

Annual Report 2017-2018



PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Over the last year, your CHRS Executive and all committee members have worked hard to achieve many of the important goals we had set in our five-year strategic plan. I want to express my gratitude to all of you for your input to make CHRS "your" organization and a better one!

Over the next few months, you will see many changes in the way we communicate with you. We heard your voice! We created a Member Communications Committee to review and implement your suggestions. Modernization of our communication tools and improvement in our capability to interact and exchange information that matters to you were a priority. A completely new website will be launch soon! Over the next year we will add more material, teaching tools, webcasts, meetings information, committee reports, research achievements and publications, CHRS awards and much more. CHRS will also be present on Twitter to inform you. Follow us @CHRS_SCR.

We secured funding for the Georges Mines Fellowship for the next 2 years. This is important to help our colleagues training in top centers across the world to come back to Canada with new or improved skills.

All committees have been active and we thank all committee chairs for their sustained work. We reviewed the membership of all committees and made

sure we had Allied Health Professional and member in training representation. We invite all CHRS members who are interested to contact us to participate on those committees.

We were present with symposiums and lectures in many national and international meetings.

Knowledge translation is important and part of our mission. The CHRS Annual Meeting in collaboration with the CANet meeting was a success this year and we look forward to see you next year in Montreal. Your feedback on every session is essential to align our topics to your needs.

In this report, you will find all awardees for this year. Congratulations to all. Attend the Canadian Cardiovascular Congress (CCC) in October to see all the symposiums, lectures, and abstracts from CHRS members. Look for the CHRS/CCS Guideline presentation on ventricular tachycardia management. CHRS also recently endorsed the "CCS/CHRS Joint Position Statement on the Cardiovascular Screening of Competitive Athletes" that will be published later this year.

This is my last president's report. Thanks to all collaborators and colleagues for their support during this 2-year mandate. Dr. John Sapp is your next president and I wish him all the best. CHRS is a dynamic and growing organization but never forget that it is YOUR organization and we need to hear from you.

Special thanks to Sara Faubert, Affiliate Program Manager/CCS and to all CCS representatives. Without their dedicated work, our Society would not be operative and moving forward so well.

Durant la dernière année, votre exécutif et tous les membres des différents comités ont travaillé assidument pour mettre en pratique les recommandations prévues dans notre dernière planification stratégique de 5 ans. Je tiens à exprimer toute ma gratitude à tous ceux impliqués au sein de la SCR et qui en font une organisation dynamique et meilleure!

Soyez à l'affut durant les prochains mois, vous verrez plusieurs changements dans notre façon de communiquer avec vous. Nous vous avons entendu! Nous avons créé un comité centré sur les communications pour actualiser vos suggestions. La priorité étant de moderniser nos outils de communication et de transfert de l'information. Un tout nouveau site Internet sera lancé sous peu! Durant la prochaine année nous ajouterons des fonctionnalités pour répondre à vos besoins tels : outils d'enseignement, diffusions Web, rapports de comités, activités aux congrès majeurs, publications des membres et plus encore. Votre SCR sera également présente sur Twitter pour vous informer.

Nous avons sécurisé le financement pour la bourse Georges Mines pour les deux prochaines années. Ce support est important pour les collègues qui iront se former dans les meilleurs centres à l'étranger pour rapporter des connaissances nouvelles.

Tous les comités de la SCR ont été très actifs cette année et nous remercions les présidents de comités pour leur implication. Nous avons revu la composition des comités pour s'assurer d'une bonne représentation des professionnels associés en santé et des membres en formation. Nous invitons tous les membres de la SCR qui seraient intéressés à participer aux différents comités de nous contacter.

Nos membres ont présenté plusieurs symposiums et résumés de recherche dans les différents congrès nationaux et internationaux. Le transfert des connaissances est une mission importante pour nous. Le congrès annuel de la SCR conjointement avec CANet a été un succès cette année et on anticipe positivement la réunion annuelle l'année prochaine à Montréal.

