

2019 Annual Report

May 2020

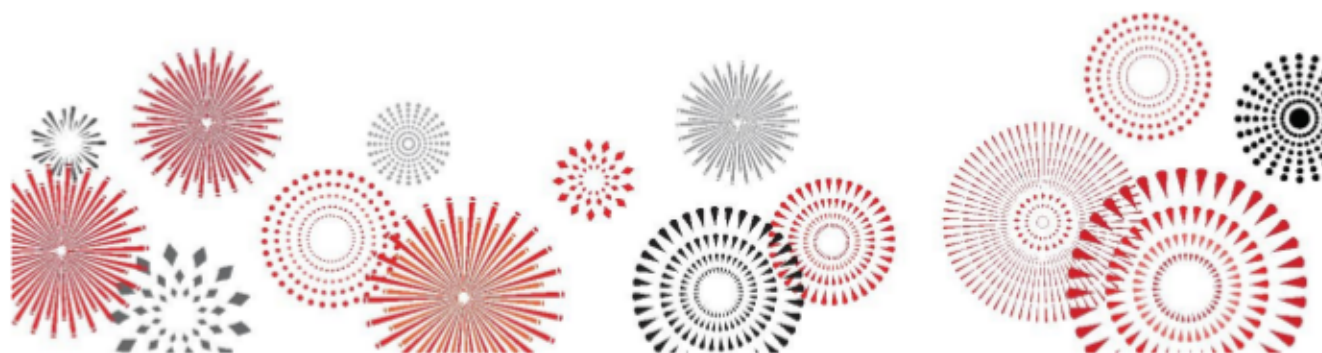


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ABOUT GAIRDNER

History

The Gairdner Foundation was established in 1957 to award annual prizes to individual researchers whose discoveries in biomedical science have had major impact on progress in science and on human health. Annually, seven awards are given: five Canada Gairdner International Awards, for excellence in biomedical research, the John Dirks Canada Gairdner Global Health Award, for outstanding achievements in global health research, and the Canada Gairdner Wightman Award, reserved for a Canadian scientist demonstrating outstanding science and exceptional leadership in Canadian medical science. The Awards are highly regarded as one of the world's most prestigious biomedical prizes with many of our laureates (92 in our history) going on to receive the Nobel Prize.

Mission

- To **celebrate excellence** in research that impacts human health through the Canada Gairdner Awards
- To **convene leaders** from the research, academic, public and private sectors to explore the key research issues of the day
- To **inspire the next generation** of students in the excitement and potential of scientific research in a global context through outreach programs

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



The Gairdner Foundation is a beacon to the Canadian scientific community. Its international reputation and prestige make the winning of a Canada Gairdner Award a shining achievement in any scientist's career. In addition to its renowned awards, Gairdner has fostered a highly effective series of outreach programming that energizes high school students, undergraduates and graduate students. As well, it hosts public lectures aimed at promoting the importance of science in our evolving world. The suite of programming offered by the Gairdner Foundation celebrates excellence, connects Canadian science leaders and the global scientific community, and, inspires the next generation of scientists.

The 2019 Canada Gairdner Award laureates were trailblazers in the fields of cell biology, autoimmunity, cancer treatment, DNA replication and mental health, all bringing a stellar array of ground-breaking enquiry to our national outreach program. This year, Gairdner continued to expand its public lecture series adding a lecture on Canada's east coast at the Discovery Centre in Halifax. Our public lecture series which began in 2016, is now pan-Canadian - engaging thousands of people from coast to coast. I believe in the power of this program and am very proud of its profound impact.

In 2019, Gairdner hosted its first ever Diversity and Excellence in Science Forum celebrating women in science. The forum featured interactive breakout sessions with attendees discussing the under-representation of diverse groups in scientific workplaces. The Gairdner Foundation is dedicated to shining light on the important issues facing the scientific community and will continue to host similar forums on an annual basis.

2019 was a special year for me, as it was my first year as Chair of the Gairdner Foundation's Board of Directors. Looking back on the year, I am proud of the fantastic achievements of the Gairdner Foundation. I am grateful to my dedicated colleagues on the Foundation Board, and, to the management team at Gairdner for their tireless commitment to the Foundation, its laureates, and programming. Above all, I salute the leadership of our President and Scientific Director, Dr. Janet Rossant.

On behalf of the Board and myself, I extend our most sincere appreciation to the Government of Canada, the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), and, the Governments of Québec and Alberta for their generous support of the Gairdner Foundation. As well, I thank all of our individual sponsors and partners for their enthusiastic generosity and sustained collaboration in support of the unique contributions of the Gairdner Foundation to excellence in the scientific enterprise.

As we complete the year, former Gairdner awardees are playing a leadership role in managing the current COVID-19 pandemic. Nothing speaks more to the prime importance of the biomedical and related sciences in advancing global health, safety and economic security.

With all good wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'HMB'.

Heather Munroe-Blum, OC, OQ, PhD, FRSC
Chair, Gairdner Foundation Board of Director

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT & SCIENTIFIC DIRECTOR



It is with great pride that I reflect on 2019, another successful year at the Gairdner Foundation. Not only did we have an incredible cohort of laureates, we also expanded the scope, reach and impact of our core programming, engaging audiences across the country.

The Canada Gairdner Awards proudly celebrated outstanding research from cancer treatment to DNA replication to mental health. Each of our seven laureates were shining examples of excellence in science and their diverse areas of study paved the way for interesting and engaging lectures from coast to coast.

Our student outreach and national programs were well-received across Canada with a nation-wide attendance of almost 6,000. In addition to our core programming, we expanded our public lecture series and added many valuable partnerships to host symposia on topics ranging from antimicrobial resistance to child health and wellness.

The Canada Gairdner Awards Gala on October 24 brought together 550 members of the scientific, health, corporate and academic communities to honour our 2019 laureates. The experience was shared by 60 high school students who were given the opportunity to participate in the inspiring evening. The Gairdner Foundation partnered with local high schools and with The Knowledge Society to bring students to the gala to network with the best and brightest in their respective fields.

As we do each year, the Gairdner Foundation hosted international receptions in celebration of our laureates. Gairdner held these events in partnership with the High Commission of Canada in the UK in London, University of California, San Francisco, Harvard University, University of British Columbia, BC Cancer Agency, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory and the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York. The receptions were a great success. Gairdner strengthened its international presence and established relationships that will expand our partnership opportunities, nominations and build our brand on the world stage.

I would like to express my gratitude to the Gairdner Foundation team who work tirelessly on all aspects of our programming. I would also like to extend my thanks to the large network of volunteers whose contributions bolster Gairdner activities across the country. The volunteers from our university partners are integral in executing our outreach programs on their campuses and our partners at science centres across Canada do a tremendous job organizing and promoting our public lectures. I would also like to thank the members of our adjudication committees whose efforts to ensure the best science is recognized each year is the foundation to everything we do at Gairdner. I'd also like to emphasize my appreciation for our Board of Directors whose extraordinary efforts are key to our success. Lastly, I would like to thank our donors, sponsors, CIHR and the Government of Canada in particular for their support without which our programming would not be possible.

Thank you for taking the time to read our annual report.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Rossant'.

Dr. Janet Rossant, CC PhD FRS FRSC
President & Scientific Director, The Gairdner Foundation

2019 YEAR IN REVIEW

Report on 2019 Objectives

1. Increase the reach of the National and Student Outreach Program

The National and Student outreach programs continue to expand their local reach. However, the offer of webcast capabilities to all of our university partners with the goal of reaching remote and rural communities was not very effective. Together with our university partners, we are rethinking our approach by developing more online materials and interactions to achieve success in 2020.

2. Provide additional public-specific programming and materials

The Gairdner Foundation expanded its partnerships to include the Discovery Centre in Halifax which hosted its first Gairdner public lecture on June 24. The lecture was well attended and featured Gairdner President, Dr. Janet Rossant in a discussion of human stem cells and gene editing. Gairdner also hosted a public lecture in partnership with Life Sciences British Columbia and TELUS World of Science in Vancouver. The lecture had a large attendance of 100 and featured 2019 laureate, Dr. Connie Eaves. Both lectures raised our public profile and provided meaningful, accessible content for their audiences.

In 2019, Gairdner produced a series of comic zines that featured the work of 2019 laureates in an accessible format for the public. The zines were produced in partnership with the Michael Smith Laboratories and the University of British Columbia.

3. Increase brand recognition through enhanced social media presence

Gairdner expanded its social media presence to include Instagram. The Foundation also worked diligently to increase its followers on its original platforms, Twitter and Facebook. The Gairdner Foundation partnered with science communicator, digital media producer and neuroscientist, Samantha Yamine (samanthayamine.com) to promote our 2019 fall programming. Our partnership with Samantha helped raise awareness of our events, increase attendance and raised awareness for the Gairdner brand.

