

October 26, 2022



CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF ALBERTA CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL



Research is Care. Care is Research.

We are sharing the pride, vision and excitement for all that our research community has and will continue to achieve in the years to come.

GLOBAL TV ACH100 INTERVIEW

As part of the 100 year-celebration, Global News interviewed ACHRI member **Dr. Paul Beaudry** about the some of the greatest achievements and advancements he has seen over the years in Pediatric Surgery at ACH.



"Some of the most remarkable things we have achieved have to do with minimally invasive surgery. Technology and specialized equipment has enhanced the things that we can see and do in the operating room allowing us to do really complicated operations through very small incisions. This speeds recovery, positively impacting patients and families." says Dr. Beaudry. [Watch the full interview](#)

CONNECT WITH US

We invite you to share your stories of research excellence as we celebrate the Alberta Children's Hospital **100 years of hope + healing**.

Researchers and Trainees, please email fiona.mackenzie@ucalgary.ca to set up a short interview. Stories will be shared in the newsletter and across social platforms throughout 2022.

MEMBER AWARD



Announcing the 2022 Royal-Mach-Gaensslen Prize winner, Dr. Sheri Madigan!



"Through her visionary research and dynamic partnerships, Dr. Madigan has the potential to change the landscape of mental health care for children. Her research will continue to empower clinicians in creating tangible and evidence-based paths forward for children with mental health needs and their families." - Dr. Florence Dzierszinski, president of the University of Ottawa Institute of Mental Health Research at The Royal

We are proud to share that **Dr. Sheri Madigan** is the 2022 recipient of **The Royal-Mach-Gaensslen Prize for Mental Health Research**, which recognizes outstanding mental health researchers enabling future exploration and discovery.

Through partnerships with clinicians and community organizations, Dr. Madigan aims to bridge the gap between research and care with a special focus on the social environments and contexts that shape children's mental health. Her work seeks to uncover and better understand the root causes of mental health challenges in

children, including parental mental health, pandemic impacts, experiences of adversity, and more. Dr. Madigan's research also examines the resilience factors that buffer children from developing mental illness, such as receiving support from caregivers, teachers, or community members.

"Now more than ever, it is so important to use research as a catalyst for informing clinical care, as well as improving mental health and treatment outcomes for children." says Dr. Madigan. [Read more.](#)

NEW ACHRI MEMBERS

ACHRI is welcoming several news members! In the next few newsletters we will introduce you to each of them.

DR. MERILEE BROCKWAY



Welcome to **Dr. Merilee Brockway** a clinician scientist working with human milk, lactation and the breast/chest feeding population. Dr. Brockway's research focuses on advancing donor human milk (DHM) as a clinical intervention targeted at achieving beneficial microbiome composition and informing future healthy child outcomes of infants who experience vulnerability through adverse early life exposures to the microbiome. Dr. Brockway conducts patient-oriented clinical trials that bridge existing evidence of DHM with the microbiome and child health outcomes. [View profile.](#)

DR. SARA MACEACHERN



Welcome to **Dr. Sara MacEachern** who has joined the Child Brain & Mental Health Program. Dr. MacEachern's program of research focuses on children with neurodevelopmental disabilities (NDDs). Her research aims to improve our understanding, diagnosis, care, and treatment of children with NDDs, in particular children who have severe behaviours of concern (meltdowns, violent outbursts, self-harm, etc) with the goal of improving the quality of life of children with NDDs and their families. [View profile.](#)

FAMILY VIOLENCE DURING PANDEMIC

A study led by **Dr. Nicole Letourneau** published in eClinicalMedicine found that incidences of family violence increased during the pandemic,

globally. Dr. Letourneau and team say self-reported studies of community households show a rise in family violence which may have occurred due to the restrictions increasing many risks for heavily impacted families. The study found that health systems worldwide need to adopt approaches to preventing family violence, including treating victims in the context of public health restrictions and increasing training for digital service usage for health and educational professionals.



Dr. Letourneau identifies factors such as parental stress, burnout, mental distress such as depression, comfort in discussing and managing COVID-19 measures, perceived social isolation, financial and occupational losses and employment changes as all contributing to family violence. [Read more.](#)

INSTITUTE OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT, CHILD AND YOUTH HEALTH COMMUNITY EVENT



Thursday, November 3, 2022

3:30 - 5:15 pm

HRIC Atrium, Foothills Campus

This community event is designed for ACHRI members and trainees to connect with CIHR IHDCYH Institute Advisory Board Members.

