



Canadian Consortium for the Investigation of Cannabinoids

Annual Report | 2009

**Cannabinoid research and education:
Setting the stage**

Message from the Executive Director

2009 was, by any standards, a landmark year for the CCIC. Guided by our strategic plan developed during the summer of 2008, and with the dedication of our executive team, we launched our website, developed high quality graphics for slides and posters, established a very successful booth presence at major pain meetings in North America, implemented the first accredited cannabinoid education (ACE) programs in both live and online formats, and provided research summaries from the CPS 2009 meeting in the form of a 16 page brochure distributed with the CMAJ in November 2009. Through these efforts we have grown our membership, attracted interest from international organizations, increased our sponsorship, and expanded our scope to European and US audiences.

There is no reason to think that 2010 will be any less impressive, given the support of our members, sponsors and the community, and our success is reflected in the professional approach we embody. The CCIC is emerging as the global leader in balanced and credible cannabinoid education. As we grow, we are learning about the power of the internet to deliver online education in effective ways, and we are harnessing our members' needs to develop research efforts and expand education initiatives to wider audiences.

I wish to acknowledge the executive team of Daniel Ziemianski, Linda Ferguson and Marc Wayne for their enthusiasm and dedication. Without their efforts, we would not have interactive educational forums, logistic and research support, and a tight business strategy. We are all grateful to all our members for their ongoing input and direction.

With the growing awareness of cannabinoid neuroscience, increasing amounts of clinical trial data and the burgeoning 'medical marijuana' movement, the need for a credible medical and scientific cannabinoid organization has never been greater. 2009 was a year for setting the stage for what we can achieve and how to do it. I hope you share my excitement about the future of the cannabinoids in human therapeutics and the potential for the CCIC to play a leading role in the years to come.

With respect,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mark A. Ware". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Mark" being the most prominent.

Dr Mark A. Ware
Executive Director, CCIC

Executive Director

Mark A. Ware MBBS MRCP MSc
McGill University
Montreal, QC

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QEII Health Sciences Centre
Halifax, NS

Treasurer

A J Clark, MD, FRCPC
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Halifax, NS

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University of British Columbia
Vancouver, BC

Membership Review
Committee

Paul Daeninck
Matthew Hill

Scientific Committee

Matt Hill
Colleen O’Connell
Linda Parker
Mark Ware

Funding Competition
Sub-Committee

Matthew Hill
Linda Parker

Mission statement

The purpose of the Canadian Consortium for the Investigation of Cannabinoids (CCIC) is to advance our understanding of the role of cannabinoids in health and disease through research and education.



Organization

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.

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.

Outreach in 2009

The CCIC team designed a very effective booth for tradeshow presence with the help of Michell Lui, a graduate of the MSC in Biomedical Communications program of the University of Toronto. The booth was displayed at the following conferences with the help of CCIC members:

- American Pain Society 28th Annual Scientific Meeting, San Diego, USA
- Canadian Pain Society Annual Conference, Quebec City, Canada
- International Cannabinoid Research Society 19th Symposium, St. Charles, USA
- International Association for Cannabis as Medicine 5th Conference, Cologne, Germany
- Family Medicine Forum 2009, Calgary, Canada
- McGill Pain Research Symposium 2009



John Clark, Linda Ferguson and Mark Ware at the Family Medicine Forum in Calgary (November 2009)



Mark Ware and Daniel Ziemianski launch the booth at the American Pain Society , San Diego (June 2009)



John Clark and Mark Ware get busy at The Family Medicine Forum in Calgary (November 2009)

Education

The CCIC is committed to engaging health care practitioners regarding therapeutic issues surrounding cannabinoids through access to on-line learning tools. This will serve to foster continued professional development of its members regardless of geographical location.