4. Secure strategic partnerships that support Gairdner's programming and goals and raise its public profile

In 2019, Gairdner partnered with the Krembil Foundation, L'Oréal UNESCO For Women in Science, Riboclub, TELUS, the Women Leaders in Global Health Conference, Canadian science centres and university partners across the country to provide meaningful programming across Canada.

Gairdner partnered with Research Canada to promote our 2019 laureates in Ottawa. Dr. Connie Eaves and Dr. Susan Horwitz attended a luncheon on April 3 with parliamentarians and healthcare sector leaders including members of the Parliamentary Health Research Caucus such as, Senator Judith Seidman, MP Kim Rudd and President and CEO of Research Canada, Ms. Deborah Gordon-El-Bihbey.

5. Continue to increase the number, quality and diversity of nominations

In 2019, Gairdner increased our pool of nominations with 54 new nominations for the International Award, 12 new Global Health nominations and 5 new Wightman nominations. We have worked with our international academic, non-profit and administrative partners at receptions, on social media, and at events like the Women Leaders in Global Health Conference in Rwanda, where 1050 people from 81 countries received information on the Awards and nomination process. This work resulted in a strong class of nominees with excellent diversity and representation in addition to their extraordinary scientific achievements. Gairdner will continue to be proactive in encouraging nominations of a wide diversity of potential candidates and looking for opportunities to grow our pool of nominations further.

6. Partner in a special symposium focusing on diversity in science

The Gairdner Foundation hosted its first special symposium focusing on diversity in science on September 30. The Diversity and Excellence in Science Forum was a partnered event with L'Oréal-UNESCO and featured interactive breakout sessions on underrepresentation of diverse groups in scientific communities and workplaces. There was also a panel discussion, an afternoon of STEM-talks featuring L'Oréal-UNESCO Women in Science Fellows and a keynote presentation. The event was open to the public.

2019 CANADA GAIRDNER AWARD LAUREATES



Dr. Timothy Springer

Canada Gairdner International Award

"For discovery of the first immune system adhesion molecules, elucidation of their roles in antigen recognition and leukocyte homing, and translation of these discoveries into therapeutics for autoimmune diseases"

Dr. Ronald Vale

Canada Gairdner International Award

"For the landmark discovery of the motor protein kinesin and pioneering the understanding of its mechanism of action in driving cellular movement processes including cell division and intracellular transport"

Dr. Connie Eaves

Canada Gairdner Wightman Award

"For her pioneering work and leadership in the study of hematopoietic, mammary and cancer stem cells and her dedicated advocacy for early-career investigators and women in science"

Dr. Susan Horwitz

Canada Gairdner International Award

"For defining novel mechanisms of action and resistance of drugs of natural product origin, most significantly Taxol® and promoting their use for treatment of cancer"

Dr. Vikram Patel

John Dirks Canada Gairdner Global Health Award

"For his world-leading research in global mental health, generating knowledge on the burden and determinants of mental health problems in low- and middle-income countries and pioneering approaches for the prevention and treatment of mental health in low-resource settings"

Dr. John Diffley

Canada Gairdner International Award

"For their pioneering research on the eukaryotic DNA replication cycles including initiation, regulation and responses to DNA damage"

Dr. Bruce Stillman

Canada Gairdner International Award

"For their pioneering research on the eukaryotic DNA replication cycles including initiation, regulation and responses to DNA damage"

GAIRDNER'S 2019 STUDENT OUTREACH PROGRAM

As part of Gairdner's mission to inspire the next generation of researchers, the Foundation hosts outreach programming for high school students at partner universities from coast to coast. The lectures, which focus on each laureate's personal journey in research, serve to ignite a passion for science that we hope translates into increased enrolment in science programs at the post-secondary level. Many laureates cite the Student Outreach Program as their favourite part of receiving the Canada Gairdner Award, and student response is uniformly enthusiastic.

In 2019, the Student Outreach Program reached over 3,100 students at 21 partner universities.

2019 Student Outreach Program			
Date	Location	Speaker	Lecture Title
February 28	Lakehead University	Dr. Stephen Scott , Gairdner Foundation Medical Advisory Board, Queen's University	<i>Robots to Assess Brain Dysfunction: Will Sure and Steady Win the Race?</i>
March 21	Laurentian University	Dr. Edward Boyden , 2018 Canada Gairdner International Award Laureate, MIT	<i>Engineering Serendipity: The Path to Discovering How to Map and Repair Brain Circuits With Light</i>
May 6	University of Prince Edward Island	Dr. Davor Solter , 2018 Canada Gairdner International Award Laureate, Max Planck Institute of Immunobiology and Epigenetics	<i>Stem cells: Past, Present, Future</i>
May 8	Dalhousie University	Dr. Davor Solter , 2018 Canada Gairdner International Award Laureate, Max Planck Institute of Immunobiology and Epigenetics	<i>Stem cells: Past, Present, Future</i>
October 18	University of Toronto	Dr. Lewis Kay , 2017 Gairdner International Award Laureate, University of Toronto	<i>Solving Mysteries in Biology Using Physics</i>
		Dr. Sheena Josselyn , Gairdner Foundation Medical Review Panel, Hospital for Sick Children	<i>Making and Breaking Memories</i>
October 18	University of Lethbridge	Dr. Janet Rossant , 2015 Canada Gairdner Wightman Award Laureate, SickKids Research Institute	<i>How I became a Stem Cell Biologist</i>
October 18	Université Laval	Dr. John Diffley , 2019 Canada Gairdner International Award Laureate, The Francis Crick Institute	<i>Less-travelled Roads and Homemade Chromosomes</i>

October 21	University of Alberta	Dr. Timothy Springer , 2019 Canada Gairdner International Award Laureate, Harvard Medical School Dr. Connie Eaves , 2019 Canada Gairdner Wightman Award Laureate, University of British Columbia	<i>Basic Science on Cell Surface Receptors, Therapeutics, and the Institute for Protein Innovation</i> <i>Building on Canadian Discoveries in Stem Cell Research – More Exciting Every Day</i>
October 21	University of British Columbia	Dr. Bruce Stillman , 2019 Canada Gairdner International Award Laureate, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Dr. Ronald Vale , 2019 Canada Gairdner International Award Laureate, University of California, San Francisco	<i>Inheritance of your DNA: Passing On Genes And Other Information</i> <i>Biological Molecular Motors: How Life Generates Motion</i>
October 21	Western University	Dr. Susan Horwitz , 2019 Canada Gairdner International Award Laureate, Albert Einstein College of Medicine	<i>Nature as a Remarkable Chemist: The Discovery and Development of the Antitumor Drug Taxol</i>
October 21	McGill University	Dr. John Diffley , 2019 Canada Gairdner International Award Laureate, The Francis Crick Institute	<i>Less-travelled Roads and Homemade Chromosomes</i>
October 21	Queen's University	Dr. Vikram Patel , 2019 John Dirks Canada Gairdner Global Health Award Laureate, Harvard Medical School	<i>Why Mental Health Matters to Young People...And To Me</i>
October 22	University of Winnipeg	Dr. Rodolphe Barrangou , 2016 Canada Gairdner International Award Laureate, North Carolina State University	<i>The Many Hats Scientists Wear</i>
October 22	Université de Montréal	Dr. John Diffley , 2019 Canada Gairdner International Award Laureate, The Francis Crick Institute	<i>Less-travelled Roads and Homemade Chromosomes</i>
October 22	University of Calgary	Dr. Timothy Springer , 2019 Canada Gairdner International Award Laureate, Harvard Medical School Dr. Connie Eaves , 2019 Canada Gairdner Wightman Award Laureate, University of British Columbia	<i>Basic Science on Cell Surface Receptors, Therapeutics, and the Institute for Protein Innovation</i> <i>Building on Canadian Discoveries in Stem Cell Research – More Exciting Every Day</i>
October 22	Carleton University	Dr. Vikram Patel , 2019 John Dirks Canada Gairdner Global Health Award Laureate, Harvard Medical School	<i>Why Mental Health Matters to Young People...And To Me</i>

