

THE 2015 GAIRDNER FOUNDATION ANNUAL REPORT

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HISTORY OF THE GAIRDNER FOUNDATION

The Gairdner Foundation was created by James A. Gairdner to recognize and reward the achievements of medical researchers whose work contributes significantly to improving the quality of human life. The Foundation is a Canadian organization that has never lost sight of its primary mission – the recognition of scientists it deemed to have made the most important breakthrough discoveries in biomedical science. Its' laureates are responsible for the discovery of the structure of DNA, the eradication of smallpox, immunotherapy for cancer patients, the discovery of the microorganism that is curing river blindness, to name just a few.

Since the first awards were granted in 1959, the Canada Gairdner Awards have become Canada's foremost international award and one of the most prestigious biomedical prizes. Our track record of consistent high quality adjudication and selection by the independent adjudication committees have resulted in global recognition and esteem. One in four of the Canada Gairdner Award winners have gone on to win the Nobel Prize.

The Gairdner was incorporated in December 1957 as a charitable corporation under the laws of the Province of Ontario, Canada. In 2013, the Foundation was continued as a federal corporation under the Canada Not-For-Profit Corporations Act. Its funds originally derived from the personal gifts of the founder and members of his family.

In 2008, the Federal government, through the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, provided an endowment to the Foundation to ensure that the Awards continue to grow in international stature, and a new Canada Gairdner Global Health Award was established. At the time, the name of the Awards was changed to the Canada Gairdner Awards.

MISSION

- To reward and inspire the highest standards of international excellence by recognizing and rewarding those who have achieved the most important breakthrough discoveries in the field of health research
- To bring to the attention of Canadian scientists and the public, the most important global scientific developments in the field of health research
- To inspire the next generation to consider a career in the health sciences
- To foster the improved communication of ideas among scientists and to facilitate linkages between leading international scientists and Canadian scientists/research institutions
- To enhance Canada's stature in the global health research community



NATIONAL AND STUDENT OUTREACH PROGRAMS

Our National Program is a dynamic and interactive speaker series that brings current and past Canada Gairdner Award winners to Canada to speak to faculty members about their research. The Gairdner Foundation celebrates biomedical science research from coast to coast and prides itself on giving Canadians access to scientists from around the world.

The National Program's goal is to contribute to Canadian science culture and innovation. It is the only program of its kind in the world of major awards in all 10 provinces, while reaching at least 20 universities from Newfoundland to British Columbia and attracts nearly 7,000 people each year.

One of the Gairdner Foundation's missions is to inspire young people to consider a career in science, and to increase their awareness of the value of scientific research. This is accomplished through our Student Outreach Program which involves over 120 high schools visiting at least 19 different universities to hear Canada Gairdner Award winners speak about their research.

These events include a range of 40-450 students depending on the venue. These lectures provide the ideal forum for the Canada Gairdner Award winners to recount their personal story as to how they became interested in research and what they hope to accomplish through their work. Following the more formal portion of the session, there is an opportunity for the students to interact with the awardee(s) and ask more pointed questions about their career and accomplishments. Many winners cite the Student Outreach Program as their favourite part of being part of the Canada Gairdner Awards, and student response is uniformly enthusiastic.





MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

The Gairdner Foundation has continued its path to success with another remarkable year filled with record attendance numbers, innovative new branding and initiatives while maintaining the annual outreach programs. Gairdner's reputation continues to be one of prestige and truly representative of science excellence in biomedical research internationally.

Further, our footprint is growing to include more connections around the World through increased nominations and larger receptions in the home cities of our laureates in partnership with the local consulates/embassies, resulting in increased recognition of the Gairdner brand.



Our National Program continues to showcase our Canada Gairdner Award laureates and their ground-breaking research while also promoting our awards nomination process. Through our Student Outreach Program our winners continue to inspire the next generation of scientists and many of our winners continue to express this as their most memorable part of their laureate tour.

Gairdner has kept its small staff numbers in spite of an increasingly complex and diverse set of programs across the country. The hard working team coordinates the various events and conducts careful stewardship while also showcasing their creative abilities to take Gairdner to the next level. The Board recognizes the dedication and leadership of Dr. John Dirks as he retired after 23 years leading the Gairdner Foundation. We are pleased to have Dr. Janet Rossant as the new President and Scientific Director and trust that she will continue to build the Gairdner brand in her new role.

We depend on our Board to assist our management team in maintaining this stellar reputation for years to come. I am grateful that our Board of Directors is an outstanding group of leading citizens and we continue to build our membership. I would also like to extend my sincere gratitude particularly towards the Government of Canada for their generous support along with the Government of Ontario and Government of Alberta for their continued support of the Gairdner Foundation.

D. Lorne Tyrrell, OC, AOE, MD/PhD, FRCP, FRSC

Chair, Gairdner Board of Directors

Dhoune Lynell



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT/SCIENTIFIC DIRECTOR

As the new President and Scientific Director (effective May 2016) I am pleased to report on the incredible work of the Gairdner Foundation staff throughout 2015 resulting in another outstanding year. The 2015 Canada Gairdner Award laureates' research spanned many fields showcasing biomedical research at its finest. I was honoured to receive the 2015 Canada Gairdner Wightman Award and bring that first-hand experience of the laureates' journey to my role as President.

The Annual Awards Gala Dinner had 550 guests from the research, academic, public and private sectors filling the Royal Ontario Museum.

The Honourable Governor General David Johnston's attendance and remarks highlighted how important and prestigious the Canada Gairdner Awards have become not only within Canada but around the world.

The National and Student Outreach Program were well received and we continue to receive positive feedback while also expanding our reach through the introduction of webcasting the lectures. These are being used on our website and will help us continue to inspire the next generation of scientists.