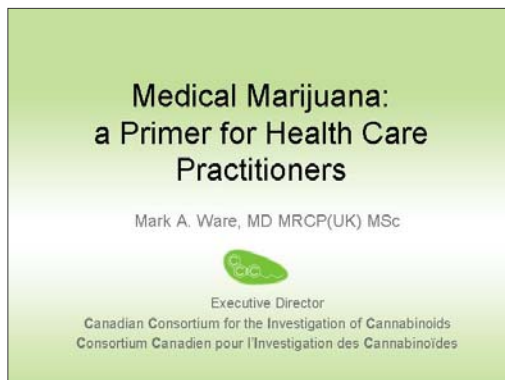
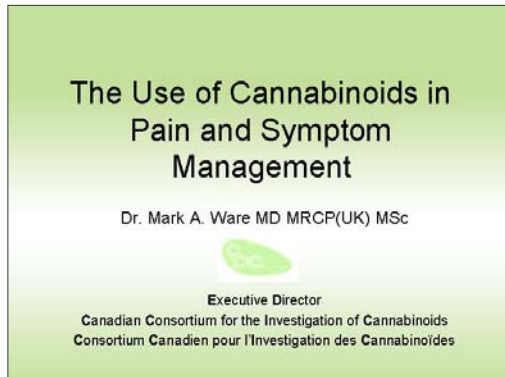
Accredited Cannabinoid Education 2009 Program

The CCIC Accredited Cannabinoid Educational (ACE) program for 2009 reached over 500 health care practitioners both online and in over 25 locations across Canada.



ACE 2009 Online Program

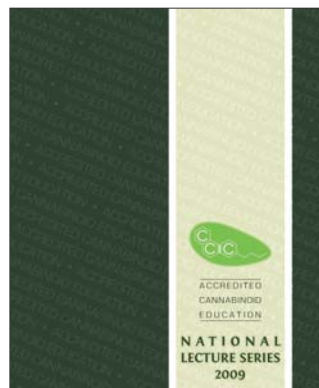
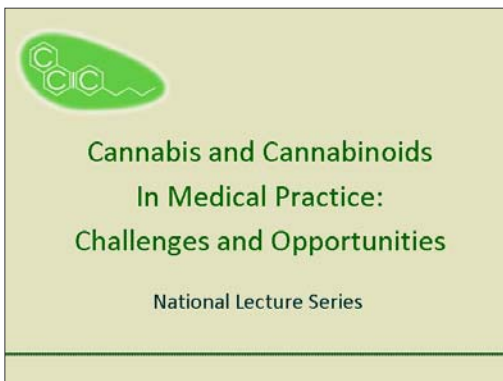
An innovative on-line CME activity was developed for all physicians interested in the medical uses of cannabinoids. This interactive, free and accredited program included online presentations and a forum dedicated to discussing the therapeutic uses of cannabinoids in pain and symptom management, and an evidence-based guide to medical marijuana for medical practitioners.



ACE 2009 Lecture Tour

The accredited lecture series provided a supportive small-group environment to discuss cannabinoids, including treatment strategies, challenges and opportunities in a number of medical conditions. Up-to-date safety and efficacy information was presented to facilitate better understanding of cannabinoid options in Canada.

Physicians had the opportunity to discuss specific issues in using cannabinoids with their peers, as well as the challenges they face, and were given new data and resources to help them gain a better understanding of the topic. Through this lecture series, the CCIC created a new level of understanding of advances in research and treatment with cannabinoids.



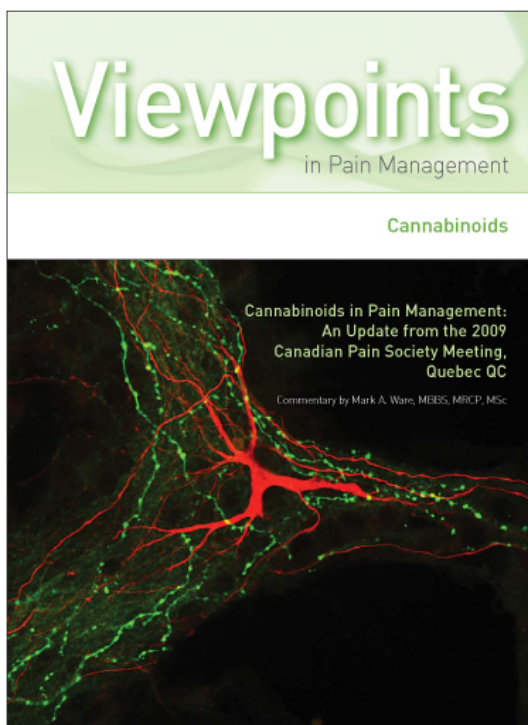
Research

Viewpoints Publication

Cannabinoids in Pain Management:
An Update from the 2009 Canadian Pain Society Meeting,
Quebec QC.

