Towards a Canadian Brain Research Initiative
BRAIN SCIENCE LEADERS

Alan Evans (Canadian Open Neuroscience Platform, Healthy Brains for Healthy Lives CFREF, McGill Centre for Integrative Neuroscience, McGill University)
Allison Sekuler* (Rotman Research Institute, Baycrest, Centre for Aging + Brain Health Innovation, University of Toronto, McMaster University)
André Longtin (Centre for Neural Dynamics, University of Ottawa)
Aristotle Voineskos (The Centre for Addiction and Mental Health)
Arlette Kolta (Centre Interdisciplinaire de Recherche sur le Cerveau et l’Apprentissage, Université de Montréal)
Chris Anderson (Brain and Cognitive Sciences, University of Manitoba)
David Park (Hotchkiss Brain Institute, University of Calgary)
Donald Mabbott (Neurosciences and Mental Health, SickKids Research Institute, University of Toronto)
Doug Crawford (Connected Minds CFREF, Vision: Science to Applications CFREF, York University)
Doug Munoz (Queen’s University)
Keith Murai* (Centre for Research in Neuroscience, Brain Repair and Integrative Neuroscience Program, Montreal General Hospital, McGill University Health Centre)
Lisa Saksida (BrainsCAN CFREF, Azrieli Program in Brain, Mind & Consciousness CIFAR, Western University)
Lynn Raymond* (Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health, University of British Columbia)
Matthew Holahan (Department of Neuroscience, Carleton University)
Melanie Woodin (Faculty of Arts & Science, University of Toronto)
Michiru Hirakawa* (Neuroscience Program, Memorial University)
Oury Monchi (Canadian Open Parkinson Network, Centre de Recherche de l’Institut Universitaire de Gériatrie de Montréal, Université de Montréal)
Patricia Conrad (Stratégie en neurosciences et santé mentale de l’Université de Montréal)
Randy McIntosh (Institute for Neuroscience and Neurotechnology, Simon Fraser University)
Robert Sutherland (Canadian Centre for Behavioural Neuroscience, University of Lethbridge)
Ruth Slack (Brain-Heart Interconnectome CFREF, Brain Mind Research Institute, University of Ottawa)
Shawn Whitehead (Western Institute for Neuroscience, Western University)
Victor Raftse* (Brain Repair Centre, Dalhousie University)
Yoshua Bengio (Montreal Institute for Learning Algorithms, Institut de valorisation des données CFREF, Learning in Machines and Brains CIFAR, Université de Montréal)
Yves De Koninck* (Chair, CBRS Steering Committee, Sentinel North CFREF, CERVO Research Centre, Quebec Integrated University Health and Social Services Centre, Université Laval)

EARLY-MID CAREER RESEARCHER LEADERS

Caroline Ménard* (Early Career Researcher Cluster Lead; Université Laval)
Derya Sargin* (University of Calgary)
Tabrez Siddiqui* (Manitoba Neuroscience Network, University of Manitoba)

INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGES HOLDERS GROUP

Bryce Mercredi (Elder, Métis Nation)
Chelsea Gabel (Métis Nation, McMaster University)
Christopher Mushquash (Pays Plat First Nation, Lakehead University)
Malcolm King* (Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, University of Saskatchewan)
Melissa Perreault (Métis Nation, University of Guelph)

PATIENT REPRESENTATIVES

Laura Dickson* (Neurological Health Charities of Canada)

CBRS SECRETARIAT

Andrew Manitowabi (Mamaateshiins) (Indigenous Initiatives Lead)
Jennie Z. Young* (Executive Director)
Lindsay Borthwick (Science Communications Lead)

*CBRS Steering Committee
The Canadian Brain Research Strategy: A Focus on Early Career Researchers

Caroline Menard, Tabrez J. Siddiqui, Derya Sargin, Ashley Lawson, Yves De Koninck, Judy Illes

1. Accelerate understanding and treatment of brain and mental health challenges
2. Foster collaboration and technology sharing among Canadian researchers
3. Train transdisciplinary researchers for future brain research
4. Establish targets for strategic, coordinated investment in neuroscience and mental health
5. Cultivate international collaborations for impactful initiatives
Towards a Canadian Brain Research Initiative
Strategy Timeline
The building of the Canadian Brain Research Strategy