October 22	University of Saskatchewan	Dr. Anne-Claude Gingras , Gairdner Foundation Medical Review Panel, Lunenfeld-Tanenbaum Research Institute	<i>Looking Inside a Human Cell</i>
October 23	University of Waterloo	Dr. Bruce Stillman , 2019 Canada Gairdner International Award Laureate, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory	<i>Inheritance of your DNA: Passing On Genes And Other Information</i>
October 23	York University	Dr. Ronald Vale , 2019 Canada Gairdner International Award Laureate, University of California, San Francisco Dr. Rulan Parekh , Gairdner Foundation Medical Review Panel, University of Toronto	<i>Biological Molecular Motors: How Life Generates Motion</i>
November 7	University of New Brunswick	Dr. Antoine Hakim , 2017 Canada Gairdner Wightman Award Laureate, University of Ottawa	<i>Follow Your Heart</i>
December 10	Memorial University	Dr. Lynne Maquat , 2015 Canada Gairdner International Award Laureate, University of Rochester	<i>Looking Inside Human Cell</i>

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

University of Ottawa and Carleton University:

The University of Ottawa and Carleton partnered to host the Gairdner outreach programs. Dr. Vikram Patel's visit started with a dinner hosted by the Mental Health Commission of Canada, where he met with Louise Bradley, the President and CEO. The next day he gave the student lecture on the importance of mental health to 250 high-school students from six regional schools. The feedback from the students was overwhelmingly positive. They found Dr. Patel's lecture inspiring and expressed an increased interest in pursuing a career in science. After the student lecture, Dr. Patel attended a lunch with the research leaders from the University of Ottawa and The Ottawa Hospital Research Institute. After lunch, Dr. Patel gave the faculty lecture on transforming global mental health to about 150 attendees at the University of Ottawa. The lecture was very well received and followed by a networking reception for both faculty members and graduate students.

University of Alberta:

The University of Alberta hosted another successful and impactful outreach program in 2019, allowing for plenty of networking opportunities for Dr. Springer and Dr. Eaves and securing high attendance at the lectures. On Monday, October 21, both laureates gave their lectures to 150 high-school students, expanding on their careers and explaining the type of work they are doing. The lectures sparked students' interest and encouraged them to consider a career in health sciences. During the informal lunch, students engaged with the laureates individually. Between the lectures, the laureates had an opportunity to tour the campus and meet with the distinguished professors in the department of biochemistry. About 200 faculty members attended the national lecture, and many stayed for the informal reception and engaged with the speakers. The laureates visit ended with an intimate dinner event with the scientific leaders of the university.

GAIRDNER'S 2019 NATIONAL OUTREACH PROGRAM

Gairdner's National Outreach Program is a dynamic and interactive speaker series that brings current and past Canada Gairdner Award laureates to Canada to speak to faculty members and trainees about their research. The Gairdner Foundation celebrates scientific research from coast to coast and prides itself on giving Canadians access to scientists from around the world. The National Program has a profound impact on Canadian science culture and innovation. It is the only program of its kind in the world of major awards.

In 2019, Gairdner's National Program reached over 2,400 people at 21 universities.

2019 National Outreach Program Lectures			
Date	Location	Speaker	Lecture Title
February 28	Lakehead University	Dr. Stephen Scott , Gairdner Foundation Medical Advisory Board, Queen's University	<i>Robots to Assess Brain Dysfunction: Will Sure and Steady Win the Race?</i>
March 21	Laurentian University	Dr. Edward Boyden , 2018 Canada Gairdner International Award Laureate, MIT	<i>Optical and Molecular Tools for Analyzing and Controlling Brain Circuits</i>
May 6	University of Prince Edward Island	Dr. Davor Solter , 2018 Canada Gairdner International Award Laureate, Max Planck Institute of Immunobiology and Epigenetics	<i>Epigenetic Mechanisms Controlling Mammalian Development</i>
May 8	Dalhousie University	Dr. Davor Solter , 2018 Canada Gairdner International Award Laureate, Max Planck Institute of Immunobiology and Epigenetics	<i>Epigenetic Mechanisms Controlling Mammalian Development</i>
October 18	University of Lethbridge	Dr. Janet Rossant , 2015 Canada Gairdner Wightman Award Laureate, SickKids Research Institute	<i>Stem Cells and Gene Editing – Science, Applications and Ethical Concerns</i>
October 18	Université Laval	Dr. John Diffley , 2019 Canada Gairdner International Award Laureate, The Francis Crick Institute	<i>Mechanisms Ensuring Precise Genome Duplication</i>
October 21	University of Alberta	Dr. Timothy Springer , 2019 Canada Gairdner International Award Laureate, Harvard Medical School	<i>Basic Science on Cell Surface Receptors, Therapeutics, and the Institute for Protein Innovation</i>
		Dr. Connie Eaves , 2019 Canada Gairdner Wightman Award Laureate, University of British Columbia	<i>Normal and Cancer Stem Cells: New Models Disrupt Old Ideas</i>
October 21	University of British Columbia	Dr. Bruce Stillman , 2019 Canada Gairdner International Award Laureate, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory	<i>Copying the Genome in Eukaryotic Cells: Mechanism, Control and Evolution of the initiation of DNA replication</i>
		Dr. Roland Vale , 2019 Canada Gairdner International Award Laureate, University of California, San Francisco	<i>Molecular Motors: From Kinesin to Dynein</i>

October 21	Western University	Dr. Susan Horwitz , 2019 Canada Gairdner International Award Laureate, Albert Einstein College of Medicine	<i>Nature as a Remarkable Chemist: The Discovery and Development of Taxol</i>
October 21	McGill University	Dr. John Diffley , 2019 Canada Gairdner International Award Laureate, The Francis Crick Institute	<i>Mechanisms Ensuring Precise Genome Duplication</i>
October 21	Queen's University	Dr. Vikram Patel , 2019 John Dirks Canada Gairdner Global Health Award Laureate, Harvard Medical School	<i>Transforming Mental Health Globally</i>
October 22	University of Manitoba	Dr. Rodolphe Barrangou , 2016 Canada Gairdner International Award Laureate, North Carolina State University	<i>CPISPR-Cas Systems: From Adaptive Immunity to the Genome Editing Revolution</i>
October 22	Université de Montréal	Dr. John Diffley , 2019 Canada Gairdner International Award Laureate, The Francis Crick Institute	<i>Mechanisms Ensuring Precise Genome Duplication</i>
October 22	University of Calgary	Dr. Timothy Springer , 2019 Canada Gairdner International Award Laureate, Harvard Medical School Dr. Connie Eaves , 2019 Canada Gairdner Wightman Award Laureate, University of British Columbia	<i>Basic Science on Cell Surface Receptors, Therapeutics, and the Institute for Protein Innovation</i> <i>Normal and Cancer Stem Cells: New Models Disrupt Old Ideas</i>
October 23	University of Waterloo	Dr. Bruce Stillman , 2019 Canada Gairdner International Award Laureate, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory	<i>Copying the Genome in Eukaryotic Cells: Mechanism, Control and Evolution of the initiation of DNA replication</i>
October 22	University of Ottawa	Dr. Vikram Patel , 2019 John Dirks Canada Gairdner Global Health Award Laureate, Harvard Medical School	<i>Transforming Mental Health Globally</i>
October 22	University of Saskatchewan	Dr. Anne-Claude Gingras , Gairdner Foundation Medical Review Panel, Lunenfeld-Tanenbaum Research Institute	<i>Spatial Proteomics Reveals New Nutrient-sensing Pathways Regulating Target of Rapamycin Signalling</i>
October 23	McMaster University	Dr. Susan Horwitz , 2019 Canada Gairdner International Award Laureate, Albert Einstein College of Medicine	<i>Nature as a Remarkable Chemist: The Discovery and Development of Taxol</i>
October 23	York University	Dr. Roland Vale , 2019 Canada Gairdner International Award Laureate, University of California, San Francisco	<i>Molecular Motors: From Kinesin to Dynein</i>
October 23	Concordia University	Dr. John Diffley , 2019 Canada Gairdner International Award Laureate, The Francis Crick Institute	<i>Mechanisms Ensuring Precise Genome Duplication</i>

December 10	Memorial University	Dr. Lynne Maquat , 2015 Canada Gairdner International Award Laureate, University of Rochester	<i>Nonsense-mediated mRNA decay and human disease: Genome guardian and executor</i>
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GAIRDNER'S 2019 LAUREATE LECTURES

Each Gairdner Week, the Foundation hosts its annual Laureate Lectures which give each of the year's laureates the opportunity to share their award-winning research with Gairdner audiences. The event takes place in Toronto and is live webcast around the world. Gairdner also holds two annual symposia to complement the research of the laureates.