The Gairdner Foundation partnered with the Canadian High Commission in Britain, and the Canadian Embassy in Tokyo and New York and with the laureates' organizations in Toronto, Basel and Rochester to host receptions for our winners. The receptions were particularly enjoyed by our winners as they celebrated with close colleagues and family. It allowed Gairdner to expand our network to new cities and countries while also establishing new relationships. This is an opportunity for Canada to demonstrate its support for science excellence worldwide.

I am very grateful to all of the scientists who generously donate their time to serve on our adjudication committees. I am looking forward to maintaining Gairdner's reputation of a stringent and fair adjudication process through the expansion of our committees. Their tireless commitment to the Canada Gairdner Awards and the care with which the award selections are made provides the foundation with our prestigious reputation.

Our successful year is also due to the 22 universities whose volunteer commitment is unmatched. They set the stage for our faculty lectures at universities across Canada along with our Student Outreach Program that stimulates young students to pursue a career in the sciences. Further, these events are made possible by the generosity of our sponsors and supporters who help bring our vision to life, bringing science to audiences across Canada year after year.

Finally, I am personally very grateful to our Chair, Lorne Tyrrell and to all the Gairdner Directors for their support and commitment to me in my new role. I would like to acknowledge once again the incredible work of my predecessor, Dr. John Dirks, in taking the Gairdner awards to unprecedented international stature.

Janet Rossant

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President and Scientific Director



2015 YEAR IN REVIEW



Dr. Lewis C. Cantley, Director, Sandra and Edward Meyer Cancer Center at Weill Cornell Medical College and New York-Presbyterian Hospital; Margaret and Herman Sokol Professor in Oncology Research; Professor, Weill Cornell, New York, NY For his discovery of PI 3-Kinase, a critical component of the cell signaling machinery that plays a key role in normal functions of proliferations and growth and is de-regulated in diseases such as cancer and diabetes



Mr. Michael N. Hall, Professor, Biozentrum, University of Basel, Basel, Switzerland For his discovery of the nutrient activated protein kinase TOR and elucidation of its central control of cell growth, critical to development and aging and widely implicated in cancers, diabetes, cardiovascular and immune diseases



Dr. Lynne E. Maquat, Director of the Center for RNA Biology, and Professor of Biochemistry and Biophysics at the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry; J. Lowell Orbison Endowed Chair, Rochester, NY

For the discovery of the mechanism that destroys mutant messenger RNAs in human cells, nonsense-mediated mRNA decay, which is critically important in both normal and disease states



Dr. Yoshinori Ohsumi, Honourary Professor, Frontier Research Center, Tokyo Institute of Technology (Tokyo Tech), Tokyo, Japan

For pioneering the molecular elucidation of autophagy, an essential intracellular, degradation system and when disordered, is linked to many diseases including neurodegeneration, cancer, and infection



Dr. Shimon Sakaguchi, Distinguished Professor, Vice Director, Laboratory of Experimental Immunology, WPI Immunology Frontier Research Center, Osaka University, Osaka, Japan

For his discovery of regulatory T cells, characterization of their role in immunity and application to the treatment of autoimmune diseases and cancer





Dr. Peter Piot, Director of the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine; Professor of Global Health, London, U.K

For his co-discovery of the Ebola virus, his many contributions to HIV/AIDS research and his extraordinary leadership in the global response to the HIV/AIDS epidemic, especially in Africa



Dr. Janet Rossant, Chief of Research, The Hospital for Sick Children (SickKids), Toronto, CA

For her outstanding scientific contributions to developmental biology and for her exceptional international leadership in stem cell biology and policy-making, and in advancing research



Special Symposia

During 2015, the Gairdner Foundation partnered on three special symposia.

1. Frontiers in Cell Biology

This 2 day symposium was held on May 27-28 in Edmonton, Alberta in partnership with the University of Alberta and Alberta Innovates Health Solutions. The Symposium brought together leaders from around the world to celebrate the discoveries that have formed our current view of the workings of the cell and to highlight future areas of investigation and discovery in cell biology and molecular medicine.

First day speakers included David Tollervey (Edinburgh, Scotland), Jan Ellenberg (Heidelburg, Germany), Roland Hill (Marburg, Germany), Ted Dawson (Baltimore), Peter Walter (California), Arthur Horwich (Connecticut), Christopher Dobson (Cambridge, UK). The second day included John Bergeron (Montreal), Yoshinori Ohsumi, (Tokyo), Scott Emre (New York), Anne Spang (University of Basel), Irmi Sinning, (Heidelburg German), Suresh Subramani (San Diego), and Richard Rachubinski (Edmonton).

Attendance- 300

2. Symposium on the Microbiome

Launch of the Research Strategy "Infections, Inflammation & Chronic Diseases in the Changing Environment (IICD)" on Tuesday, November 10, 2015 at the University of Calgary. Lectures featured the role of the microbiome in immune development and function during health and disease including infections, inflammation, and chronic disease; the role of environmental microbiomes from natural resources, agriculture, and livestock industries and their relationship to human health and disease.

Speakers included Herbert Virgin (Washington), Scott Bultman (North Carolina), Sarkis Mazmanian (California), Thomas Louie (Calgary), Jens Walter (Edmonton), Raylene Reimer (Calgary), Gene Tyson (Australia), Philip Poole (Oxford, UK). A leading graduate student presented their paper to the attendees before the symposium ended. The symposium attracted attendees from faculty, staff, clinicians, clinician-scientists, researchers, postdoctoral fellows, graduate students, undergraduate students, along with the external speakers who travelled from around the world.

Attendance- 265

3. Genomics and Cancer

In partnership with Genome British Columbia, Terry Fox Research Institute and the University of British Columbia, the Gairdner Foundation hosted a state of the art cancer symposium.

