

Dear CBRS community,

You are receiving this newsletter because you are either a Research Leader, Early Career Researcher, Stakeholder in CBRS, or you have recently taken part in CBRS events.

As we do not currently have a comprehensive list of all parties interested in engaging with the CBRS, we urge you to share this newsletter within your respective networks and encourage you and yours to subscribe to our mailing list.

As CBRS moves forwards, we wish to do so with Canadian voices at the forefront, so please do not hesitate to reach out to us if you have any questions or concerns,

On to the Newsletter: – Ashley Lawson

CANADIAN BRAIN RESEARCH STRATEGY

STRATÉGIE CANADIENNE DE RECHERCHE SUR LE CERVEAU

CBRS RETREAT – 12/03/2020

CONTENTS

- CBRS Retreat
- EDI Update
- 2020 Overview
- Stakeholder's & Funder's Collective Updates
- Upcoming Events
- Recent Publications
- Connect with us

QUICK LINKS

CBRS Updates

- [Retreat](#)
- [Meeting with the PCNEC group](#)
- [EDI meeting](#)
- [ECR workshops](#)
- [Leadership & NHCC council meeting](#)
- [Meeting of the CBRS leaders](#)
- [CIHR Grant](#)

Stay Connected

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Executive Summary

We convened the Conference of Research Leaders, nominated Early Career Researchers, and invited stakeholders, to discuss CBRS operations, hear from keynote speakers on multidisciplinary neuroscience and open science. We gained their insights on Canadian Neuroscience on the global scale to inform the future programmatic priorities of the CBRS. Key themes discussed for CBRS Years 1 and 2 are commitments to openness, collaboration, diversity, interdisciplinarity, and open science. We thank all who participated and look forward to engagement with many other stakeholders over the coming year.

Résumé Exécutif

Nous avons réuni la Conférence des directeurs d'instituts et de programmes de recherche, des chercheurs en début de carrière nommés par ces directeurs et invité des parties prenantes à discuter du fonctionnement de la SCRC, à entendre des conférenciers pléniers discuter de neurosciences multidisciplinaires et de science ouverte. Nous avons recueilli leurs points de vue sur le positionnement des neurosciences canadiennes sur l'échiquier mondial afin d'orienter les priorités programmatiques de la SCRC. Les principaux thèmes abordés pour les années 1 et 2 de la SCRC portent sur des engagements en faveur de l'ouverture, de la collaboration, de la diversité, de l'interdisciplinarité et de la science ouverte. Nous vous remercions tous et nous nous réjouissons à l'idée d'entreprendre des échanges avec d'autres intervenants au cours de l'année qui vient.

[Full retreat notes](#)

EDI UPDATES

We have now concluded one of the largest surveys on equity, diversity and inclusion in the Canadian neuroscience community to date. The survey garnered over 800 responses from across Canada. We would like to thank the Research Leaders and Early Career Researchers for circulating the survey in their networks and all participants for contributing to this effort. The methodology of top down dispersal allowed for a far higher response rate than otherwise possible, and without it we would not have achieved the wealth of data that we now possess. The engagement of peers and community members in this initiative demonstrates the importance of having a map of the neuroscience landscape for all of CBRS priorities and strategies.

Our excellent cultural diversity research assistant, Cate Marra, is currently analyzing the full array of results. We will release findings on canadianbrain.ca as soon as they are available.

CANADIAN BRAIN RESEARCH STRATEGY 2020 OVERVIEW



[HTTPS://CANADIANBRAIN.CA/HISTORY/](https://canadianbrain.ca/history/)

STAKEHOLDER'S AND FUNDER'S COLLECTIVE UPDATES

Neurological Health Charities Canada (NHCC) conducted a survey at three points during the pandemic in 2020 to assess the impact of COVID-19 on Canadians affected by brain conditions and on brain health charities, some of their high level findings are outlined below.

High level results show that there has been an overall negative impact on clients in terms of access to healthcare in terms of physician, hospital and community access. While access is improving in part thanks to virtual health care, patient report that online services can be difficult for those with cognitive issues to use.

"It has been harder for clients that don't have internet access ...some clients feel lost now and miss their friends and family members."

As for organizations, revenues continue to be negatively impacted and as a result organizations have been forced to cut services for clients, lay off staff, and reduce or eliminate research funding. Fundraising attempts have been severely affected by COVID-19, with many events reduced or outright cancelled. Though virtual events have been ongoing, they are not as successful as walks, runs, or galas, and they have not raised as much money.

"Lack of fundraising and capacity, but still massive expectations on services are going to put charities on the defence...This builds silos...at the detriment of the patient/client population."

Read the full November survey report [here](#)

In light of these developments the CBRS urges you to share your support for continued and increased neuroscience funding with the Government of Canada.

You can voice your support by completing the questionnaire at:

<https://letstalkbudget2021.ca/>

Be sure to select "other" specify "neuroscience" for each relevant question, including Question 5 regarding budget.

CONNECT WITH US

Thank you for your support of the Canadian Brain Research Strategy. The CBRS welcomes your feedback and any comments you would like to share.

For Events and Publications to be featured in the next Newsletter, please send your submission directly to ashley.lawson@canadianbrain.ca for consideration. Articles with a high relevance to the community at large will be prioritized.

If you have any highlights to share, questions, or suggestions for the next newsletter please contact us at info@canadianbrain.ca. You can also reach out to us via our social media.

Please [subscribe](#) to receive future event invites, newsletters, and updates

UPCOMING EVENTS

A brief selection of articles and papers relevant to the Canadian Neuroscience Community. We would like to feature submissions from CBRS members in this section in the future, see "Connect with us" for more information.

The Government of Canada has opened consultations for funding in 2021. Active now. Add your voice [here](#)

14th Canadian Association for Neuroscience (CAN-CAN) meeting, Vancouver, BC. August 22-25th 2021, more info [here](#)

Brain Awareness Week - Annual Distinguished Neuroethics Lecture. March 16th, 2021, more info [here](#)

The 7th Annual BRAIN initiative Investigators Meeting (virtual). June 15-17th 2021 more info [here](#)

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

A brief selection of articles and papers relevant to the Canadian Neuroscience Community. We would like to feature submissions from CBRS members in this section in the future, see "Connect with us" for more information.

International Brain Initiative: An Innovative Framework for Coordinated Global Brain Research Efforts ([link](#))

Canadian Brain Research Strategy: Transforming the Future Through Brain Science ([link](#))

Canada's Excellence in Neuroscience Research ([link](#))

Rural and Remote Communities: Unique Ethical Issues in the COVID-19 Pandemic ([link](#))

This Is Your Brain On COVID: What Happens Inside Our Heads During Troubling Times ([link](#))

Neuroethical and Societal Challenges of 21st Century Epidemics ([link](#))

