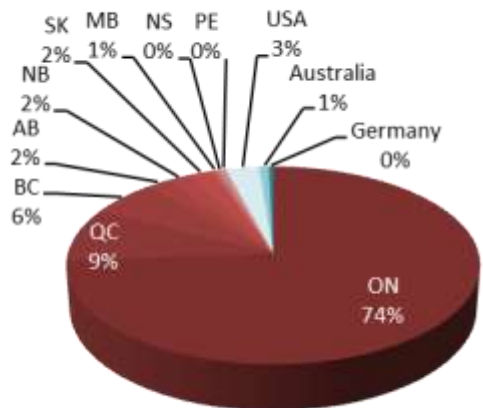
This accredited event included the following sessions:

- ✓ Overview of cannabinoid RCTs
- ✓ Patient case discussions
- ✓ Long-term Safety Considerations with Cannabis for Therapeutic Purposes in Chronic Pain Patients
- ✓ Cannabis Usage in the context of Neurological Disease
- ✓ Cannabis and Anxiety: Insight from Basic Science
- ✓ Research Updates from a Medical Cannabis Research Roundtable
- ✓ Panel Discussion on The Future of Cannabis Research and Clinical Use
- ✓ Cannabis & Cannabis Extracts
- ✓ Brain Imaging Studies on Cannabinoids and Cannabis Use
- ✓ Cannabis Use Disorder
- ✓ Clinical Pearls
- ✓ Patient Experiences with Cannabis Access in Canada
- ✓ Cannabis Regulations in Canada
- ✓ Canadian landscape update from Health Canada
- ✓ The Global Context for Cannabis Policy

**Profession**



**Region**



We would like to thank

The event steering committee:

Dr. Bernard Le Foll (Chair); Dr. Mark Ware (Co-Chair); Dr. Lynda Balneaves, Dr. Colleen O'Connell, and Dr. Ruth Dublin.

The faculty:

Dr. Dwight Moulin, Dr. Danial Schechter, Dr. Mark Ware, Dr. Amza Ali, Dr.

Matthew Hill, Dr. Jason, McDougall, Dr. Jonathan Page, Dr. Isabelle Boileau, Dr. Bernard Le Foll, Ms. Rielle Capler, Health Canada, Dr. Dan Werb.



This continuing education event was held under the auspices of Continuing Professional Development, Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto and the Canadian Consortium for the Investigation of Cannabinoids.



The CCIC would like to thank the following organizations for their support of the Cannabinoids in Clinical Practice 2016 Congress: in 2016:

Aurora Cannabis Inc.



Emerald Health Botanicals



MariCann Inc.



Aphira Inc.



Teal Health



The Arthritis Society



Vapormed GmbH & Co. KG



Zynerba Pharmaceuticals

VAPORMED GMBH & CO. KG



# RESEARCH FUNDING

## Quebec Cannabis Registry



In 2016 the CCIC continued as a proud sponsor of the Quebec Cannabis Registry. The CCIC contribution is based on pooled grant funding from Bedrocan Canada, Tweed, Mettrum and the College des Mediciens. The Registry is being run through the McGill University Health Centre – Research Institute, Centre for Innovative Medicine, Montreal, Canada.

The Quebec Cannabis Registry is an ongoing province-wide initiative designed to collect clinical data, patient reported outcomes, and adverse events towards the objectives:

1. To establish an infrastructure for research aimed at producing new knowledge on medical cannabis use, and specifically studies on its potential risks and benefits
2. To implement a mechanism to generate new research questions on the subject
3. To foster collaboration among researchers conducting projects on cannabinoid use, from Quebec, and possibly other provinces, the US and elsewhere, by giving them a means to share research data



L'Institut de recherche  
du Centre universitaire de santé McGill  
The Research Institute  
of the McGill University Health Centre



La Fondation  
Louise & Alan Edwards  
Foundation



COLLÈGE DES MÉDECINS  
DU QUÉBEC



# FUNDING COMPETITION

## Conference Support Award Recipients

**Bialecki, Jennifer. Doctoral Student, University of Calgary**

PANNEXIN-1 MODULATES GLUTAMATERGIC TRANSMISSION BY REGULATING SYNAPTIC ANANDAMIDE CONCENTRATION. Oral Presentation at ICRS 2016 in Bukovina, Poland.