Speakers included Doug Hanahan (Switzerland), Elaine Mardis (Washington University in St. Louis), Sam Aparicio (Vancouver), Ken Kinzler (Johns Hopkins University), Marco Marra (Vancouver), Ben Berman (California), Kevan Shokat (California), Suzanne Topalian (Baltimore), Maura Gillison (Ohio). Students were invited to lunch with the speakers. The Deans sponsored a lunch for 80 students who were invited to have lunch with the speakers and learn more about their research and ask questions.

Attendance - more than 350



National Program

The Foundation carried out its National Program of University Lectures at 20 universities across Canada: UBC, Lethbridge, Calgary, Edmonton, Saskatoon, Winnipeg, Western, Waterloo, Guelph, McMaster, York, Toronto, Queen's, Ottawa, Thunder Bay, McGill, Montréal, Laval, Dalhousie, Memorial University, and UNB. The program is planned for Lakehead in early February 2016. Speakers included all of the 2015 Canada Gairdner winners as well as Harold Dvorak (2014), Jeffrey Friedman (2005), Salim Yusuf (2014), Jeffrey Ravetch (2012), Thomas Jessell (2012).

Gairdner lectures included:

- Lakehead University, McMaster University
 Dr. James Hogg, UBC, 2013 Canada Gairdner Wightman Laureate
- Dalhousie University

Dr. Thomas Jessell, Columbia University, 2012 Canada Gairdner International Laureate

Memorial University

Dr. Harold Dvorak, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, New York, 2014 Canada Gairdner International Laureate

- University of Lethbridge, Western, University of Waterloo, University of New Brunswick Dr. Lynne Maquat, University of Rochester, 2015 Gairdner International Laureate
- Queen's University

Dr. Janet Rossant, Sick Kids Hospital, 2015 Canada Gairdner Wightman Laureate

Université Laval

Dr. Lewis Cantley, Weill Cornell Medical College, 2015 Canada Gairdner International Laureate

Dr. Peter Piot, London School of Tropical Medicine, 2015 Canada Gairdner Global Health Laureate

University of Ottawa

Dr. Peter Piot, San Diego Moores Cancer Center, 2014 Canada Gairdner International Laureate

• University of Manitoba and University of Saskatchewan

Dr. Jeffrey Ravetch, Rockefeller University, New York, 2012 Canada Gairdner International Laureate

University of Guelph

Dr. Yoshinori Ohsumi, Tokyo Institute of Technology, 2015 Canada Gairdner International Laureate



• McGill University

Dr. Michael Hall, University of Basel, 2015 Canada Gairdner International Laureate

• Université de Montréal

Dr. Lewis Cantley, Weill Cornell Medical College, 2015 Canada Gairdner International Laureate

• University of British Columbia

Dr. Michael Hall, University of Basel, 2015 Canada Gairdner Global Health Award Dr. Yoshinori Ohsumi, Tokyo Institute of Technology, 2015 Canada Gairdner International Laureate

University of Alberta

Dr. Simon Sakaguchi, Osaka University, 2015 Gairdner International Laureate Dr. Jeffrey Friedman, Rockefeller University, 2005 Canada Gairdner International Laureate

University of Calgary

Dr. Simon Sakaguchi, Osaka University, 2015 Gairdner International Laureate Dr. Michael Hall, University of Basel, 2015 Canada Gairdner International Laureate Dr. Jeffrey Friedman, Rockefeller University, 2005 Canada Gairdner International Laureate

• York University

Dr. Salim Yusuf, McMaster University, 2014 Canada Gairdner Wightman Laureate Dr. Michael Salter, Sick Kids Hospital, Toronto

Student Outreach Program

The Student Outreach Program in 2015 included 20 schools. In total, 125 high schools and 3,150 students participated.

The program was held at: York, Toronto, Carleton, Montréal, Laval, Sherbrooke, Waterloo, Western, Lakehead, Queen's, Memorial, Saskatchewan, Edmonton, Calgary, Lethbridge, Winnipeg, UBC, UPEI, UNB and Dalhousie. The largest programs were at York with 350 students and Edmonton with 370 students.

Laureates and speakers express real pleasure at being given the opportunity to speak to a younger audience.



Dr. Lynne Maquat, 2015 Canada Gairdner International Awardee wrote:

"The science outreach program developed by the Gairdner Foundation works very well. This program arranges for awardees to travel throughout Canada, where ever she or he is requested to speak. It serves research communities at universities, high school students who might be interested in a scientific career, the medical community, and the press. Canadians are known for their high-quality research and their hospitality, and my travel experiences were rich with a wonderful balance of scientific exchange and celebratory warmth. It was particularly rewarding to have parents thank me for helping their daughters see that girls can indeed become scientists."





Toronto Program

The 2015 events culminated in Toronto with three days of lectures and symposia, October 28-30.

• "Global Preparedness for Pandemics: Lessons from Ebola"

This full day symposium featured speakers: Drs. Peter Piot (London, UK), 2015 Canada Gairdner Global Health Laureate, Amadou Sall (Senegal), Oyewale Tomori (Nigeria), Aikichi Iwamoto (Tokyo), Gary Kobinger (Winnipeg), Mark Feinberg (New York), Paul Stoffels (New York), Bruce Lampard (Toronto), and Kelley Lee (Burnaby).

Attendance - 250 plus webcast

• "Minds That Matter 2015 Canada Gairdner Awardees' Lecture"

The 7 awardees each spoke about their work during a full day series of lectures.