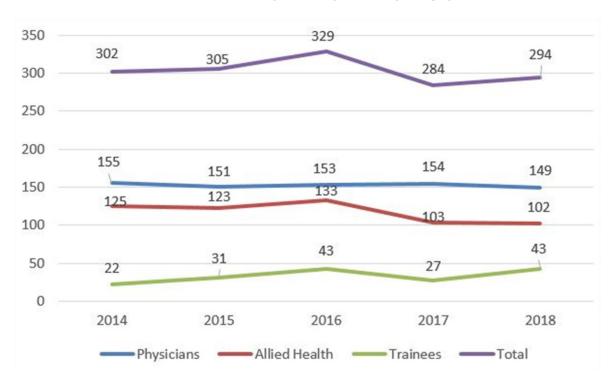
À la lecture de ce rapport annuel, vous y trouverez tous les méritants de cette année. Félicitations à tous. Visitez le congrès annuel de la SCC en octobre et vous y verrez plusieurs présentations de vos membres. En particulier, vous y trouverez la présentation du guide de pratique CCS/CHRS concernant le management de la tachycardie ventriculaire. La SCR a récemment approuvé une prise de position sur le screening cardiovasculaire des athlètes qui sera présenté dans la prochaine année.

Mon mandat de deux ans se termine! Ce sera mon dernier rapport annuel. Le Dr John Sapp prendra la relève et je lui souhaite un excellent mandat. La SCR est dynamique et en croissance mais n'oubliez pas que c'est VOTRE organisation et que nous avons besoin de vous entendre!

Un merci particulier à Sara Faubert, coordinatrice de la SCC et aux représentants de la SCC sans qui la SCR ne pourrait fonctionner et grandir.

Dr. François Philippon CHRS President, 2016-2018

MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS



2017-2018 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President:	François Philippon				
President Elect:	John Sapp				
Past President:	L. Brent Mitchell				
Secretary:	Christopher Gray				
Treasurer:	Bernard Thibault				
Member at Large:	Marc Deyell				
Pediatric Representative:	Joseph Atallah				
Allied Health Representative:	Jacqueline Forman				
MIT Representative	William McIntyre				
Annual Meeting Planning Committee Chair:	Benedict Glover				
Research Committee Chair:	Jeff Healey				
Device Committee Chair:	Laurence Sterns				
Education Committee Chair:	Matthew Bennett				
Ablation Committee Chair:	Eugene Crystal				
Nominations and Awards Committee Chair:	L. Brent Mitchell				
Member Communications Committee Chair:	Peter Leong-Sit				

CHRS would like to thank outgoing Board member, **Dr. L. Brent Mitchell**, for all his time and effort. Dr. Mitchell has served three consecutive terms as President Elect, President and Past President.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Canadian Heart Rhythm Society Société canadienne de rythmologie Statement of Operations

For the year ended March 31, 2018

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2018 AWARDS

HIGHEST RATED ELECTROPHYSIOLOGY ABSTRACT BY A TRAINEE

CHRS is pleased to provide this year's award to

Abhishek Padmanabhan Bhaskaran

for the submission

"SPATIAL DISCREPANCY BETWEEN EPICARDIAL EXIT SITES AND ENDOCARDIAL CRITICAL SITES IN HUMAN ISCHEMIC SCAR VT-IMPLICATIONS FOR NON-INVASIVE ABLATION".

MAGDY BASTA AWARD

The Magdy Basta Award was created in 2017 to recognize a CHRS member who has made great efforts to support the research of others. This could be through mentoring; enrollment in clinical trials, research education; grant assistance or other things that someone has done to forward Canadian research, without obvious benefit for themselves.

CHRS is pleased to provide this year's award to

Félix Ayala-Paredes

WATCH FOR THE CALL FOR 2019 GEORGE MINES TRAVELLING FELLOWSHIP APPLICATIONS!



CHRS AGM, Vancouver 2017



CCS Awards Ceremony, Vancouver 2017



CHRS AGM, Vancouver 2017

GEORGE MINES TRAVELLING FELLOWSHIP

The George Mines Travelling Fellowship, funded by St. Jude Medical and Bayer Inc., provides recognition to outstanding Canadian arrhythmia specialists in order to provide a reliable supply of future Canadian leaders in our field. The fellowship comes with a sum of \$60,000 in support of academic training abroad.

CHRS is proud to announce this year's recipient: Martin Aguilar.

Dr. Aguilar has accepted a clinical fellowship in the Clinical Cardiac Electrophysiology Fellowship program at Brigham and Women's Hospital.