**Burkovskiy, Yan (Ian). Doctoral Student, Dalhousie University**

DEACTIVATION OF THE CANNABINOID 2 RECEPTOR IN CNS INJURY-INDUCED IMMUNODEFICIENCY SYNDROME. Oral presentation at Brain Injury Canada Conference, Toronto, Canada.

**Gu, Ning. Post-Doctoral Trainee, University of Ottawa**

ENDOCANNABINOID MODULATION OF UNCONSCIOUSNESS AND CONSCIOUSNESS. Oral Presentation at ICRS 2016 in Bukovina, Poland.

**Redmond, William John. Post-Doctoral Trainee, Université de Montréal**

CANNABINOID TYPE 2 RECEPTORS MODULATE VISUAL RESPONSES OF NEURONS IN THE PRIMARY VISUAL CORTEX. Oral Presentation at ICRS 2016 in Bukovina, Poland.

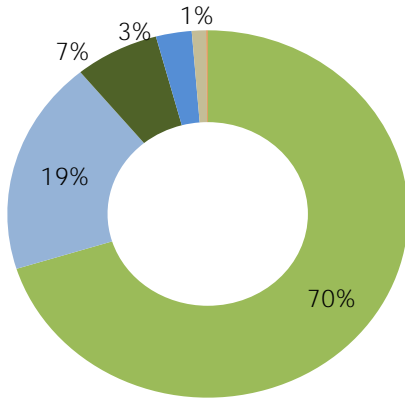
**Rock, Erin. Post-Doctoral Trainee, University of Guelph**

Effect of  $\Delta^9$ -tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) and cannabidiolic acid (CBDA) on RAT MODELS OF nausea AND ANXIETY. Poster Presentation at ICRS 2016 in Bukovina, Poland.

**Vecchiarelli, Haley. Doctoral Student, University of Calgary**

INHIBITION OF ANANDAMIDE HYDROLYSIS REVERSES ANXIETY INDUCED BY SUSTAINED PERIPHERAL INFLAMMATION. Oral Presentation at ICRS 2016 in Bukovina, Poland.

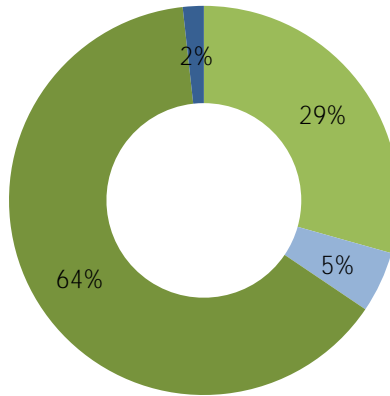
# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS



- Grants and Sponsorship
- Meeting Registrations
- Clinical Research Services
- Education Program Services
- Donations

## Revenue

Source	Amount	Percent
Grants and Sponsorship	\$336,915.00	70%
Meeting Registrations	\$90,581.00	19%
Clinical Research Services	\$32,640.00	7%
Education Program Services	\$13,856.00	3%
Donations	\$5,600.00	1%
Interest	\$537.00	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$480,129</b>	



- Administration
- Outreach, Marketing
- Educational Programs
- Other, Misc

## Expenditures

Source	Amount	Percent
Administration	\$135,401	29%
Outreach, Marketing	\$23,426	5%
Educational Programs	\$294,146	64%
Other, Misc	\$8,017	2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$460,990</b>	

## OFFICE

3777 Cote-des-Neiges, Suite 208,  
Montreal, Qc, H3H 1V8, Canada  
1-514-934-1934 x. 44361  
1-514-934-8491 (fax)  
info@ccic.net  
www.ccic.net



## STAFF



Dr. Mark A. Ware

Executive Director



Linda Ferguson

Research Coordinator



Daniel Ziemianski

Education Coordinator



Throughout 2016, the CCIC worked with numerous organizations; we would like to thank the following for their contributions to our ongoing success:

Research Institute of the McGill  
University Health Centre



University of Toronto, Continuing  
Professional Development Faculty of  
Medicine



International Cannabinoid Research  
Society (ICRS)



Quebec Pain Research Network

Drache Aptowitzer LLP

Samson Belair Deloitte & Touche Inc.