Attendance - 400

• "RNA and the New Genetics"

This full day symposium featuring world-renowned speakers attracted such large audiences that the lecture hall was overflowing with people sitting in the aisles and standing at the back of the room. Speakers included: Drs. Lynne Maquat, 2015 Canada Gairdner International Laureate, Phillip Sharp 1986 Gairdner International Laureate (Boston), Howard Chang (California), Jeannie Lee, (Boston), Benjamin Blencowe (Toronto), Joshua Mendell (Texas), Feng Zhang (Boston), and Erik Sontheimer (Massachusetts). All of the speakers took part in a closing afternoon roundtable.

Attendance- 500 + hundreds online webcast

• One additional lecture was added by Dr. Zhang who gave a special lecture to undergraduate Biology and Graduate students who could not attend the RNA symposium on Oct. 30.

Attendance- 300



REPORT ON 2015 OBJECTIVES

1. Maintain the Highest Standards Selecting Recipients of the Awards

- Eight scientists were appointed to the Medical Advisory Board in 2015:
 - **Dr. Michel Bouvier,** Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Medicine, Institute for Research in Immunology and Cancer, Université de Montréal
 - **Dr. Pascale Cossart,** Professor and Head of the Unité des Interactions Bactéries Cellules at the Pasteur Institute of Paris
 - Dr. Philip Hieter, Director Michael Smith Laboratories, Vancouver
 - Dr. Arthur Horwich, Yale School of Medicine, Connecticut
 - Dr. Herbert Jackle, Director Max Planck Institute, Germany
 - Dr. Kazutoshi Mori, Professor Graduate School of Science, Kyoto University, Japan
 - Dr. Randy Shekman, Howard Hughes Medical Institute, California
 - Dr. Richard Wozniak, Professor, Department of Cell Biology, University of Alberta
- Nine researchers joined the Medical Review Panel:
 - Dr. Sonia Anand, Department of Medicine, McMaster University, Hamilton
 - Dr. Benjamin Blencowe, Department of Molecular Genetics, University of Toronto
 - Dr. Gillian Hawker, Department of Medicine, University of Toronto
 - Dr. Gary Kobinger, Chief Special Pathogens, Public Health Agency, Winnipeg
 - Dr. Paolo Marcato, Assistant Professor, Dalhousie University, Halifax
 - Dr. Tim Murphy, Professor Kinsmen Lab, University of British Columbia
 - Dr. Lynne-Marie Postovit, Department of Oncology, University of Alberta
 - **Dr. Gerald Zamponi,** Canada Research Chair, Cumming School of Medicine, University of Calgary
 - Dr. Peter Zandstra, Donnelly Centre of Cellular Research, University of Toronto

2. Inspire Canadian Scientists to Seek Excellence

- The annual awards dinner at the Royal Ontario Museum was attended by 540 leaders from healthcare, academic, public and private sectors. Our distinguished speaker was His Excellency the Right Honourable David Johnston, Governor General of Canada
- A tribute was also included for Dr. John Dirks as this was his last Gala as President and Scientific Director.
- Graduate students had the opportunities to network and meet the awardees and other members of the VIP audience.



3. Foster Collaboration between Canadian and International Scientists

- Gairdner continues to bring scientists from abroad to meet with researchers and trainees in Canada through lectures, small group discussions, grand rounds, and social interactions.
- Three special symposia were held, in Calgary, Edmonton and Vancouver.
- Weill Cornell Medical Centre, University of Rochester and London School of Tropical Medicine Institute purchased tables at the dinner.

4. Enhance and encourage a culture of science in Canada

- The student Outreach Program took place at 20 universities with the participation of 125 high school and 3,150 students across Canada. At Lakehead, 230 students travelled, some up to 4 hours by bus to take part. This program is very appreciated by the outlying schools.
- The National Program took place at 20 Universities across Canada. Approximately 3,500 university students, faculty, researchers and scientists participated in the National Program.
- Selected events were webcast, including the Toronto talks made available on the University of Toronto and the Gairdner websites.





THE YEAR AHEAD: OBJECTIVES FOR 2016

Gairdner continues to bring the science agenda to the forefront in Canada. We remain committed to the excellence which has resulted in our reputation as a leading international prize. In the past decade, science and technology in general, and the life sciences in particular, have been identified as critical to achieving success in the global economy.

1. Maintain the Highest Standards Selecting Recipients of the International, Wightman and Global Health Awards

- Proactively seek new nominations worldwide, identifying areas where the impact of
 significant research breakthroughs is emerging. We have engaged Shamira Furman, who has a
 science background, to take on a part time role in seeking out nominations, updating files
 and summarize the strengths of difference research areas. Nominations numbers continue to
 rise. Since receiving the new federal grant in 2013, our International nominations have
 increased by 28%.
- Five new members will join the Medical Advisory Board:

Pascale Cossart, Institut Pasteur, France

Susan M. Gasser, Friedrich Miescher Institute for Biomedical Research, Basel, Switzerland

Jan Hoeijmakers, University Medical Centre, Rotterdam, Netherlands Peter Ratcliffe, University of Oxford, Oxford, UK Jim Woodgett, Mount Sinai Hospital, Toronto

- One scientist will join the Medical Review Panel:
 Steven Jones, British Columbia Cancer Research Centre, Vancouver
- Additional funding from the Federal government was utilized to bring members of the Wightman Advisory and Global Health Committees together in person for the first time to select their respective winners by secret ballot.