Register and Program

*** New Registration Deadline: Thursday, October 27, 2022**

RESEARCH FUNDING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congratulations to **Drs. Laura Sycuro, Davide Martino** and ACHRI Trainee **Dr. Ramon Cortez** on receiving a research grant from the Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation of Canada. The grant, titled **Contribution of the gut microbiome to symptoms spanning distinct neurodevelopmental disorders in children** is helping fund the continuation of a cross-diagnostic study of how the microbiome influences symptoms of neurodevelopmental disorders in children – this study was launched by an Owerko Catalyst award Dr. Martino received in 2020.

Congratulations to **Dr. Aru Narendran** and team on receiving the Robert C. Westbury Award in Melanoma Research for the project titled: **“Biology and novel therapeutics development for rare neurocutaneous melanosis-associated brain tumors in**

children". This award will support the development of novel treatments and protocols for kids with melanosis-associated brain tumours. This work brings hope to families and aims to improve the quality of life and wellbeing for patients with these types of cancers.

CANDY CANE GALA

Candy Cane Gala is back in person!

The **Alberta Children's Hospital Foundation** invites you, your family and friends to attend this much-loved evening filled with dining, dancing and boundless entertainment for all ages. With your generous support for innovative research and care, the sky's the limit for sick and injured children in our community.

Reserve your table today!



2022 CHILD HEALTH AND WELLNESS RESEARCH RETREAT



ACHRI members, research staff and trainees are invited to learn about each other's work across Child Health and Wellness programs and Grand Challenge areas.

2022 Child Health and Wellness Research Retreat

Thursday, December 15, 8 am - 9:30 pm

Friday, December 16, 8:30 am - 1 pm

MacEwan Ballroom and Hall, UCalgary

- **Register to attend by December 7**
- **Trainee Video/Presentation Submissions by December 2**
- **Retreat Program**

BIOSTATISTICAL CONSULTING

The Alberta Children's Hospital Research Institute is pleased to announce the addition of Dr. Grace Kwong as Biostatistics Consultant.

To help shape the biostatistical services going forward, we'd like to hear from you about your research, barriers and/or areas in which you could benefit from biostatistics capacity building. We are holding engagement sessions throughout the month of November.

Who: Clinician Investigators at the Alberta Children's Hospital
What: Engagement sessions to discuss ideas for biostatistics support
Where: Sessions offered in person in ACH room C4-522, also offered via Zoom
When: Various dates and times in Nov. outside clinic hours
Why: To help inform the development of capacity building resources such as training and reference materials in the areas of greatest need

Sign up here: [ACHRI - Biostatistics Support: Clinical investigators Engagement Meeting \(signupgenius.com\)](#)

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Operating Grant: Diabetes, Psychosocial Health, Prevention and Self-Management

This program supports research that builds on successful models of care, knowledge mobilization, and optimization of self-management for T1D and T2D.

Deadline: Thursday, October 27, 2022 (RSO Internal)

[Details](#)

UCalgary Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Scholarship in Health and Medical Education Funding Competition

This program supports research and innovation that advances our knowledge and understanding of EDI and/or Indigenous health issues in health and/or medical education, and ultimately results in improved outcomes.

Deadline: Monday, October 31, 2022 (LOI)

[Details](#)

CIHR THINC Implementation Science Team Grant

This opportunity aims to improve our understanding of how to implement, evaluate, adapt and/or scale evidence-informed integrated care and intervention policies. These policies should encompass intersectoral collaborations within and/or beyond the formal health care delivery system.

Deadline: Thursday, November 24, 2022 (RSO Internal)

[Details](#)

Azrieli Accelerator Catalyst Grants

This opportunity supports new, transdisciplinary research related to neurodevelopment, neurodevelopmental conditions and/or neurodiversity.

Deadline: Thursday, December 1, 2022

[Details](#)

Genome Canada: Genomic Applications Partnership Program (GAPP) - Round 25

This opportunity funds downstream research and development projects driven by challenges and opportunities identified by end-users such as industry, government, not-for-profits, or other receptor organizations. This is an ongoing competition.