2018 ANNUAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD DR. STANLEY NATTEL



Dr. Stanley Nattel is the Paul-David Chair in Cardiovascular Electrophysiology at the University of Montreal, and Director of the Electrophysiology Research Program at the Montreal Heart Institute (MHI). He's also Editor-in-Chief of the Canadian Journal of Cardiology, and Associate Editor of Cardiovascular Research.

His work is seminal in the area of atrial fibrillation (AF) physiology and pathophysiology, launching the contemporary understanding of AF mechanisms. Dr. Nattel's research focuses on clinically-relevant mechanisms of cardiac bioelectricity; particularly cardiac remodeling, ion channel molecular physiology and mechanistically-based therapeutic targeting.

"In the late 1980s at the MHI, I realized AF was a problem of great clinical importance. It was understudied at the basic level because it wasn't as dramatic as ventricular tachyarrhythmia, which occupied about 95% of basic research. I decided to focus my lab on AF. I was able to develop a multidisciplinary approach including sophisticated methods at the in vivo, cellular, theoretical and even clinical levels."

Dr. Nattel has since helped a generation of physicians, cardiologists and scientists to better understand and treat arrhythmias, particularly AF.

"My greatest hope is that we'll learn to tame, prevent, and control AF in the large number of patients who remain inadequately controlled with present clinical methods," he says.

Over his career, he has marvelled at the evolution of clinical cardiology – "nothing short of revolutionary" – and remains excited about what's next. "Cardiology is an area in which the scientific advances have been not only enormous but eminently applicable to patient care. The future promises to hold even more astounding breakthroughs."



Be sure to check out Dr. Stanley Nattel's, Editor-in-Chief of the Canadian Journal of Cardiology (CJC), top article picks published in the CJC over the past year:

Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillator Implantation Rates After Out of Hospital Cardiac Arrest: Are the Rates Guideline-Concordant?

Ho EC, Cheskes S, Angaran P, Morrison LJ, Aves T, Zhan C, Ko DT, Dorian P; Rescu Epistry Investigators. **Can J Cardiol.** 2017 Oct;33(10):1266-1273.

Characterization of Low-Voltage Areas in Patients With Atrial Fibrillation: Insights From High-Density Intracardiac Mapping.

Nery PB, Al Dawood W, Nair GM, Redpath CJ, Sadek MM, Chen L, Green MS, Wells G, Birnie DH. Can J Cardiol. 2018 Aug;34(8):1033-1040.

Dr. Benedict Glover Annual Meeting Planning Committee Chair

ANNUAL MEETING REPORT

The Canadian Heart Rhythm Society's 6th Annual Meeting was held in Ottawa, ON from September 14-15, 2018. The theme for this year's meeting was Complex Mapping and Innovation in Cardiac Arrhythmias.

This meeting is growing every year in both numbers of individuals and the disciplines involved. We are extremely proud to have welcomed some of the world's experts in the field of cardiac arrhythmia management.

Again, this year, we aligned our meeting with the CANet Annual Scientific Conference, to promote collaborative research discussions and explore our shared interests.

This year we introduced the addition of hands-on simulation sessions for mapping systems and ablation technology, in conjunction with our Welcome Reception and poster presentations. We also issued 13 travel grants to allied health professionals and EP & cardiology fellows to supplement the costs of travel and accommodation.

This entire meeting is made possible through the many hours of work by our administrative staff, planning committee, members and partners in industry, who all need to be congratulated for their help in an impartial manner for our professional development.

As ever we are always open to suggestions, feedback and novel ideas. We are proud to promote the strong collaborative culture which exists in the Canadian heart rhythm community.

We hope to see you next year in Montréal.







SAVE THE DATE! 2019 Annual Meeting September 13-14, 2019 Sheraton Montréal Hotel

ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONALS REPORT



Jackie Forman Allied Health Representative

Our diverse group of Allied Health Professionals (AHP) continues to grow and participate in the various committees and activities of the CHRS. The AHP group now includes members of the Canadian Atrial Fibrillation clinic Nursing Alliance (CAFcNA) which is a nation-wide group of experts in the care and management of patients with Atrial Fibrillation. We continue to have AHP representatives on each of the CHRS subcommittees which provide a multi-disciplinary approach to the various committee initiatives, consensus guideline writing, and also aligns with the strategic direction of the CHRS. In 2018, the AHP group also updated the mission and goals document to provide clarity and direction to current and potential members.