2019 Canada Gairdner Laureate Lectures: Thursday, October 24, 2019 MaRS Auditorium, Lower Level		
Time	Speaker	Lecture Title
9:00– 9:15 a.m.	Janet Rossant , President & Scientific Director, The Gairdner Foundation	<i>Opening Session – Chair's Remarks</i>
9:15– 9:45 a.m.	Dr. Susan Band Horwitz , Distinguished Professor, Rose C. Falkenstein Chair in Cancer Research, Department of Molecular Pharmacology, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, New York	<i>Nature as a Remarkable Chemist: The Discovery and Development of Taxol</i>
9:45– 10:15 a.m.	Dr. Ronald Vale , Professor, Cellular Molecular Pharmacology University of California, San Francisco; Investigator, Howard Hughes Medical Institute	<i>How Living Organisms Generate Motion</i>
10:15– 10:45 a.m.	Dr. Timothy A. Springer , Latham Family Professor of Biological Chemistry and Molecular Pharmacology, Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School and Boston Children's Hospital; Chairman, Institute for Protein Innovation	<i>Basic Science on Cell Surface Receptors, Therapeutics, and the Institute for Protein Innovation</i>
11:05– 11:10 a.m.	Dr. Alan Bernstein , President & CEO, CIFAR	<i>Chair's Remarks</i>
11:10– 11:40 a.m.	Dr. Bruce Stillman , President, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Cold Spring Harbor, New York	<i>Copying the Genome in Eukaryotic Cells: Mechanism, Control and Evolution of the Initiation of DNA Replication</i>
11:40 a.m.– 12:10 p.m.	Dr. John F.X. Diffley , Associate Research Director, The Francis Crick Institute, London, U.K.	<i>How Our Genomes are Precisely Duplicated</i>
12:10– 12:40 p.m.	Dr. Connie Jean Eaves , Distinguished Scientist, Terry Fox Laboratory, BC Cancer; Professor, Department of Medical Genetics, University of	<i>Normal and Cancer Stem Cells: New Models Disrupt Old Ideas</i>

	British Columbia, Vancouver, B.C.	
12:40– 1:10 p.m.	Dr. Vikram Patel , The Pershing Square Professor of Global Health and Wellcome Trust Principal Research Fellow, Department of Global Health and Social Medicine, Harvard Medical School; Professor, Harvard TH Chan School of Public Health; Honorary Professor of Global Mental Health, Centre for Global Mental Health, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine; Adjunct Professor, Centre for Chronic Conditions and Injuries, Public Health Foundation of India, New Delhi; Co-founder, Sangath, India	<i>The Contribution of Science in Transforming Mental Health Globally</i>
1:10– 1:15 p.m.	Dr. Janet Rossant	<i>Closing Remarks</i>
Total Attendance		636 (350 in person/286 by webcast)

**2019 Canada Gairdner Research Symposium: DNA Replication, Cell Cycle Dynamics and Genome Stability:
From Model Organisms to Cancer and Aging
Wednesday, October 23, 2019 - Women's College Hospital Auditorium**

Time	Speaker	Titles
9:00 – 9:10 a.m.	Sommer Wedlock , Vice-President & Director of Communications, The Gairdner Foundation, Toronto, Ontario	<i>Welcome Remarks</i>
9:10– 9:15 a.m.	Dr. Charlie Boone , Anne and Max Tanenbaum Chair in Molecular Medicine, Canada Research Chair in Proteomics, Bioinformatics and Functional Genomic, Donnelly Centre for Cellular & Biomolecular Research, University of Toronto	<i>Chair's Remarks</i>
9:15 – 9:50 a.m.	Dr. Johannes Walter , Howard Hughes Medical Institute, American Cancer Society Research Professor, Professor, Department of Biological Chemistry and Molecular Pharmacology, Harvard Medical School Boston, MA, USA	<i>The Mechanism of DNA Replication Termination</i>
9:50 – 10:25 a.m.	Dr. Agata Smogorzewska , Associate Professor; Head, Laboratory of Genome Maintenance, Rockefeller University, New York, NY, USA	<i>DNA Replication Stress Response at the Replisome</i>
10:25 – 11:00 a.m.	Dr. Dana Branzei , Principal Investigator at IFOM, Milan and IGM-CNR, Pavia, Milan, Italy	<i>Regulation of DNA replication in unperturbed and DNA damaging conditions</i>
11:15 – 11:20 a.m.	Dr. Lea Harrington , Full Professor, Department of Medicine, Professeure accrédité (cross-appointment), Department of Biochemistry, Université de Montréal, Institute of Research in Immunology and Cancer (IRIC), Montréal, QC, Canada	<i>Chair's Remarks</i>
11:20– 11:55 a.m.	Dr. Grant W. Brown , Professor, Department of Biochemistry, Donnelly Centre for Cellular and Biomolecular Research, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON, Canada	<i>Exploiting Functional Genomics to Understand DNA Replication Stress</i>
11:55–12:30 p.m.	Dr. Lorraine Symington , Harold S. Ginsberg Professor, Director of Graduate Studies of Microbiology & Immunology, Columbia University, New York, NY, USA	<i>Mechanism and Consequences of Break-Induced Replication</i>
12:30- 1:05 p.m.	Dr. Angelika Amon , David H. Koch Institute for Integrative Cancer Research, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts, Howard Hughes Medical Institute, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts, Paul F. Glenn Center for Biology of Aging Research, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts, Boston, MA, USA	<i>Consequences of aneuploidy and its role in tumorigenesis</i>
Total Attendance		274 (100 in person/174 by webcast)

Gairdner Global Health Symposium
Community-based Mental Health Interventions: From Global to Local
Wednesday, October 23, 2019- Auditorium, Peter Gilgan Centre for Research and Learning

Time	Speaker	Lecture Title
9:30-9:35 am	Stan Zlotkin OC MD PhD FRCP(C) Chief, Centre for Global Child Health, The Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, ON	<i>Chair's Opening Remarks</i>
9:35-9:45 am	Janet Rossant CC PhD FRS FRSC President & Scientific Director, Gairdner Foundation	<i>Opening Remarks & Keynote Introduction</i>
9:45 -10:15 am	Vikram Patel, MBBS, PhD 2019 John Dirks Canada Gairdner Global Health Laureate; The Pershing Square Professor of Global Health, Department of Global Health & Social Medicine, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA, USA; Co-founder, Sangath, Goa, India	<i>Keynote: Transforming Mental Health Globally</i>
10:15-10:40 am	Vandana Gopikumar, PhD Co-Founder, The Banyan & The Banyan Academy of Leadership in Mental Health Chennai, India	<i>The Banyan- In Conversation With Dr. Karlee Silver</i>
10:40-11:05 am	Vicky Stergiopoulos, MD, MHSc, MSc, BSc Physician-in-Chief, Centre for Addiction & Mental Health (CAMH) ;Professor and Vice-Chair, Clinical and Innovation, Department of Psychiatry, University of Toronto,Toronto, ON, Canada	<i>Improving Housing And Health Outcomes For Persons Experiencing Homelessness And Mental Health Challenges</i>
11:20- 11:45 am	Abhijit Nadkarni MBBS, DPM, MRCPsych, MSc, PhD Associate Professor, Centre for Global Mental Health (CGMH), Department of Population Health, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, UK; Co-Director, Addictions Research Group, Sangath, Goa, India; London, UK	<i>From Facility Based Care To Community Based Interventions: A 'Spirit'ed Response To The Burden Of Alcohol Use Disorders</i>
11:45 am-12:10 pm	Takeesha White, LMSW Friendship Bench Program, New York; Acting Assistant Commissioner in the Center for Health Equity, at the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, New York City, NY, USA	<i>Friendship Benches NYC Closing Treatment Gaps And Advancing Equity Across NYC Neighborhoods</i>
12:10-1:10 pm	<u>Panel Moderator:</u> Peter Szatmari Professor and Head, Division of Child and Youth Mental Health, University of Toronto; Chief of Child and Youth Mental Health Collaborative, The Hospital for Sick Children and Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, Toronto, ON, Canada	<i>Panel Discussion</i>

	<p><u>Panel Members:</u> Renee Linklater Director, Aboriginal Engagement and Outreach, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, Toronto, ON, Canada</p> <p>Daisy Singla Assistant Professor & Clinician Scientist, Department of Psychiatry, Sinai Health System & University of Toronto; Lunenfeld Tanenbaum Research Institute Toronto, ON, Canada</p> <p>Takeesha White Abhijit Nadkarni Vicky Stergiopoulos Vikram Patel</p>	
Total Attendance		230 (200 in person/30 by webcast)

ADDITIONAL PROGRAMMING ACROSS CANADA

Gairdner Symposia Series

Canada Gairdner Symposium – NPY 2019

July 27-31, 2019

University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta

Attendance: 215

An annual Research Symposium and meeting which featured sessions covering the roles of the NPY-PYY-PP group of peptides plays on stress, energy balance, psychiatric disorders, pain, brain development, metabolism and cancer, among others.