Deadline: Monday, December 12, 2022 (EOI)

[Details](#)

SSHRC Knowledge Synthesis Grant: Shifting Dynamics of Privilege and Marginalization

With additional funding from Genome Canada, this program aims to foster a deeper understanding of the state of knowledge about the shifting dynamics of privilege and marginalization brought about by a variety of factors, such as old and recent socio-political events; new technologies, including genomics; the new mis/information age; and the COVID-19 pandemic.

Deadline: Monday, December 12, 2022

[Details](#)

Visit ACHRI [website](#) for funding opportunities.

TRAINEE FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

ENRICH masters thesis and doctoral salary awards for Indigenous and Black scholars

This program supports Black and Indigenous doctoral or masters (thesis based) students conducting research in perinatal and child health and well-being.

Deadline: Tuesday, November 1, 2022

[Details](#)

Eyes High Postdoctoral Match-Funding Program (Fall 2022)

This program awards partial salary support for postdocs who will be highly competitive for external awards and will help advance UCalgary's strategic research and innovation plan.

Deadline: Friday, November 4, 2022 (Sponsor Application Deadline)

[Details](#)

Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation: Young Investigator Award

This award supports early career researchers pursuing promising childhood cancer research ideas and who demonstrate a commitment to a research career in pediatric cancer. A mentor is required, and a career development plan must be included.

Deadline: Friday, December 7, 2022

[Details](#)

Visit ACHRI [website](#) for trainee funding opportunities.

If you haven't done so please complete the [ACHRI Trainee Registration Form](#).

EVENTS AND SEMINARS

Snyder Institute and CFD Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Subcommittee

Neurodiversity Education Series: Neurodiversity in Academic and Medicine

Wednesday, October 26, 2022

3 - 4 pm

Jess Lopez, Neurodiversity Support Advisor

Gurvir Rai, Medical Student at CSM

[Register](#)

**Calgary Adapted Hub Research and Community Engagement Seminar
Disentangling the Association Between Physical Activity and Mental Health in
Youth with Neurodevelopmental Disabilities**

Thursday, October 27, 2022

12 - 1 pm

Dr. Carly McMorris

[Register](#)

Youth Mental Health: Innovations in the Canadian and International Landscape

Friday, October 28, 2022

8 am - 5:30 pm

Drs. Michelle Munson, Christopher Mushquash, Srividya Iyer

[Register](#)

ATTACH Webinar Series

The State of the Art and Science of Research Coproduction

Friday, October 28, 2022

12 - 1 pm

Dr. Ian Graham

[Register](#)

Child Health and Wellness Seminar

**Neurodevelopment and Neurodegeneration Go Hand in Hand: A Neural Stem Cell
Perspective**

Monday, October 31, 2022

8:30 - 9:30 am

Dr. Anastassia Voronova

[Register](#)

Owerko Neurodevelopmental Clinical Rounds

The Limits of Labels: Using Neuroethics to Reimagine Developmental

Wednesday, November 2, 2022

12 - 1 pm

Dr. W. Ben Gibbard

[Register](#)

Women and Children's Health Research Institute

**Examining the Psychosocial and Health Service Impacts of the COVID-19
Pandemic on Children with Health Challenges**

Wednesday, November 2, 2022

12:30 - 1:30 pm

Dr. David Nicholas

[Register](#)

Navigating DORA: The Evolution of Research Assessments and the Responsible Use of Metrics

Monday, November 14, 2022

12 - 1 pm

Dr. Vincent Lariviere

[Register](#)

Youth Digital Storytelling Screening: My Life. My Story.

Friday, November 18, 2022 & Saturday, November 19, 2022

10:30 am - 3:00 pm

[Register](#)

Child Health and Wellness Special Seminar

Replication Repair Deficiency: Translating Science to Clinics Using the Power of a Global Consortium

Thursday, November 24, 2022

8:30 - 9:30 am

Dr. Anirban Das

[Register](#)

For all events visit the [ACHRI calendar](#).

SEND US YOUR NEWS!

Please send discoveries, research publications, and grants to Fiona Mackenzie at r4k@ucalgary.ca

Visit us:
research4kids.ucalgary.ca

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