Meeting of CBRS leaders
2020-07-31
A meeting of Research leaders of CBRS was held virtually on July 30th, 2020. It was an opportunity to discuss and define the direction of the CBRS for the coming year. Meeting notes are available here. List of Meeting Participants, Program Leaders Yves de Koninck, PhD, Professor, Laval University. Judy...
Read more

$1.5 million to develop a Canadian brain research strategy
2020-06-18
Press release A pan-Canadian team of researchers has secured a $1.5 million grant from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research to develop a strategy to position the advancement of knowledge about the brain as a national research priority and support the creation of the Canadian Brain Research Strategy Network. This...
Read more
Strategy Timeline

The building of the Canadian Brain Research Strategy

CBRS Early Career Researcher Workshop 2
2020-09-02
List of Meeting Participants: Program Leaders Dr. Yves de Koninck, Laval University Dr. Judy Illies, University of British Columbia Dr. Caroline Menard, Laval University Early Career Researchers Mark Brandon, McGill University Blake Butler, Western University Craig Chapman, University of Alberta Katrina Y. Choe, McMaster University Jonathon Ditlev, SickKids Jodi Edwards, ...

CBRS Early Career Researchers Workshop 1
2020-08-27
Meeting participants: Program Leaders Dr. Yves de Koninck, Laval University Dr. Judy Illies, University of British Columbia Dr. Caroline Menard, Laval University Dr. Rose Bagot, McGill University Dr. Corey Baron, Western University Dr. Mark Cembrowski, University of British Columbia Dr. Annie Ciernia, University of British Columbia Dr. Tamara Franklin, ...

ECR Position Paper
Menard et al, 2021
Can J Neurol Sci.
Strategy Timeline

The building of the Canadian Brain Research Strategy

Researcher Roundtables To Shape The National Strategy
2022-05-21

We convened more than 150 neuroscience and mental health researchers across the country in a series of virtual roundtable discussions last fall and in May 2022 to brainstorm a framework for a national strategy for brain research. Participants came from various career stages (from trainees to full professors) and trajectories...

Read more
Strategy Timeline

The building of the Canadian Brain Research Strategy

Lived Experience Sessions To Shape The National Strategy

2022-06-24

CBRS held a series of Lived Experience Sessions in May-June 2022 with people with lived experience (PWLE) to discuss emerging themes for how to improve brain research in Canada and to gain their input on the development of the national strategy. CBRS received an overwhelming 161 applications from across Canada...

Read more
Strategy Timeline

The building of the Canadian Brain Research Strategy

Indigenous Engagement To Shape The National Strategy

2023-03-10

Over the past 8 months, CBRS Indigenous Initiatives has been actively engaging with Indigenous perspectives to ensure their voices are central in shaping Canada's national brain research strategy. Recognizing the historical silencing of Indigenous voices within colonial structures, CBRS acknowledges the importance of amplifying Indigenous perspectives to enrich brain research...

Read more

Two-Eyed Seeing Through Compound Eyes

Indigenous Initiatives Virtual Workshop

- **Cross-Cultural Engagement**: A collective journey with researchers, institutions, health organizations, research funders, and Indigenous community members.
- **Aim**: To initiate dialogue on developing relationships and concrete solutions for brain health research with Indigenous Peoples.
- **Two dynamic sessions**:  
  1. Brain Health Research Through an Indigenous Lens  
  2. Co-Creating the Future of Indigenous Brain Health Research

Thursday, January 18th, 2024
10:30am – 1:00pm PT / 1:30pm – 4:00pm ET

https://canadianbrain.ca/strategy-timeline/
Strategy Timeline
The building of the Canadian Brain Research Strategy

2021 CBRS Research Funders’ Roundtable
2021-10-25
CBRS held a Research Funders’ Roundtable with the aim of connecting funders of brain research to articulate shared needs and vision, as well as to explore synergistic collaborations in shaping the national strategy for brain research. The meeting, held virtually over Zoom, convened 21 heads of organizations funding neuroscience and...
Read more