In May, we conducted a Webinar entitled "Evaluation of Patients' Understanding and Knowledge of Amiodarone Therapy With an Amiodarone Administration Toolkit" which was presented by Stephanie Hsieh, Clinical Pharmacist of the St. Paul's Atrial Fibrillation Clinic in Vancouver. This presentation was well attended and received positive feedback. The fall season of meetings (Annual CHRS and Canadian

Cardiovascular Congress) create challenges in obtaining speakers so our plan will be to schedule the next AHP Webinar in November. We are looking forward to another informative AHP education session in Toronto at CCC this year. We will have six presentations with a variety of Device, Remote Monitoring and Atrial Fibrillation topics. This workshop will be held on Sunday, October 21st from 2:00-3:30pm and 4:30-5:30pm.

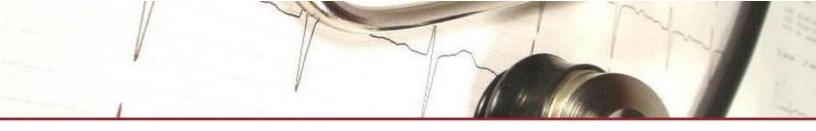
Another initiative which was guided by the CHRS strategic direction was formation of the Member Communications Committee. For the past few months, the main focus of this Committee has been working towards development of a new and improved CHRS website. With an AHP member on this Committee, we have been able to relay our needs for a website that can improve communication and networking, house guidelines and educational resources and provide a forum for sharing current heart rhythm challenges, successes and learning opportunities. Stay tuned for more to come on this exiting change in the next few months.

Finally, I would like to say thanks for the continued support of the AHP members and encourage them to remain involved and share information about the CHRS with colleagues.









ABLATION COMMITTEE REPORT

During the 2017-2018 year, the Ablation Committee completed the third survey of the ablation equipment and practices in electrophysiology laboratories across Canada.

The survey confirmed a further growing amount of the electrophysiology laboratories with the steady workload on the individual physician operators. The final report is in the drafting stage.

As a separate project, the survey of nursing staffing and training was completed and presented to the Ablation Committee at the 2018 CHRS Annual Meeting.

Canadians operators were involved in multiple international efforts on improving evidence around ablative therapy of arrhythmia including CABANA.

Canadian SMAC AF (Dr. Ratika Parkash) randomized trial on hypertension management strategy following ablation was published in Circulation.

TOUCH AF (Dr. Atul Verma) randomized trial on contact force technology was published in Heart Rhythm Journal.

There was no catheter or ablation technology recalls or challenges.

Dr. Eugene Crystal Ablation Committee Chair

PEDIATRIC REPORT

The Canadian Pediatric and Congenital Heart Rhythm Network (CPCHRN) has had several new members join over the past two years including Dr. S. Dhillon in Halifax, Dr. S. Udupa in Ottawa, Dr. A. Bulic and V. Beausejour-Ladouceur in Toronto and Dr. C. Escudero in Edmonton. The group now includes a total of 17 members. Recent discussions within the network have revolved around establishing a Canadian Registry, the subject of which is still to be determined. The objective will be that of clinical research.

In the past two years, the group has closely collaborated at the clinical level and achieved a consensus on a centralized process for utilization of the limited inventory of Microny pacemakers, often being the only size pacemaker that can be implanted in a newborn. At the research level, the group has also been invited to collaborate in the CanArrest Registry, a study on the outcome of pediatric unexplained cardiac arrest survivors, led by Dr. S. Sanatani. The group will continue to focus on collaborative research efforts and will aim to run another pediatric and congenital EP course at the CCC meeting in 2019.

Dr. Joseph Atallah Pediatric Representative

EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT



Dr. Matthew Bennett
Education Committee Chair

The members of the CHRS have been leading many education initiatives again this year through the CHRS Annual Meeting, CHRS Fellow's Course, Royal College AFC committee, and the Canadian Cardiovascular Congress (CCC). The quarterly webinar's have been reinvigorated: Watch out for updates!