Distinguished Speakers: Dr. Scott Sternson, Howard Hughes Medical Institute, Janelia Farm; Dr. Michael Cowley, Monash University; Dr. Jens Brüning, Max-Planck Institute, Köln; Dr. Sebastien Bouret, University of Southern California; Dr. Lynn Dobrunz, University of Alabama, Birmingham; Prof. Tomas Hökfelt, Karolinska Institute

Canada Gairdner Symposium – RiboClub 20th Anniversary: Annual Meeting

September, 22-27, 2019

Sherbrooke, Québec

Attendance: 285 at Symposium and 325 at Public Lecture

An International Symposium featuring discussions on different topics related to the chemistry, structure and biology of RNA with an emphasis on upcoming and debatable biological questions. The symposium featured public lectures, a student outreach session and three full days of scientific sessions.

Distinguished Speakers: Joan Steitz, 2006 Canada Gairdner International Award Laureate, Yale University; Lynn Maquat, 2015 Canada Gairdner International Award Laureate, University of Rochester; Phillip Sharp, 1986 Canada Gairdner International Award, MIT; Victor Ambros, 2008 Canada Gairdner International Award Laureate, University of Massachusetts

Gairdner/L'Oréal-UNESCO Diversity and Excellence in Science Forum

September 30, 2019

Toronto, Ontario

Attendance: 100

The Gairdner Foundation partnered with L'Oréal-UNESCO to present a forum on Diversity and Excellence in Science. The forum featured interactive breakout sessions with attendees discussing underrepresentation of diverse groups in scientific communities and workplaces. There was also a panel discussion, an afternoon of STEM-talks featuring L'Oréal-UNESCO Women in Science Fellows and a keynote presentation. The event was open to the public.

Distinguished Speakers: Professor Quarraisha Abdool Karim, University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa; Professor Barbara Sherwood Lollar, University of Toronto

Canada Gairdner Symposium – Child Health and Wellness: A Precision Health Approach

November 6, 2019

University of Calgary/Alberta Children's Hospital, Calgary, Alberta

Attendance: 250

Precision health aims to understand individuals and populations at a level that goes beyond a one-size-fits-all approach, using all available data – clinical, biological, environmental – in an integrated manner. This symposium featured discussions on this approach to healthcare and how precision health research is transforming how we understand, diagnose and treat immune-mediated disorders, cancers, and rare diseases in children.

Distinguished Speakers: Dr. Dan Kastner, National Human Genome Research Institute; Dr. Lawrence Steinman, Stanford University; Dr. Anne Griffiths, University of Toronto; Dr. Scott Patten, University of Calgary; Dr. Susan Samuel, University of Calgary; Dr. Stephen Freedman, Alberta Children's Hospital

International Symposium – 2019 Women Leaders in Global Health Conference

November 9-10, 2019

Kigali, Rwanda

Attendance: 1,053

The Gairdner Foundation partnered with the Women Leaders in Global Health Conference to convene speakers and participants from diverse sectors in global health. The two-day event included plenary sessions, panel discussions, interactive leadership and skill-building workshops, and opportunities for networking and mentoring.

Distinguished Speakers: Dr. Paul Farmer, Harvard University; Prof. Heidi Larson, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine; Prof. Peter Piot, 2015 John Dirks Canada Gairdner Global Health Award Laureate, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine; Dr. Roopa Dhatt, Executive Director, Women Leaders in Global Health; Prof. Agnes Binagwaho, University of Global Health Equity; Dr. Tim Evans, McGill University

Fuelling the Fight Against Antimicrobial Resistance: Global Innovations in Research and Discovery

November 14-15, 2019

McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario

Attendance: 250

The Gairdner Foundation, Michael G. DeGroote Institute for Infectious Disease Research and The David Braley Centre for Antibiotic Discovery at McMaster University partnered to bring world leading scientists together to discuss the state of the international antimicrobial resistance (AMR) challenge and to showcase recent global advances in AMR research and discovery. The event featured a panel discussion and public lecture followed by a full day symposium.

Distinguished Speaker: Professor Dame Sally Davies, UK Special Envoy on Antimicrobial Resistance, former Chief Medical Officer for England; Man-Wah Tan, Senior Director & Principal Scientist of Infectious Diseases at Genentech, Inc.; Professor David Relman, Stanford University

2019 CANADA GAIRDNER PUBLIC LECTURE SERIES – PRESENTED BY TELUS HEALTH

Building on the continued success of public lectures in 2018, Gairdner developed a public lecture series in cities across the country in 2019.

Tools for Understanding and Repairing the Brain

March 21, 2019

Sudbury, Ontario

Attendance: 200

Featuring: Dr. Ed Boyden, 2018 Canada Gairdner International Award Laureate, Y. Eva Tan Professor in Neurotechnology, Professor, Departments of Biological Engineering and Brain and Cognitive Sciences, Media Lab and McGovern Institute, MIT.

A discussion of new tools and techniques being developed to help treat people who suffer from brain disorders as well as the use of optogenetics in activating or silencing parts of the brain.

Human Stem Cells and Gene Editing: The promise, the challenges and the ethical concerns

June 24, 2019

Halifax, Nova Scotia

Attendance: 100

Featuring: Dr. Janet Rossant, 2015 Canada Gairdner Wightman Award Laureate, President and Scientific Director of the Gairdner Foundation, SickKids Chief of Research Emeritus.

A public talk about the challenges, ethical concerns and potential of gene editing as well as the development of stem cell biology.

RiboClub Public Lecture

September 23, 2019

Orford, Quebec

Attendance: 325

Featuring: Dr. Adrian Krainer, St. Giles Foundation Professor at Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Laureate of Life Sciences Breakthrough Prize 2019, Founder and Director of Stoke Therapeutics Inc.

A discussion of 'RNA from discovery to treatment.'

Discovering the Secrets of Cancer

November 27, 2019

Vancouver, British Columbia

Attendance: 170

Featuring: Dr. Connie Eaves, 2019 Canada Gairdner Wightman Award Laureate, Distinguished Scientist, Terry Fox Laboratory, BC Cancer; Professor, Department of Medical Genetics, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC.

A lecture about the discovery and development of stem cells and discussion on new models in the advancement of stem cell biology, cancer research and treatment.

Other Public Lectures Presented By Gairdner & Partners

Royal Canadian Institute for Science Public Lecture – Our DNA: What's Next and How Far Should We Go?

March 5, 2019

Toronto, Ontario

Attendance: 100

The Gairdner Foundation partnered with the Royal Canadian Institute for Science (RCIScience), Ontario Genomics and TO Health! to present a public lecture featuring a conversation between Professor George Church of Harvard Medical School, Dr. Steven Scherer, Director of The Centre for Applied Genomics at The Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto and Dr. Reinhart Reithmeier, Professor of Biochemistry at the University of Toronto and Chair of RCIScience.

The conversation featured discussions of Prof. Church's work, including creating the first, direct genome sequence, helping initiate the human genome project, and more recently, copying the DNA of an extinct species into a living one. The group also discussed the ethical concerns, challenges and potential of CRISPR.

Brain Bites: Hunger, Hypothalamus and Mosquitos

July 26, 2019

University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta

Attendance: 215

Distinguished Speakers: Dr. Laura Duvall, Columbia University; Dr. Scott Sternson, Howard Hughes Medical Institute, Janelia Farm

You and your DNA

November 6, 2019

Calgary, Alberta

Attendance: 98

Featuring: Dr. Francois Bernier presents on how a little saliva can help you unravel the mystery of your past and your future.

How did we get here?

Public Lecture as part of McMaster Symposium

November 14, 2019

Hamilton, Ontario

Attendance: 150 in-person and 150 on webcast

Distinguished Speakers:

Maryn McKenna, Journalist and Author of Beating Back the Devil, Superbug and Plucked (Big Chicken)
What happens when antibiotics stop working?

Professor Stephanie Strathdee, University of California San Diego and Author of The Prefect Predator
How I saved my husband's life – with sewage

GAIRDNER THANKS ITS 2019 SUPPORTERS

The Gairdner Foundation is grateful for the generous support of its partners without whom our programming would not be possible.



Harry & Evelyn Rosen
Burroughs Wellcome Fund
University Health Network

Power Corporation of
Canada
Western University

University of Toronto
OICR

THE YEAR AHEAD: OBJECTIVES FOR 2020

The Gairdner Foundation is committed to continuously reviewing and improving its programming to ensure we are always providing engaging, meaningful programs for our audiences and the Canadian public at large. In addition to its ongoing self-evaluation, in 2020 Gairdner will deliver a strategic plan outlining our short and long-term priorities.