Over $350 Million in Current Funding for 1,400+ Grants and Awards to Brain Research

Responses from 18 Funding Organizations
- Current Programs
- Planned Programs
- Interested to Learn More

https://canadianbrain.ca(strategy-timeline)
A National Research Strategy for Brain and Mental Health Brought to You by
Time to Give Canada The Brain Initiative it Deserves

- **ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE**
  
  *Pan-Canadian AI Strategy (2017, 2021)*
  
  $566 million over 10 years

- **QUANTUM TECHNOLOGIES**
  
  *National Quantum Strategy (2022)*
  
  $360 million over 7 years

- **BIOMANUFACTURING**
  
  *Biomanufacturing and Life Sciences Strategy (2022)*
  
  $2.2 billion over 7 years
Canada’s Own Brain Initiative

**Talent Development**
- Supporting and training new generations of scientists and highly qualified personnel (HQP): grad students, postdocs, PIs, research technicians, research associates and other technical and research personnel.

**Research Infrastructure**
- Supporting new and existing pan-Canadian with stable, predictable funding to ensure effective collaboration and access across research centers and institutes.

*Menard et al, 2021*  
*Can J Neurol Sci.*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Brief (PDF)</th>
<th>Published on</th>
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<tr>
<td>Canadian Association for Neuroscience</td>
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<td>Monday, February 20, 2023 at 8:55 a.m. (EST)</td>
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<td>Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada</td>
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<td>Friday, February 3, 2023 at 9:11 a.m. (EST)</td>
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<td>Multiple Sclerosis Society of Canada</td>
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<td>Monday, January 9, 2023 at 10:53 a.m. (EST)</td>
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<td>Dystonia Medical Research Foundation</td>
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<td>Monday, January 9, 2023 at 8:06 a.m. (EST)</td>
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<td>Canadian Brain Research Strategy</td>
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<td>Tuesday, January 31, 2023</td>
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<td>Canadian Concussion Network</td>
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<td>Wednesday, February 1, 2023 at 11:22 a.m. (EST)</td>
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<td>Hydrocephalus Canada</td>
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<td>Monday, January 9, 2023 at 10:47 a.m. (EST)</td>
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<td>Brain Canada Foundation</td>
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<td>Friday, December 16, 2022 at 11:24 a.m. (EST)</td>
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<td>Centre for Aging + Brain Health Innovation</td>
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<td>Thursday, February 9, 2023 at 2:37 p.m. (EST)</td>
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<td>Institute for Advancements in Mental Health</td>
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<td>Neurological Health Charities Canada</td>
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<td>Thursday, December 15, 2022 at 7:59 a.m. (EST)</td>
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<td>Ontario Brain Institute</td>
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<td>Tuesday, February 7, 2023 at 10:54 a.m. (EST)</td>
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<td>Cancer Research Society</td>
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<td>Monday, January 9, 2023 at 8:17 a.m. (EST)</td>
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<td>Brain Injury Canada</td>
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**International Moonshot Programs**

**Witnesses**
- Canadian Brain Research Strategy
  - Jennie Z. Young, Executive Director
- Université de Sherbrooke
  - Alexandre Blais, Scientific Director and Professor, Institut quantique (by videoconference)
Brain Awareness Week

KEY VOICES IN BRAIN HEALTH AND RESEARCH OFFER STRATEGY TO CEMENT CANADIAN LEADERSHIP

Canadian researchers are world leaders in many areas of neuroscience and mental health at a time when the explosion in knowledge about the brain is setting the stage for dramatic breakthroughs. At the same time, Canadian excellence alone is not enough to ensure the nation remains on the leading edge of brain research. Years of chronic underfunding of R&D and the absence of a co-ordinating targeted national strategy mean that Canada’s ability to keep up with brain-related advances is at risk.

A broad coalition of Canadian organizations involved in all aspects of brain health and research is proposing a solution to this challenge: the Canadian Brain Research Strategy (CBRS) – an innovative approach to brain-research investments designed to build on Canadian strengths and help Canada remain competitive globally.