This overview of findings from the 2009 Annual Scientific Meeting of the Canadian Pain Society (CPS) provided an opportunity to examine some issues about cannabis and cannabinoids, particularly when used in pain management.

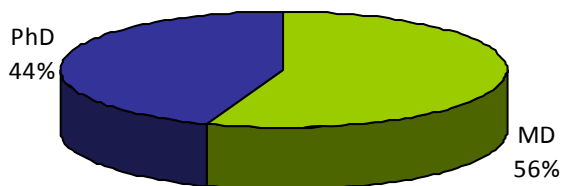
The Viewpoints issues was distributed as an insert in the Canadian Medical Association Journal (CMAJ) November 2009 issue., reaching approximately 45 000 physicians across Canada, and was distributed by CCIC members at conferences and events.



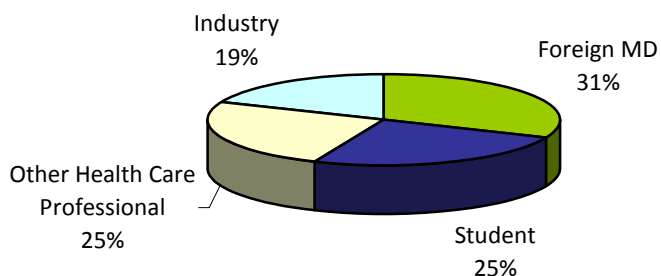
Membership

The CCIC welcomed nine new Active and 16 new Associate members in 2009. Some of the characteristics of members are shown below:

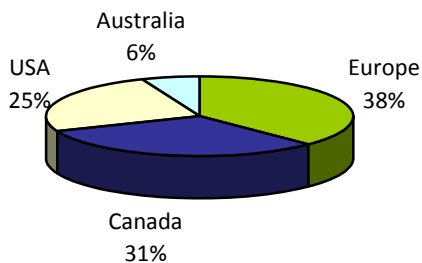
Active Members



Associate Member Professions

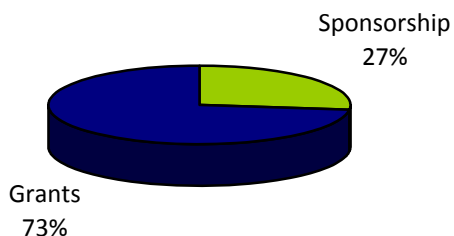


Associate Member Countries

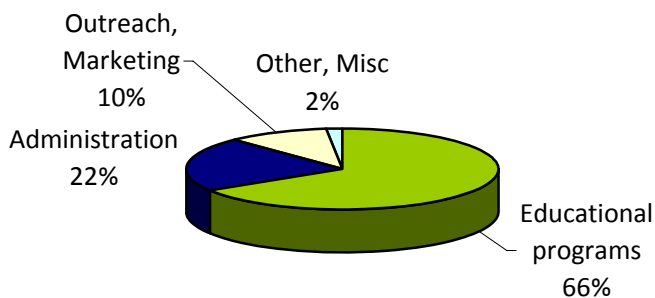


Financial Statements

2009 Revenue



2009 Expenses



Revenue		
Sponsorship	\$ 158 000	27%
Grants	\$ 431 000	73%
Total	\$ 589 000	

Expenditures		
Education Programs	\$ 343 000	66%
Administration	\$ 116 000	22%
Outreach/Marketing	\$ 52 000	10%
Other, Misc	\$ 8 000	2%
Total	\$ 519 000	

CCIC Executive staff

Dr. Mark Ware
Executive Director

Marc Wayne
Director of Business Development

Linda Ferguson
Research Coordinator

Daniel Ziemianski
Education Coordinator

Partners and Collaborators

Throughout 2009, the CCIC worked with numerous organizations. They include McGill University Centre for Continuing Health Professional Education, RxMedia Healthcare Communications Inc., Michelle Lui Biomedical Visuals, the Quebec Pain Research Network, Berlin Displays, the International Association for Cannabis as Medicine, Carters Professional Corporation, Samson Belair Deloitte & Touche Inc.

The Canadian Consortium for the Investigation of Cannabinoids wishes to acknowledge with special recognition in 2009,





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