The CHRS members have been heavily involved in both the planning and the content of CCC. This content will be very exciting and includes didactic sessions and debates pertinent to the CHRS member's daily practice. Mark your calendars for the following events:

- CCS 2018 Guidelines for the Management of Atrial Fibrillation: 2018 Update (October 20, 11am-12pm)
- The Atrial Fibrillation Colloquium 2018: Supporting Research Excellence for the Next Generation of Canadian Leaders (October 20, 2-3:30pm)
- Trainee Program at CCC (October 21, 2-3pm, 4:30-6pm): PPM and ICD Simulation hands on session.
- My worst arrhythmia nightmare (October 21, 1 hour repeating session starting at 9, 10:15 and 11:30 am)
- CHRS Allied Health Education Session (October 21, 2-3:30pm and 4:30-5:15pm)
- Get Me Out of This Messy Situation' Applying the Syncope Guidelines to Clinical Practice (October 21, 2-3pm)
- Canada's First Recommendation for the Cardiovascular Screening and Care of Athletes Program (CCS and CHRS Joint Position Statement) (October 21, 2-3pm)
- A Session for ECG Lovers (October 22, 1-hour sessions starting at 9, 10: 15 and 11:30 am)
- The Rhythm (or Digoxin) is Going to Get You: A CHFS vs CHRS Series of Mini-Debates on Atrial Fibrillation and Heart Failure (October 22, 11am-12pm)
- Odd Ducks One Needs to be Wary of in Syncope (October 22, 2-3pm)
- CHRS Spotlight: Who Shouldn't Get A Defibrillator? ICD
- Risk Stratification in 2018 (October 22, 4:30-6pm)
- CHRS Annual General Meeting (October 22, 6:15-7:30pm)

In addition, many CHRS members will be presenting their research at both the poster and moderated poster sessions. Please attend and support them.



RESEARCH COMMITTEE REPORT



Dr. Jeff Healey **Research Committee Chair**

The Canadian Heart Rhythm Community continues to excel on the global research stage. During the last year, many of our colleagues have been successful in obtaining grants from the CIHR and Heart and Stroke Foundation, both in basic and clinical science. While this is nothing new for the CHRS, what is new are many faces who are leading important research. In addition to local mentoring, the two large arrhythmia focused networks (CANET and CSPIN), along with many senior investigators such as Bob Sheldon, Tony Tang, Andrew Krahn, David Birnie and others have devoted time to help bring the next generation of Canadian Heart Rhythm researchers to the forefront. There are several ongoing clinical trials, including BRAIN-AF, EARLY-AF, and ATLAS which young investigators lead or co-lead. There is also a strenathening collaboration among inherited arrhythmia researchers, and continued growth in Canada-wide registries and biobanks. Although there are many challenges for researchers today, the Canadian Heart Rhythm Society has a great

endowment of young talent. However; it remains imperative that senior members of our community provide the guidance, support and mentorship that is needed to help them succeed.

During my remaining time as CHRS Research Committee Chair, I will endeavour to support this goal with the following initiatives:

- 1) Continue the semi-annual clinical trial mentorship workshop, and provide attendees with auantitative feedback that can be used to support grant applications.
- 2) Continue with efforts to set up a clinical trial budget committee, which can both assist applicants with budget preparation, but also help ensure that clinical sites can conduct research in a financially viable fashion.
- 3) Enhance the CHRS website to include a list of ongoing trials, site specific enrollment numbers for these trials, recent major publications and grant awards.

MEMBER-IN-TRAINING REPORT

The number and impact of CHRS Trainees continues to grow. We currently have 43 members enrolled in different training programs. These trainees have made important achievements in clinical medicine, in research and in community service. The Fellow's Course at this year's CHRS AGM was innovative and exciting. Priorities for trainees in the coming year include working with the CCS to facilitate career opportunities and increasing our presence on social media.

Dr. William McIntyre MIT Representative



DEVICE COMMITTEE REPORT

Advisories:

The Committee was busy with advisories in the last year, both with problems with devices, but also with new issues involving cyber-security of connected devices. The Device Nucleus Committee of Drs. Sterns, Parkash, Philippon, Yee and Exner continued to be the contact point for CIED advisories. They would then gather information, get feedback from stakeholders, and subsequently coordinate and disseminate the CHRS position to the Canadian EP and pacing community.

The device issues this year included:

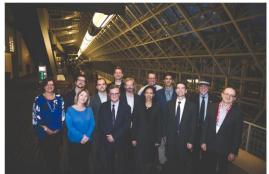
Abbott Nanostim docking button detachment advisory (101 patients in Canada)
Boston Scientific CRT LV offset advisory
Boston Scientific MV oversensing advisory
Medtronic US ICD/CRT-D internal arcing (only 2 patients in Canada)
LivaNova Platinium ring electrode advisory (27 patients in Canada)

The Abbott, Medtronic, and LivaNova issues were hardware related but fortunately involved a small number of patients. The Boston Scientific advisories were manageable with programming changes, with a software resolution for the MV oversensing issue still awaiting regulatory approval.