“Data on the brain is accumulating at an unprecedented rate, and with new tools like AI, the world is on the verge of a new era in brain science,” says Dr. Jennie Z. Young, executive director of CBRS. “For Canada to seize this opportunity, we need a holistic approach to brain health and research, one that covers the entire lifespan and recognizes the interconnectedness of brain disorders.”

Canada has national strategies overarching national strategy.” The coalition members who came together to develop the strategy include university research centres across the country, research funding agencies, charitable health organizations, patient advocacy organizations, to operate at their full potential with a healthy brain. We need to recognize that our brains are like a natural resource that needs to be supported and developed to build a more productive and healthier society.”

Invest in the brain and mental well-being of all Canadians

Join our united front for brain and mental health research across Canada

Learn more at canadianbrain.ca
Parliamentary Health Research Caucus

Research Canada Annual General Meeting – June 12th, 2024

Empowering Future Generations: Early Detection and Intervention in Youth Mental Health Care

Hon. Dr. Helena Jaczek
MP (Markham—Stouffville)
Chair

Dr. Stephen Ellis
MP (Cumberland—Colchester)
Vice-Chair

Ms. Carol Hughes
MP (Algoma—Manitoulin—Kapuskasing)
Vice-Chair

Hon. Mohamed-Iqbal Ravalia
Senator (Newfoundland and Labrador)
Senate Representative
The Canadian Science Policy Centre (CSPC) is a non-profit, non-partisan, and non-advocate organization established in 2009. Over the past decade, the centre has built Canada’s largest and most diverse science and innovation policy community.

The Centre is known to be at the forefront of science policy discussions, pioneering new insights and horizons in science policy to the Canadian science policy community.

Timely and significant topics of discussion at recent conferences include:

• Science Diplomacy
• Evidence-Based Decision Making
• Pandemic and National Emergencies (held in Fall 2019)

https://sciencepolicy.ca/about-cspc/
Brain Research: The cornerstone for Canada's future social-economic wealth

Health Policy Symposium on November 13th, 2023, from 8am – 12pm
Editorial Suite on Brain Health and Research
- Summer 2024

Opinion, commentary, and critique from members of the science and innovation policy community.

CSPC editorial series address timely and emerging issues in science policy, providing in-depth insights and analysis.
CBRS presents: Half-Day Symposium on the Role of Science Policy in Brain Health and Research
November 20th, 2024 | Ottawa, Ontario

CSPC2023: 1000+ Participants
Bureaucrats & Parliamentarians
Academic Leaders
Private and Non-Profit Sectors
Panel Presentations and Interactive Workshop
Federal Funding of Research

- **Federal Agencies**
  
  Grants Programs: CIHR, NSERC, SSHRC, CFI, fellowships

- **Third Party Research Funding Organizations**
  
  Grants Programs

- **National Strategies**
  
  Ecosystem-Building: AI, Quantum, Biomanufacturing
Federal Funding of Research

✓ **FEDERAL AGENCIES**

*Grants Programs: CIHR, NSERC, SSHRC, CFI, fellowships*
Federal Funding of Research

✓ **FEDERAL AGENCIES**
  
  Grants Programs: CIHR, NSERC, SSHRC, CFI, fellowships

✓ **THIRD PARTY RESEARCH FUNDING ORGANIZATIONS**
  
  Grants Programs
Federal Funding of Research

✓ **Federal Agencies**
  
  Grants Programs: CIHR, NSERC, SSHRC, CFI, fellowships

✓ **Third Party Research Funding Organizations**
  
  Grants Programs

➢ **National Strategies**
  
  Ecosystem-Building: AI, Quantum, Biomanufacturing
Towards a Canadian Brain Research Initiative
Towards a Brain Initiative for Canada

Advocacy Training: Virtual Workshop

- Understand the government decision-making processes
- Develop effective communication strategies for diverse audiences
- Access customizable advocacy materials and resources
- Practical skills session with professional science communicators

Researchers at all career stages are welcome! No prior experience required!

Thank YOU

Advocacy Training Workshop