

8:30 AM – 10:00 AM PDT, Thursday, July 30, 2020, Via Zoom

Summary of Meeting Notes

Introduction on CBRS

- Funding for CBRS marks a recognition of the entity. The CBRS is not a funding agency.
- Funding for CBRS further formalizes Canada's presence in International Brain Initiative, which brings together 7 initiatives across the world (US, EU, China, Korea, Japan, Australia, Canada). Everyone is encouraged to visit IBI's website.

Staffing and goals

- Funding allows the CBRS to build a Secretariat that will drive CBRS forward. The funding will support initially an Executive Director, Communications Specialist, Knowledge Translation Specialist, and Cultural Diversity Research Assistant.
- Staff will support the CBRS operate, develop documents that it can use to encourage funders, and propose new ways of conducting neuroscience in a more collaborative function in Canada.

Organizational structure - Year 1

- The CBRS structure will be similar to IBI. There will be a Secretariat; a Steering Committee; and a Conference of Neuroscience Leaders. Akin to IBI, CBRS proposes to create an Early Career Researchers Collective, Funders Collective (i.e., representatives from funding agencies) and a Stakeholders Collective (i.e., neurological organizations), to allow different stakeholders to interact with Neuroscience Leaders, and build a large consensus to encourage our funders and investors for brain research.
- CBRS aims to bring more ECR voices to the discussion. CBRS will organize an ECR workshop (to be led by Dr. Caroline Menard) in August 2020, and build on the next steps for CBRS from that discussion.
- The vision and mission of CBRS will be shaped by scientists and, at arm's length, by funders and other decision makers. CBRS aims to get a cluster together, while making sure diversity (e.g., communities, gender) is well represented.
- The CBRS website (www.canadianbrain.ca) will be updated continuously.
- CBRS values transparency and will publish consensus, slides, and notes from meetings.
- The grant has initially budgeted for travel and meetings. Due to the current events, there is now an opportunity to allot these funds for other initiatives. More details to follow.

Commitment of Research Leaders

- CBRS is asking Leaders to **commit** to disseminating communication materials and being responsive to CBRS requests and surveys.
- It is important that Leaders (and/or their designates) connect with their constituents by sharing information and/or announcements to ensure that CBRS communication materials fully reach the Canadian community. CBRS will be sending surveys and will need the Leaders' active engagement and ask them to be prompt to these requests in the future.

Steering Committee and International Advisory Board (IAB)

- Leaders are invited to send their comments, suggestions, and their interest in the Steering Committee.
- Suggestions and comments about the CBRS IAB from the Leaders are also invited. We will consider drawing IAB members from the IBI.

Commitment to EDI, cultural diversity, and best practices

- The CBRS is fully committed to meeting the goals of EDI.
- Recognizing CBRS' commitment to best practices, the Executive Director (Secretariat) will also be tasked to generate Terms of Reference for key roles: e.g., Research Leaders, CBRS Support, Professional Conduct.
- There will be a full-time Research Assistant within the CBRS to help identify the depth of diversity of neuroscience program in Canada and how it can build capacity in this domain.

Next steps

Early Career Researchers (ECR) Collective

- Dr. Menard will be working to make sure there is a balanced representation in groups for the ECR Workshop. The idea is to start with a smaller group of ECRs that will share relevant information about CBRS to their ECR communities.
- The purpose of the ECR Workshop will be to discuss what the CBRS is and concerns among ECRs in the current climate (i.e., funding struggles, competitions being cancelled/postponed, publication issues, and communication).

Stakeholders Collective

CBRS will organize a Stakeholders meeting soon, with the assistance of Ms. Deanna Groetzing (i.e., inviting relevant Stakeholders, NHCC leaders/representatives).

Funders Collective

CBRS will build a Funders Collective further down the agenda.

CBRS Retreat

CBRS will host a retreat to brainstorm (e.g., CBRS Mission, goals, working groups, monthly meetings) and decide the next milestones for CBRS. Retreat details will be shared later.

Additional thoughts

- One of the goals is to also do a landscape canvas of who is doing research and how in Canada.
- In Spring, we would like to work with CAN to identify how the CBRS can best connect with ministers/politicians about priorities. Good influence and visibility are key.

Research Leaders action items:

- Forward recommendations for the Executive Director position.
- Send comments, suggestions, and/or interest for the CBRS Steering Committee.
- Share suggestions and comments about the CBRS IAB.
- Send information to Marianne Bacani (bacanim@mail.ubc.ca) for EDI and ECR diversity ideas.
- Share Terms of Reference to CBRS for relevant groups.

Program Leaders* action items:

** Yves de Koninck, Judy Illes, Caroline Menard*

- Forward open job descriptions to Leaders for sharing and social media posting.
- Revisit the mission statement and draft a table that contrasts CBRS vs. other initiatives.
- Update the 4-page CBRS Summary Document that Leaders can disseminate to their constituents.
- Host a meeting where IBI Leads will present to CBRS Research Leaders.
- Host an EDI-focused workshop.

List of Meeting Participants

Program Leaders

- Yves de Koninck, PhD, Professor, Laval University
- Judy Illes, CM, PhD, Professor, University of British Columbia
- Caroline Menard, PhD, Assistant Professor, Laval University

Research Leaders

- Chris Anderson, PhD, Professor, University of Manitoba
- Charles Bourque, PhD, FCAHS, FRSC, Professor, McGill University
- Patricia Conrod, PhD, Professor, University of Montreal
- John Douglas Crawford, PhD, Professor, York University
- Alan C. Evans, PhD, Professor, McGill University
- Deanna Groetzing, MA, Manager, Neurological Health Charities Canada
- Michiru Hirasawa, PhD, DVM, Professor, Memorial University
- André Longtin, PhD, Professor, University of Ottawa
- Brian MacVicar, PhD, FRSC, FCAHS, Professor, University of British Columbia
- Ravi S. Menon, PhD, FCAHS, FRSC, Professor, Western University
- Doug Munoz, PhD, Professor, Queen's University
- Keith K. Murai, PhD, Professor, McGill University
- David Park, PhD, FRSC, Professor, University of Calgary
- Victor Rafuse, PhD, Professor, Dalhousie University
- Lynn A. Raymond, MD, PhD, Professor, University of British Columbia
- Lisa M. Saksida, PhD, Professor, Western University
- Michael Salter, MD, PhD, FRSC, Professor, University of Toronto
- Allison Sekuler, PhD, Professor, University of Toronto
- Etienne Sibille, PhD, Professor, University of Toronto
- Karun K. Singh, PhD, Associate Professor, University of Toronto
- Ruth Slack, PhD, Professor, University of Ottawa
- Peter Szatmari, MD, MSc, FRCPS, Professor, University of Toronto
- Changiz Taghibiglou, PharmD, PhD, Associate Professor, University of Saskatchewan
- Gustavo Turecki, MD, PhD, Professor, McGill University
- Douglas W. Zochodne, MD, FRCPC, Professor, University of Alberta