2. Appoint a new President

- After a full international search, Dr. Janet Rossant was appointed effective May 4, 2016. Dr Rossant, SickKids Chief of Research Emeritus and a world-renowned expert in developmental biology, is the definition of a trailblazer.
- 3. Inspire Canadian Scientists and the Canadian public to Celebrate Excellence by raising the profile of the awards
 - Through the Canada Gairdner Awards, profile Canada in the media and in academic centres throughout the world as a place where the importance of science is recognized
 - Continue to build the public profile of the Gairdner Foundation through advertising and media coverage:

Maintain *Globe & Mail* as our national media sponsor Videotape/podcast major talks for website distribution



Increase international exposure through March announcement ads in *New York Times*, *Science and Nature* as well as local outlets in various parts of Canada

Encourage media coverage abroad through press releases and background packages on announcement day

Media kits to be sent to participating universities in order to facilitate more local media coverage of the winners who are speaking across Canada

Continue to encourage coverage of 2016 winners at their own academic institutions in Canada and abroad through traditional and social media tools

Hold receptions at Canadian Embassies/ Consulates in the home country of all 2016 recipients

4. Enhance and encourage a culture of science in Canada

- Maintain National Program of University Lectures at approximately 20 institutions across Canada
- Maintain Student Outreach Program in at least 16 academic institutions across Canada
- In collaboration between the Hodgkiss Brain Institute, the Alberta Children's Hospital Research Institute at the Cumming School of Medicine and the Gairdner Foundation, a Concussion symposium will be held at the University of Calgary in November. This symposium will provide insight into recent discoveries in this important and developing area of research.
- In partnership with the Gairdner Foundation and the University of Alberta we are proud to host a two-day Symposium titled "Cancer Discoveries: Molecules to Man" featuring current cutting edge themes for biomedical science. The symposium will take place in Edmonton on May 25-26.
- As part of the October Toronto program, a symposium will take place on Friday October 28 on the global impact of genome editing.
- In partnership with McMaster University and the Gairdner, a symposium titled "The Intestinal Microbiome- Beyond Associations and into the Clinic" will take place in Hamilton on November 24, 2016.
- Develop promotional materials such as print and online videos to attract and maintain supporters along with recruiting new high schools





THE GAIRDNER FOUNDATION VALUES OUR 2015 SPONSORS





Government of Alberta



MEDIA SPONSOR

THE GLOBE AND MAIL*

GAIRDNER FACULTY LECTURES & STUDENT OUTREACH PROGRAM

BURROUGHS WELLCOME FUND

CANADA FOUNDATION FOR INNOVATION

CANADIAN INSTITUTES OF HEALTH RESEARCH(CIHR)

LONDON DRUGS FOUNDATION

RBC FOUNDATION

2015 CANADA GAIRDNER SYMPOSIA

CANADIAN INSTITUTES OF HEALTH RESEARCH (CIHR)

GENOME CANADA

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HARRY ROSEN INC.

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UNIVERSITY HEALTH NETWORK (UHN)

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

VIVENTIA BIO INC.

2015 CANADA GAIRDNER AWARDS GALA DINNER

GOLD TABLE:

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

SILVER TABLES:

HARRY ROSEN INC.

JANSSEN/J&J INNOVATION

ONTARIO INSTITUTE FOR CANCER RESEARCH (OICR)

RBC FOUNDATION

RX&D

SANOFI PASTEUR

TELUS HEALTH



GOVERNANCE

The Gairdner Foundation is governed by a 14 member Board of Directors. The Board is comprised of individuals who bring their expertise from the academic, private and public sectors. Board members are nominated and appointed for a maximum term of 3 years, renewable 3 times. Directors are not compensated for their regular Board and Committee duties.

The Board is responsible for overseeing the management of the organization, and through its committees, conducts detailed examinations of issues and opportunities. The Directors provide strategic insight and leadership, as well as effective governance for the Foundation and work diligently to maintain and extend the capacity of the Foundation to achieve its purpose and goal.

The Board meets a minimum of twice each year. Directors of the Board take their role seriously and to the best of their ability, strive to be active participants in all Board and Committee meetings. During 2015, the Board met 3 times.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2015

Dr. D. Lorne Tyrrell

Board Chair Director, Li Ka Shing Institute of Virology, Edmonton

Heather Munroe-Blum

Board Vice-Chair Principal Emeritus, McGill University, Montreal, Quebec

Victor Dzau

President of the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences

Dr. Calvin Stiller

Emeritus Professor, University of Western Ontario, Board Chair OICR Brandt C. Louie

Chairman and CEO, H.Y Louie Co. Limited, Chair of the Board, London Drugs Limited, Vancouver

Darren Entwistle

President and Chief Executive Officer, TELUS

Ann McCaig

Chancellor Emeritus, University of Calgary

Gary Goldberg

President, Gadango Inc., Toronto

Bren Gairdner

Calgary, Alberta

Eric Newell

Chancellor Emeritus, University of Alberta

John Risley

President, Clearwater Fine Foods Inc. Chester, Nova Scotia

Michael Horgan

Senior Advisor, Bennett Jones LLP, Former Deputy Minister of Finance

Melissa Todd

Waterloo

John Upton

Nicola Wealth

Management, Vancouver



COMMITTEES

The Board has in place a number of standing committees which help the Board discharge its duties.

Committee of Directors

Lorne Tyrrell, Chair

Cal Stiller

Heather Munroe-Blum

Bren Gairdner

Gary Goldberg

Audit Committee- meets 3 times per year

Eric Newell, Chair

John Upton

Gary Goldberg

Michael Horgan

Melissa Todd

Investment Committee- meets 4 times per year

Brandt Louie, Chair

Cal Stiller

Eric Newell

Bren Gairdner

Governance and Nominating Committee- meets minimum of 1 time per year

Lorne Tyrrell, Chair

Ann McCaig

Heather Munroe-Blum

John Upton

Fund Development Committee

John Risley, Chair

Darren Entwistle

Heather Munroe-Blum



Financial Highlights

The Gairdner Foundation maintains proper financial controls and sound management practices to ensure the best use of its public and private funds. Our external auditors issued an unqualified audit opinion about the Gairdner Foundation financial statements which appear at the end of this report.