Note: This report was written during the COVID-19 global pandemic. As a result of the pandemic, many of Gairdner's program delivery methods will be changing but our core mission will remain the same.

Performance Goals for 2020

1. Increase the reach and caliber of the National and Student Outreach Program

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused many of Gairdner's programs to be re-vamped and moved to a completely digital platform. This is an opportunity for Gairdner to reach a wider, more diverse audience and to more easily engage international speakers. Programming in 2020 will look different than it has in past but Gairdner is confident that our changes will enhance our programs while still delivering on our core mission.

2. Provide additional public-specific programming and materials

Gairdner will build off its success in past years to provide enhanced programming for the public including webcasted lectures, public lectures and accessible content on social media. As a result of COVID-19, many of Gairdner's programs will become completely digital providing an opportunity to reach larger, more diverse audiences.

3. Increase the impact of Gairdner Foundation activities on Canadian science and society

Gairdner will implement a strategic plan to deliver on its mission based around three strategic themes: the Awards Program, the Talent Development program and the Convening Leaders program.

Now more than ever, it is important to emphasize the need to support fundamental science in the service of improving human health and the economy. Building on its reputation for excellence, Gairdner seeks to use its convening power to enhance the development of the next generation of Canadian researchers and provide trusted sources of scientific information for the public and other stakeholders.

4. Secure strategic partnerships that support Gairdner's programming and goals and raise its public profile

Gairdner will expand its partnerships to include additional organizations, outside of the health science field to increase our brand recognition and impact.

5. Continue to increase the number, quality and diversity of nominations

Gairdner will build on its momentum from the last few years and proactively seek nominations from around the globe to increase the diversity of our nominations. Gairdner will engage in strategic partnerships to encourage nominations, promote the nominations process at all its international receptions and continue to engage in outreach to increase the volume of nominations it receives in 2020.

6. Host international symposia to promote Gairdner abroad on annual basis

Gairdner will plan an international symposium that brings value to the global health discussion worldwide. As a result of COVID-19, we expect that this symposium will take place virtually.

GOVERNANCE

The Gairdner Foundation is governed by a 14-member Board of Directors. The Board is comprised of individuals with expertise from the academic, private and public sectors. Directors are nominated and appointed for a maximum term of 3 years, renewable 2 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 goals. 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. In 2019, the Board met three times

Board of Directors

Heather Munroe-Blum

Board Chair (effective May 2019)
Vice-Chair (January-May 2019)
Chair, Canada Pension Plan Investment
Board & Principal Emeritus, McGill University
Montreal, QC

Dr. D. Lorne Tyrrell (term expired May 2019)
Board Chair (January-May 2019)
Director, Li Ka Shing Institute of Virology
Edmonton, AB

George Cooper

Former Member of Parliament
Halifax, NS

Darren Entwistle

President & CEO, TELUS
Vancouver, BC

A.J. Gairdner (effective May 2019)

Director, Institutional Equity Trading, Scotia
Bank
Toronto, ON

Brandt C. Louie

Chairman and CEO, H.Y. Louie Co. Limited
Chair, London Drugs Limited
Vancouver, BC

Ann McCaig (term expired May 2019)

Chancellor Emeritus, University of Calgary
Calgary, AB

Dr. Calvin Stiller

Emeritus Professor, Western University
London, ON

Connie Sugiyama

President, ConMark Strategy Inc.
Toronto, ON

Michael Horgan

Vice-Chair (effective May 2019)
Senior Advisor, Bennett Jones LLP
Former Deputy Minister, Finance
Ottawa, ON

Elizabeth Cannon (effective May 2019)

President Emerita & Professor, University of
Calgary
Calgary, AB

Dr. Victor Dzau

President, US National Academy of Medicine
North Carolina, USA

Bren Gairdner (term expired May 2019)

Director
Calgary, AB

Mark Lievonon

Former President, Sanofi Pasteur Limited
Stouffville, ON

Dr. Eric Newell (term expired May 2019)

Chancellor Emeritus, University of Alberta
Edmonton, AB

John Risley

Chairman & President,
Clearwater Fine Foods Inc.
Chester, NS

Melissa Todd

Director
Waterloo, ON

John Upton

Director
Vancouver, BC

Standing Committees of the Board of Directors		
Standing Committee	Members	Number of meetings/year
Executive Committee	Heather Munroe-Blum, Chair Michael Horgan, Vice Chair George Cooper Calvin Stiller Melissa Todd	As required
Audit Committee	Mark Lievonen, Chair Elizabeth Cannon A.J. Gairdner Michael Horgan Melissa Todd John Upton	2-3
Investment Committee	Brandt C. Louie, Chair George Cooper Victor Dzau Cal Stiller Connie Sugiyama	4
Governance and Nominating Committee	Michael Horgan, Chair Elizabeth Cannon A.J. Gairdner Call Stiller John Upton	2
Fundraising Committee	John Risley, Chair George Cooper Darren Entwistle Heather Munroe-Blum	4

2018/2019 Gairdner Foundation Committees (For selection of 2019 Laureates)

Medical Review Panel

Lea Harrington (Co-Chair)

Professor, Department of Medicine,
Université de Montréal; Visiting Professor,
Wellcome Trust, University of Edinburgh;
Montréal, QC

Jeffrey Weitz (Co-Chair)

Executive Director, Thrombosis &
Atherosclerosis Research Institute, McMaster
University, Hamilton, ON

Sonia Anand

Professor, Department of Medicine,
McMaster University, Hamilton, ON

David Andrews

Director, Biological Sciences, Sunnybrook
Research Institute, Toronto, ON

Steffany Bennett

Professor, Department of Biochemistry,
Microbiology and Immunology, University of
Ottawa, Ottawa, ON

Ben Blencowe

Professor, Department of Molecular Genetics,
University of Toronto, Toronto, ON

Jacques Côté

Professor, Dept. of Molecular Biology,
Medical Biochemistry & Pathology, Université
Laval, Québec City, QC

Daniel Durocher

Senior Investigator, Samuel Lunenfeld
Research Institute, Mount Sinai Hospital,
Toronto, ON

Anne-Claude Gingras

Senior Investigator, Lunenfeld-Tanenbaum
Research Institute, Toronto, ON

John R. Gordon

Co-chair, Immunology Research Group,
University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, SK

Gillian Hawker

Sir John and Lady Eaton Professor & Chair,
Department of Medicine, University of
Toronto, Toronto, ON

Geoff Hicks

Director, Regenerative Medicine, Manitoba
Institute of Cell Biology, University of
Manitoba, Winnipeg, MB

Nada Jabado

Professor, Department of Pediatrics, McGill
University, Montreal, QC

Pauline Johnson

Professor, Department of Microbiology &
Immunology, University of British Columbia,
Vancouver, BC

Stephen Jones

Associate Director & Head, Bioinformatics,
Genome Sciences Centre, British Columbia
Cancer Research Centre, Vancouver, BC

Sheena Josselyn

Senior Scientist, Neurosciences & Mental
Health, Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto,
ON

Lisa Kalynchuk

Vice-President Research, University of
Victoria, Victoria, BC

Dale Laird

Professor & Canada Research Chair in Gap
Junctions and Disease, Schulich School of
Medicine, University of Western Ontario,
London, ON

Paola Marcato

Assistant Professor, Department of
Pathology, Dalhousie University, Halifax, NS

Tim Murphy

Professor, Department of Psychiatry,
University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC

Brad Nelson

Director and Distinguished Scientist, Deeley
Research Centre, BC Cancer Research
Centre
Vancouver, BC

Rulan Parekh

Clinician Scientist & Professor of Medicine
and Paediatrics, University of Toronto, The
Hospital for Sick Children & University Health
Network, Toronto, ON

Lynne-Marie Postovit

Co-Director, Basic Research, Cancer Research Institute of Northern Alberta, University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB

Michel Tremblay

Professor, Department of Biochemistry, McGill University, Montréal, QC

Gerry Wright

Professor, Biochemistry and Biomedical Sciences; Director, Michael G. DeGroote Institute for Infectious Disease Research, McMaster University, Hamilton, ON

Terry-Lynn Young

Associate Professor, Faculty of Medicine Genetics, Memorial University, St. John's, NL

Gerald Zamponi

Professor, Cumming School of Medicine, University of Calgary, Calgary, AB

Peter Zandstra

Professor, Donnelly Centre for Cellular & Biomolecular Research, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON

Medical Advisory Board**Janet Rossant, Chair**

President and Scientific Director, Gairdner Foundation, Toronto, ON

Lea Harrington, Co-Chair, MRP

Professor, Department of Medicine, Université de Montréal; Visiting Professor, Wellcome Trust, University of Edinburgh; Montréal, QC

Jeffrey Weitz, Co-Chair, MRP

Executive Director, Thrombosis & Atherosclerosis Research Institute, McMaster University, Hamilton, ON

Adrian Bird

Buchanan Chair of Genetics, University of Edinburgh, Director, Wellcome Trust Centre for Cell Biology, Edinburgh, UK

Michel Bouvier

Professor, Biochemistry and Molecular Medicine, Principal investigator, Institute for Research in Immunology and Cancer, Université de Montréal, Montréal, QC

Doreen Cantrell

Wellcome Trust Principal Research Fellow, School of Life Sciences, University of Dundee, Dundee, UK

Pascale Cossart

Distinguished Professor, Institut Pasteur, Paris, France

Anne Ephrussi

Head, Developmental Biology Unit, European Molecular Biology Laboratory, Heidelberg, Germany

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Jan Hoeijmakers

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President, J. Craig Venter Institute, La Jolla, CA

Yi Rao

Founding Director, McGovern Institute for Brain Research, Peking University, Beijing, China

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Professor, Department of Molecular & Cell Biology, University of California Berkeley, Berkeley, CA

Steven Scott

GSK Chair in Neuroscience, Centre for Neuroscience Studies, Queen's University, Kingston, ON

Jim Woodgett

Director, Lunenfeld-Tanenbaum Research Institute, Mt. Sinai Hospital, Toronto, ON

Richard Wozniak

Professor, Department of Cell Biology, University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB

Wightman Award Advisory Committee**Janet Rossant, Chair**

President and Scientific Director, The Gairdner Foundation, Toronto, ON

Alistair Buchan

Dean of Medicine & Professor of Stroke Medicine, University of Oxford, Oxford, UK

Marie-Josée Hebert

Vice-Rector of Research, Discovery, Creation and Innovation, Université de Montréal, Montréal, QC

John Hepburn

Vice President Research, CIFAR, Toronto, ON; Vancouver, BC

Rémi Quirion

Chief Scientist Officer, Fonds de recherche du Québec, Montréal, QC

Molly Shoichet

Professor, Chemical Engineering & Applied Chemistry, Chemistry and Biomaterials, and Biomedical Engineering, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON

Zena Werb

Professor and Vice-Chair, Department of Anatomy, University of California San Francisco, San Francisco CA

L. Trevor Young

Dean, Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON

Global Health Award Advisory Committee**Alan Bernstein (Chair)**

President, CIFAR, Toronto, ON

Margaret Bentley

Carla Smith Chamblee Distinguished Professor, Gillings School of Global Public Health, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC

Christian Bréchet

President, Global Virus Network (GVN), Paris, France

Roger Glass

Director, Fogarty International Center, National Institutes of Health, Baltimore, MD

Glenda Gray

President, South African Medical Research Council, Johannesburg, South Africa

Kiyoshi Kurokawa

Professor, National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies, Tokyo, Japan

Rose Leke

Emeritus Professor of Immunology and Parasitology, Faculty of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences of the Université de Yaoundé, Yaoundé, Cameroon

Nubia Munoz

Emeritus Professor, National Cancer Institute of Colombia, Lyon, France

Peter Piot

Director of the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine School, and Professor of Global Health, London, UK

K. Srinath Reddy

President, Public Health Foundation of India, Delhi, India

Stephanie Strathdee

Associate Dean, Global Health Sciences, Harold Simon Professor, Chief, Division of Global Public Health, University of California, San Diego, CA

2019 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's financial statements which appears at the end of this report.

In 2008, the Foundation received a \$20 Million fund from the Federal government for the purpose of supporting and enhancing the Gairdner International Awards Program. The income from the fund can be used to fund the Foundations' activities, but the capital must be preserved so long as the agreement continues.

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.

In 2019 the Foundation also received annual income from direct grants from CIHR and Québec, as well as a variety of sponsors and donors.

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 35% fixed income, 50% equity and 15% alternative strategies was approved by the Board in early 2016. The IPS was reviewed and updated in 2019, however the asset allocation targets remained unchanged. This remains a very conservative portfolio. The portfolio held 32% cash/fixed income, 51% equities and 17% alternatives at December 31, 2019 and is in compliance with the investment policy statement.

The investment portfolio increased from \$31.6 million at the end of 2018 to \$33.5 million at the end of 2019. Returns for 2019 were \$3.3m representing 10.7% net of fees versus the benchmark of 11.3% before fees for a similar weighted portfolio. The annualised rate of return since inception is 5.5% net of fees, compared to the benchmark of 6.2% gross of fees.

The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in general economic decline which has had a negative valuation impact on Gairdner's investment portfolio in 2020. While many of Gairdner's program delivery methods will be changing as a result of the pandemic, the core mission will remain the same and Gairdner expects to be able to maintain its core operations for 2020. Gairdner's Investment committee and Investment advisors continue to monitor the impact on the portfolio closely.

Results of Operations

Revenue for the year totaled \$3.4 million, comprised of \$0.9 million from non-government sources and gala table sales (26% compared to 40% in 2018), \$1.7 million from government sources (51% compared to 72% in 2018), and \$0.8 million from investment income (23% compared to -12% in 2018).

Revenue increased by \$0.7 million over 2018 as a result of an increase in investment income of \$1.1m and a decrease in contributions and sponsorships, table sales and government grants of \$0.4million. Most notably, in 2019, the Ontario Government Grant was not renewed.

Expenditures were \$2.9 million for the year, in line with 2018 expenditures.

Compliance

The Foundation is compliant with all the terms of the agreement with CIHR, dated March 28, 2008.

GAIRDNER FOUNDATION STAFF AS OF DECEMBER 2019

Dr. Janet Rossant, President & Scientific Director

Sommer Wedlock, Vice President & Director, Communications

Catherine Rogers, Financial Accountant

Penny Balberman, Director of Finance

Sarah Devonshire, Senior Project Manager

Paige O'Beirne, Manager, Fund Development & Communications

Kelty Reid, Advisor, Communications and Fund Development

Inna Shepelska, Administrative Program and Finance Assistant

Gairdner employs six full-time employees and two part-time employees.

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, 2019, compensation for senior officers was:

Dr. Janet Rossant , President & Scientific Director	\$200,000
Sommer Wedlock , Vice President & Director of Communications	\$103,851

The Gairdner Foundation

Financial statements

December 31, 2019

Independent auditor's report

To the Members of
The Gairdner Foundation

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of **The Gairdner Foundation** [the "Foundation"], which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2019, and the statement of operations, statement of changes in net assets and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Foundation as at December 31, 2019, and its results of operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements* section of our report. We are independent of the Foundation in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of management and those charged with governance for the financial statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian generally accepted 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.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Foundation's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Foundation or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Foundation's financial reporting process.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.



As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit 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 Foundation's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Foundation's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Foundation to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure, and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Toronto, Canada
May 12, 2020

Ernst & Young LLP

Chartered Professional Accountants
Licensed Public Accountants



The Gairdner Foundation

Statement of financial position

As at December 31

	2019	2018
	\$	\$
Assets		
Current		
Cash	249,269	255,365
Accounts receivable	45,097	171,360
Prepaid expenses	81,881	75,314
Total current assets	376,247	502,039
Investments, fair value <i>[note 3]</i>	33,493,392	31,561,235
Capital assets, net <i>[note 4]</i>	7,129	9,737
	33,876,768	32,073,011
Liabilities and net assets		
Current		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	471,913	594,355
Total current liabilities	471,913	594,355
Federal government funding <i>[note 5]</i>	23,502,753	22,158,160
Alberta government funding <i>[note 6]</i>	2,255,143	2,173,290
Total liabilities	26,229,809	24,925,805
Commitments <i>[note 8]</i>		
Net assets		
Unrestricted	500,000	500,000
Internally restricted <i>[note 7]</i>	7,146,959	6,647,206
Total net assets	7,646,959	7,147,206
	33,876,768	32,073,011

See accompanying notes

On behalf of the Board:

Director

Director

The Gairdner Foundation

Statement of operations

Year ended December 31

	2019	2018
	\$	\$
Revenue		
Investment income (loss) <i>[note 3]</i>		
Interest and dividends	142,702	114,475
Realized gain on investments	255,708	377,799
Net increase in unrealized gain (loss) on investments	358,328	(807,653)
	756,738	(315,379)
Federal government grant funding <i>[note 5]</i>	1,001,489	909,568
Alberta government grant funding <i>[note 6]</i>	148,252	162,053
Other government grants	572,574	826,552
Table sales	433,227	490,000
Other contributions and sponsorships	440,920	548,964
	3,353,200	2,621,758
Expenses		
Awards	700,000	700,000
National events	834,867	853,997
Advisory boards	222,409	220,832
Marketing and communications	146,347	178,363
Administrative	949,824	960,596
	2,853,447	2,913,788
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses for the year	499,753	(292,030)

See accompanying notes

The Gairdner Foundation

Statement of changes in net assets

Year ended December 31

	2019		
	Unrestricted	Internally restricted	Total
	\$	\$	\$
	<i>[note 7]</i>		
Balance, beginning of year	500,000	6,647,206	7,147,206
Excess of revenue over expenses for the year	499,753	—	499,753
Interfund transfer <i>[note 7]</i>	(499,753)	499,753	—
Balance, end of year	500,000	7,146,959	7,646,959

	2018		
	Unrestricted	Internally restricted	Total
	\$	\$	\$
	<i>[note 7]</i>		
Balance, beginning of year	500,000	6,939,236	7,439,236
Deficiency of revenue over expenses for the year	(292,030)	—	(292,030)
Interfund transfer <i>[note 7]</i>	292,030	(292,030)	—
Balance, end of year	500,000	6,647,206	7,147,206

See accompanying notes

The Gairdner Foundation

Statement of cash flows

Year ended December 31

	2019	2018
	\$	\$
Operating activities		
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses for the year	499,753	(292,030)
Add (deduct) items not involving cash		
Amortization of capital assets	6,733	9,907
Investment loss (income)	(756,738)	315,379
Government funding recognized as revenue	(1,149,741)	(1,071,621)
	(1,399,993)	(1,038,365)
Changes in non-cash working capital balances related to operations		
Accounts receivable	126,263	(43,891)
Prepaid expenses	(6,567)	(27,349)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(122,442)	(113,242)
Cash used in operating activities	(1,402,739)	(1,222,847)
Investing activities		
Purchase of capital assets	(4,125)	(7,203)
Net withdrawal from investments held by third parties	1,400,768	1,305,045
Cash provided by investing activities	1,396,643	1,297,842
Net (decrease) increase in cash during the year	(6,096)	74,995
Cash, beginning of year	255,365	180,370
Cash, end of year	249,269	255,365

See accompanying notes

The Gairdner Foundation

Notes to financial statements

December 31, 2019

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) 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.

All transactions are recorded on a trade date basis.

Other financial instruments, including accounts receivable, 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.

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.

The Gairdner Foundation

Notes to financial statements

December 31, 2019

Rates and methods of amortization are as follows:

Office equipment	5 years straight-line
Computer equipment	3 years straight-line
Leasehold improvements	Term of lease straight-line

Capital assets are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value of an asset may not contribute to the Foundation's ability to provide goods and services. Any impairment results in a write-down of the asset and an expense in the statement of operations. An impairment loss is not reversed if the fair value of the related asset subsequently increases.

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 revenue 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 as at the statement of financial position date. Non-monetary assets and liabilities are translated at the historical 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).

Contributed materials and services

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

The Gairdner Foundation

Notes to financial statements

December 31, 2019

New accounting standards

During the year, the Foundation adopted the new accounting standards *Section 4433, Tangible Capital Assets*, and *Section 4434, Intangible Capital Assets* as of January 1, 2019. *Section 4433, Tangible Capital Assets* replaces the previous *Section 4431, Tangible Capital Assets* and provides additional guidance on contributed assets and the write-down [partial impairment] of assets. *Section 4434, Intangible Capital Assets* replaces the previous *Section 4432, Intangible Capital Assets* and provides additional guidance on contributed assets and the write-down [partial impairment] of assets. The changes did not have any impact on these financial statements.

3. Investments

Investments consist of the following:

	2019		2018	
	\$	%	\$	%
Cash and cash equivalents	622,007	1.9	621,235	2.0
Bonds				
Canadian	7,915,093	23.6	7,767,000	24.6
International	2,078,024	6.2	2,364,000	7.5
Equities				
Canadian	5,299,062	15.8	4,840,000	15.3
US	5,460,064	16.3	6,027,000	19.1
Other international	6,378,075	19.1	5,167,000	16.4
Hedge funds	5,741,067	17.1	4,775,000	15.1
	33,493,392	100.0	31,561,235	100.0

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

As at December 31, 2019, bonds have an average term to maturity of 6.0 years [2018 – 4.7 years] and a weighted average yield of 2.9% [2018 – 3.10%].

The Gairdner Foundation

Notes to financial statements

December 31, 2019

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

	2019	2018
	\$	\$
Interest and dividends	814,423	705,133
Realized gain on investments	1,126,224	1,724,999
Net increase (decrease) in unrealized gain on investments	1,578,196	(3,687,676)
Total investment income (loss)	3,518,843	(1,257,544)
Less safekeeping and investment management expenses	(185,918)	(182,452)
Investment income (loss), net of safekeeping and investment management expenses	3,332,925	(1,439,996)
Add (deduct) investment income (loss) related to		
Federal government funding [note 5]	(2,346,082)	1,021,229
Alberta government funding [note 6]	(230,105)	103,388
Investment income (loss) recognized in revenue	756,738	(315,379)

4. Capital assets

Capital assets consist of the following:

	2019		
	Cost	Accumulated amortization	Net book value
	\$	\$	\$
Computer equipment	23,708	17,735	5,973
Office equipment	23,357	22,201	1,156
Leasehold improvements	6,870	6,870	—
	53,935	46,806	7,129

	2018		
	Cost	Accumulated amortization	Net book value
	\$	\$	\$
Computer equipment	24,114	16,477	7,637
Office equipment	25,568	24,130	1,438
Leasehold improvements	6,870	6,208	662
	56,552	46,815	9,737

During the year ended December 31, 2019, amortized assets with a total cost of \$6,742 [2018 – nil] and accumulated amortization of \$6,724 [2018 – nil] were written off.

The Gairdner Foundation

Notes to financial statements

December 31, 2019

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:

	2019 \$	2018 \$
Balance, beginning of year	22,158,160	24,088,957
Interest and dividends	442,412	370,679
Realized gain on investments	792,761	1,223,350
Net increase (decrease) in unrealized gain on investments	1,110,909	(2,615,258)
Investment income (loss) for the year <i>[note 3]</i>	2,346,082	(1,021,229)
Amount recognized as revenue	(1,001,489)	(909,568)
Balance, end of year	23,502,753	22,158,160

As at December 31, 2019, the amount available for spending in future years is \$3,049,149 [2018 – \$2,815,465].

6. Alberta government funding

The Foundation received \$2,000,000 from the Alberta government in 2008 for the purpose of expanding the Alberta Gairdner Outreach Program. 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 Gairdner Foundation

Notes to financial statements

December 31, 2019

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

	2019 \$	2018 \$
Balance, beginning of year	2,173,290	2,438,730
Interest and dividends	43,391	37,527
Realized gain on investments	77,755	123,850
Net increase (decrease) in unrealized gain on investments	108,959	(264,765)
Investment income (loss) for the year <i>[note 3]</i>	230,105	(103,388)
Amount recognized as revenue	(148,252)	(162,052)
Balance, end of year	2,255,143	2,173,290

As at December 31, 2019, the amount available for spending in future years is \$207,229 [2018 – \$234,334].

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 2019, the Board of Directors approved an interfund transfer from unrestricted to internally restricted net assets of \$499,753. In 2018, the Board of Directors approved an interfund transfer from internally restricted to unrestricted net assets of \$292,030. 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.

8. Commitments

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

	\$
2020	81,000
2021	81,000
2022	81,000
2023	81,000
2024	40,500
	364,500

The Gairdner Foundation

Notes to financial statements

December 31, 2019

9. Financial instruments

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

Currency risk

The Foundation is exposed to 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.

10. Subsequent events

The ongoing Coronavirus disease ["COVID-19"] pandemic has resulted in governments worldwide enacting emergency measures to combat the spread of the virus. These measures have caused material disruption to businesses globally resulting in an economic slowdown.

To the extent program costs decline due to the pandemic, the Foundation will experience a corresponding reduction in funding recognized [notes 5 and 6]. Permitted administrative expenses will continue to be funded and the Foundation can implement various measures to reduce unfunded expenses. While the general economic decline has had a negative valuation impact on the Foundation's investment portfolio, the Foundation expects to be able to maintain its core operations associated with the Canada Gairdner Awards intact.