In 2008, a funding agreement was executed between CIHR and the Gairdner Foundation outlining the terms of a \$20 Million grant received from Canadian Institutes of Health Research. Proceeds from the grant were used to establish an endowment to support and enhance the Awards, and to ensure that the Canada Gairdner Awards continue to grow in stature on the international stage.

In 2008, the Foundation also received \$2 million from the Alberta government for the purpose of expanding the Gairdner Outreach Program in Alberta.

These funds have been invested together with the original family endowment under the guidance of the Investment Committee, and in accordance with the terms of these agreements and prudent governance. The investment policy adopted by the Board has been designed with the principal objective being preservation of capital over the long-term.

Planning and Monitoring Investments

The Foundation has a duty to ensure responsible stewardship of funds. The Investment Committee oversees the management and investment of the Gairdner Foundation funds in compliance with our funding agreements. The Foundation's funds have been invested with 3 major objectives:

- 1. Preservation of capital
- 2. Income to meet the administrative costs and award objectives of the Foundation
- 3. Growth in the 'capital' value of the Portfolio's assets in real (inflation-adjusted) terms

The investment strategy and policy are reviewed annually and the portfolio is reviewed on a quarterly basis. Based on the Foundation's investment objectives, risk tolerance, income requirements and liquidity needs, the long term target asset allocation of 45% fixed income, 45% equity and 10% alternative strategies was approved by the Board in the fall of 2013 and remained unchanged throughout 2015. The portfolio ended the year with 50% cash/fixed income, 42% equities and 8% alternatives.

Despite a great deal of uncertainty and volatility in the markets in 2015, the investment portfolio increased from \$30.9 million at the end of 2014 to \$31.1 million at the end of 2015. Returns for 2015 were \$1.1 million representing ROI of 3.6% net of fees vs. the benchmark of 5.9%, before fees for a similar weighted portfolio. ROI since inception has been \$11.0 million, representing an annualized rate of return of 5.5% net of fees, compared to the benchmark of 6.3% gross of fees. ROI since inception, net of fees has been higher than the benchmark at far lower risk.



Results of Operations

Revenue for the year totaled \$2.9 million, made up of \$1.0 million from non-governmental sources and table sales (36% compared to 32% in 2014), \$1.6 million from government (57% compared to 53% in 2014), and \$0.2 million from investment income (7% compared to 15% in 2014). Every year the Foundation seeks sponsors from both the public and private sector.

In absolute dollars, revenue was approximately the same as 2014 however, private sector fundraising has become increasingly difficult. Income from investments decreased by \$0.2 million as the equity markets continued to show significant volatility with commodities, oil prices and the Canadian dollar falling to levels not seen since the crash of 2008. Returns were also impacted by historically low interest rates on fixed income investments.

Expenditures were \$2.6 million for the year, a decrease of \$0.2 million from 2014, primarily due to the normal 7 awards being granted in 2015 vs. 8 in 2014, plus additional communications costs.



MEDICAL REVIEW PANEL 2015

Philip Marsden, Co-Chair

Keenan Chair in Medical Research Professor of Medicine, Renal Division, University of Toronto, St. Michaels Hospital

Paul Kubes, Co-Chair

Professor, Departments of Physiology & Pharmacology, University of Calgary

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Chief Medical & Scientific Officer, Takeda Pharmaceuticals, Seattle



GAIRDNER STAFF 2015

Dr. John Dirks

President and Scientific Director

Sommer Wedlock

Director of Communications

Penny Balberman

Finance Director

Nora Cox

Office Manager

Sarah Devonshire

Administrative Assistant

COMPENSATION

DIRECTORS

Directors are not compensated for regular Board and Committee duties. They may, however, be compensated for any reasonable out-of-pocket expenses incurred while performing their duties or attending Foundation meetings.

SENIOR OFFICERS

For the fiscal year ending December 31, 2015, compensation for senior officers was in the following salary range:

Dr. John Dirks

President and Scientific Director

\$230,000-\$250,000



AUDITORS REPORT



Financial Statements

The Gairdner Foundation

December 31, 2015

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Members of **The Gairdner Foundation**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of **The Gairdner Foundation**, which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2015, and the statements of operations, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's responsibility for the financial statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditors' responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditors' judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditors consider internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained in our audit is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of **The Gairdner Foundation** as at December 31, 2015 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Toronto, Canada May 4, 2016

Chartered Professional Accountants Licensed Public Accountants

Ernst & young LLP

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As at December 31

	2015 \$	2014 \$
ASSETS		
Current		
Cash and cash equivalents	267,929	261,333
Grants receivable	_	25,515
GST/HST receivable	84,989	70,095
Other receivables	53,750	18,000
Prepaid expenses	11,017	13,622
Total current assets	417,685	388,565
Investments [note 3]	31,092,068	30,879,933
Capital assets, net [note 4]	18,406	26,608
	31,528,159	31,295,106
Current Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	867,181	725,398
Total current liabilities	867,181	725,398
Federal government funding [note 5]	22,257,194	22,345,551
Alberta government funding [note 6]	2,318,535	2,377,425
	24,575,729	24,722,976
Total liabilities	25,442,910	25,448,374
Commitments [note 8]		
Net assets		
Unrestricted	500,000	500,000
Internally restricted [note 7]	5,585,249	5,346,732
Total net assets	6,085,249	5,846,732
	31,528,159	31,295,106

See accompanying notes

On behalf of the Board:

Director

Director

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

Year ended December 31

	2015 \$	2014 \$
REVENUE		
Investment income [note 3]		
Interest and dividends	132,747	140,606
Realized gain on investments	137,360	176,636
Net change in unrealized gain (loss) on investments	(56,732)	112,526
	213,375	429,768
Federal government grant funding [note 5]	903,852	977,890
Alberta government grant funding [note 6]	145,654	106,652
Other government grants	573,235	437,701
Other contributions and sponsorships	415,922	237,208
Table sales	606,250	678,500
	2,858,288	2,867,719
EXPENSES		
National events	570,808	551,047
Advisory boards	225,383	171,263
Awards	700,000	800,000
Marketing and communications	140,365	36,155
Administrative	983,215	1,246,207
	2,619,771	2,804,672
Excess of revenue over expenses for the year	238,517	63,047

See accompanying notes

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

Year ended December 31

		2015	
	Unrestricted	Internally restricted	Total
	\$	\$	10tai \$
		[note 7]	
Balance, beginning of year	500,000	5,346,732	5,846,732
Excess of revenue over expenses for the year	238,517	_	238,517
Interfund transfer [note 7]	(238,517)	238,517	_
Balance, end of year	500,000	5,585,249	6,085,249
		2014	
	Unrestricted \$	Internally restricted	Total \$
		[note 7]	
Balance, beginning of year	500,000	5,283,685	5,783,685
Excess of revenue over expenses for the year	63,047	_	63,047
Interfund transfer [note 7]	(63,047)	63,047	<u> </u>
Balance, end of year	500,000	5,346,732	5,846,732

See accompanying notes

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

Year ended December 31

	2015 \$	2014 \$
		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
OPERATING ACTIVITIES	***	
Excess of revenue over expenses for the year	238,517	63,047
Add (deduct) non-cash items		
Amortization of capital assets	8,827	9,330
Investment income	(213,375)	(429,768)
Government funding recognized as revenue	(1,049,506)	(1,084,542)
Loss on disposal of capital assets	_	2,214
	(1,015,537)	(1,439,719)
Changes in non-cash working capital balances related		
to operations		
Grants receivable	25,515	(19,162)
GST/HST receivable	(14,894)	(5,084)
Other receivables	(35,750)	10,231
Prepaid expenses	2,605	(13,622)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	141,783	292,561
Cash used in operating activities	(896,278)	(1,174,795)
INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Purchase of capital assets	(625)	(35,220)
Withdrawals from investments held by third parties	903,499	1,311,565
Cash provided by investing activities	902,874	1,276,345
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		
during the year	6,596	101,550
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	261,333	159,783
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year	267,929	261,333

See accompanying notes

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2015

1. PURPOSE OF THE ORGANIZATION

The Gairdner Foundation [the "Foundation"] provides awards to medical scientists in recognition of outstanding discoveries and contributions to medical science, and as an incentive to those who follow in their footsteps. In addition to encouraging and rewarding individuals, the Foundation presents the Gairdner Awards in order to focus public, professional and scientific attention on significant achievements in the field of health sciences.

The Foundation, was incorporated under the laws of Ontario until October 2, 2013 and is currently incorporated under the Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act. The Foundation is registered as a charitable organization under the *Income Tax Act (Canada)* [the "Act"] and, as such, is exempt from income taxes and is able to issue donation receipts for income tax purposes.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

These financial statements are prepared in accordance with Part III of the CPA Canada Handbook – Accounting, which sets out generally accepted accounting principles for not-for-profit organizations in Canada and includes the significant accounting policies set out below.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents consist of cash on deposit and short-term investments with maturities of less than 90 days at the date of purchase. Cash and cash equivalents exclude amounts that are managed for returns rather than being held for liquidity.

Financial instruments

Investments reported at fair value consist of equity instruments that are quoted in an active market as well as investments in pooled funds and any investments in fixed income securities that the Foundation designates upon purchase to be measured at fair value. Transaction costs are recognized in the statement of operations in the period during which they are incurred.

Investments in fixed income securities not designated to be measured at fair value are initially recorded at fair value net of transaction costs and are subsequently measured at amortized cost using the straight-line method, less any provision for impairment.

Other financial instruments, including grants and other receivables, and accounts payable and accrued liabilities, are initially recorded at their fair value and are subsequently measured at cost, net of any provisions for impairment.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2015

Capital assets

Capital assets are recorded at acquisition cost less accumulated amortization. Contributed capital assets are recorded at fair value at the date of contribution. Amortization is recorded in the accounts at rates intended to write off the cost of the assets over their estimated useful lives.

Rates and methods of amortization are as follows:

Asset	Years	Method
	_	
Office equipment	5	straight-line
Computer equipment	3	straight-line
Leaseholds improvements	Term of lease	straight-line

Revenue recognition

The Foundation follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions, which include grants and donations. Grants and bequests are recognized when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured. Other donations are recorded when received, since pledges are not legally enforceable claims. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when initially recorded in the accounts. Externally restricted contributions are deferred when initially recorded in the accounts and recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are recognized. Sponsorships and related event revenues are recognized when the event takes place.

Investment income (loss), which consists of interest, dividends, income distributions from pooled funds, and realized and unrealized gains and losses, net of safekeeping and investment management expenses, is recorded as revenue in the statement of operations, except to the extent that it relates to restricted contributions, in which case it is added directly to those balances.

Foreign currency translation

Transactions denominated in foreign currencies are translated into Canadian dollars at exchange rates prevailing at the transaction date. Monetary assets and liabilities are translated into Canadian dollars at exchange rates in effect at the year-end date. Non-monetary assets and liabilities are translated at the historic rate. Exchange gains and losses are included in the statement of operations except to the extent that they relate to investments, in which case they are accounted for consistent with investment income (loss).

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2015

Contributed goods and services

Because of the difficulty in determining fair value, contributed goods and services are not recognized in the financial statements.

3. INVESTMENTS

Investments consist of the following:

	2015		20	14
	\$	%	\$	%
Cash and cash equivalents	1,840,967	5.9	1,856,623	6.0
Bonds				
Canadian	11,063,000	35.6	10,631,000	34.4
International	2,469,000	7.9	2,607,000	8.4
Equities				
Canadian	4,078,000	13.1	4,571,000	14.8
US	5,242,000	16.9	4,935,000	16.0
Other international	3,805,000	12.3	3,756,000	12.2
Hedge funds	2,594,101	8.3	2,523,310	8.2
	31,092,068	100.0	30,879,933	100.0

Investments in pooled funds have been included above based on their underlying asset mix.

As at December 31, 2015, bonds have an average term to maturity of 4.3 years [2014 - 7.7 years] and a weighted average yield of 2.91% [2014 - 3.6%].

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2015

Investment income recorded in the statement of operations is calculated as follows:

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
Interest and dividends	861,980	920,139
Realized gain on investments	718,191	910,289
Net change in unrealized gain (loss) on investments	(296,626)	579,903
Total investment income	1,283,545	2,410,331
Less safekeeping and investment management		
expenses	(167,911)	(195,526)
Investment income, net of safekeeping and		
investment management expenses	1,115,634	2,214,805
Less investment (income) related to:		
Federal government funding [note 5]	(815,495)	(1,613,220)
Alberta government funding [note 6]	(86,764)	(171,817)
Investment income recognized in revenue	213,375	429,768

4. CAPITAL ASSETS

Capital assets consist of the following:

	2015			
	Cost \$	Accumulated amortization	Net book value \$	
Office equipment	15,721	12,820	2,901	
Computer equipment	24,553	12,177	12,376	
Leaseholds improvements	5,215	2,086	3,129	
	45,489	27,083	18,406	

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2015

	2014		
	Cost \$	Accumulated amortization \$	Net book value \$
Office equipment	24,553	8,324	16,229
Computer equipment	15,096	8,889	6,207
Leasehold improvements	5,215	1,043	4,172
	44,864	18,256	26,608

5. FEDERAL GOVERNMENT FUNDING

The Foundation received a \$20,000,000 grant from the federal government in 2008 for the purpose of supporting and enhancing the Gairdner International Awards Program. This grant is to be invested for the duration of the funding agreement and only the income, which includes interest, dividends and realized gains/losses, may be used to support the Foundation's activities until the funding agreement terminates. The Foundation can draw upon the capital to a maximum of \$2,000,000 over the term of the funding agreement, provided it uses best efforts to restore any capital withdrawn.

The funding agreement terminates on March 31, 2028, unless terminated earlier, or renewed in accordance with the funding agreement. Upon termination, the Foundation may use the unspent balance of the original grant as it deems appropriate.

The changes in the Government of Canada funding balance are as follows:

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
Balance, beginning of year	22,345,551	21,710,221
Interest and dividends	507,344	527,794
Realized gain on investments	524,976	663,036
Net change in unrealized gain (loss) on investments	(216,825)	422,390
Investment income for the year [note 3]	815,495	1,613,220
Amount recognized as revenue	(903,852)	(977,890)
Balance, end of year	22,257,194	22,345,551

As at December 31, 2015, the amount available for spending in future years is \$1,052,572 [2014 – \$924,102].

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2015

6. ALBERTA GOVERNMENT FUNDING

The Foundation received \$2,000,000 from the Alberta government in 2008 for the purpose of expanding the Gairdner Outreach Program in Alberta. The funds received from the Alberta government are to be invested during the term of the funding agreement, and only the income, which includes interest, dividends and realized gains/losses, may be used to support the Alberta Gairdner Outreach Program. The Foundation can draw upon the capital to a maximum of \$250,000 over the term of the funding agreement, provided it uses best efforts to restore any capital withdrawn.

The grant has an indeterminate term; however, the funding agreement is to be reviewed at least every five years. The Alberta government has the right to terminate the agreement, without cause, upon giving 90 days' notice. Upon termination, the remaining balance of the fund not previously committed for outreach activities must be repaid.

The changes in the Government of Alberta funding balance are as follows:

	2015 \$	2014 \$
Delever beringter of man	·	<u> </u>
Balance, beginning of year	2,377,425	2,312,260
Interest and dividends	53,978	56,213
Realized gain on investments	55,854	70,617
Net change in unrealized gain (loss) on investments	(23,068)	44,987
Investment income for the year [note 3]	86,764	171,817
Amount recognized as revenue	(145,654)	(106,652)
Balance, end of year	2,318,535	2,377,425

As at December 31, 2015, the amount available for spending in future years is \$192,875 [2014 – \$228,697].

7. INTERNALLY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS

Internally restricted net assets are funds set aside by the Board of Directors to invest in order to earn income to help fund future operating expenses. In 2015, the Board of Directors approved an interfund transfer from unrestricted to internally restricted net assets of \$238,517 [2014 – \$63,047]. The Board of Directors may approve a transfer from internally restricted net assets, if required, to fund unanticipated deficits from fundraising shortfalls or unanticipated expenditures.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2015

8. COMMITMENTS

The Foundation is required to make future minimum annual lease payments for its premises as follows:

	\$
2016	75,000
2017	75,000
2018	75,000
2019	37,500
	262,500

9. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Foundation is exposed to various financial risks through transactions in financial instruments.

Currency risk

The Foundation is exposed to foreign currency risk with respect to its investments denominated in foreign currencies, because the fair value and future cash flows will fluctuate due to the changes in the relative value of foreign currencies against the Canadian dollar.

Interest rate risk

The Foundation is exposed to interest rate risk with respect to its investments in fixed income investments and pooled funds that hold fixed income securities because the fair value will fluctuate due to changes in market interest rates.

Other price risk

The Foundation is exposed to other price risk through changes in market prices [other than changes arising from interest rate or currency risks] in connection with its investments in equity securities and pooled funds.