There were also issues of cyber-security raised during the year. While these issues were not formal advisories, there were potential vulnerabilities that were identified in connected devices that led to the availability of software patches to close these vulnerabilities. These included Abbott high and low voltage devices, and the Medtronic CareLink system. Software updates were made available for these issues which fortunately have never led to any patient related events.

Finally, the Device Strategy Committee has been approved by the CHRS Executive and will be formed in the next few months. This Committee will be tasked with forward looking projects involving CIEDs in Canada including device and outcome registries, CIED research, and CHRS position statements and guidance. Formalization of the Committee is expected around the time of the Canadian Cardiovascular Congress (CCC), and physicians or allied professionals interested in participating on the Committee should notify any CHRS Executive or Device Nucleus Committee members.

Dr. Laurence Sterns
Device Nucleus Committee Chair







IN RECOGNITION



Each year, the CCS acknowledges a member-in-training for their extraordinary accomplishments in all aspects of medical education in any of the cardiovascular fields, such as adult cardiology, cardiac surgery, pediatric cardiology or pure research.

We are proud to announce that fellow CHRS Board member, **Dr. William McIntyre**, is the recipient of the 2018 CCS Trainee Excellence in Education Award.



CHRS would like to congratulate CHRS members, **Dr. Andrew Ha, Dr. Jacqueline Joza and Dr. Jorge Wong** for receiving 2018
CCS AF Research Awards.



The CCS Dr. Robert E. Beamish is presented each year to the author of an original research article published during the preceding year in the Canadian Journal of Cardiology and judged to have the greatest impact on cardiovascular medicine.

We are proud to announce that CHRS member, **Dr. Jason Andrade**, is the recipient of the 2018 CCS Dr. Robert E. Beamish Award.



Each year, the CCS recognizes the outstanding accomplishments of Canadians and organizations that contribute significantly to cardiovascular health and care.

We would like to congratulate CHRS member, **Dr. Anne Gillis**, for receiving the 2018 CCS Achievement Award (formerly known as the Annual Achievement Award).

As the national voice for Canadian heart rhythm physicians and scientists, the promotion and support of education is important to us. CHRS is honoured to provide travel grants to trainees and allied health members presenting their academic research at relevant heart rhythm/arrhythmia meetings.

The CHRS approved a total of 15 travel grants this year to the following CHRS members:

- Nasser Alhammad
- Sandra Carroll
- William Chan
- Chris Cheung
- Bishoy Deif

- Opeyemi Fadahunsi
- Kathryn Hong
- Evan Martow
- William McIntyre (x2)
- Jann Patrick Ong
- Mohammed Rashid
- Garry Thomas
- Douglas Wan
- Lindsey Ward



CCS/CHRS JOINT POSITION STATEMENT ON THE CARDIOVASCULAR SCREENING OF COMPETITIVE ATHLETES

The Canadian Cardiovascular Society (CCS) Guidelines Committee identified the need for a Position Statement addressing cardiovascular screening of competitive athletes with particular attention to the 12-lead electrocardiogram. Currently, European and American recommendations exist, however the lack of a national position has led to tremendous variation of practice in Canada. CCS, in collaboration with Canadian Heart Rhythm Society, have created appropriate, evidence-based recommendations for Canadian sporting organizations and institutions with a focus on the role of routine ECG screening for the prevention of sudden cardiac death.

The Joint Position Statement is excepted to be released in October 2018. Stay tuned!

CHRSONLINE.CA

We are pleased to announce that a brand new CHRS website will be launched in November 2018! Our goal with the new website is to improve communications and networking between CHRS and members. The look and navigation of the site is new and improved and information has been made more accessible.

Amongst the new features the site contains integrated social media feed for Twitter. We will be constantly updating our content with helpful information, educational material, news, tools and announcements.

We hope you will find the new website fresh and modern; we worked hard to make sure it contains valuable and relevant content to keep members informed.





SAVE THE DATE!

2019 Annual Meeting September 13-14, 2019 Sheraton Montréal Hotel

CHRS would like to thank the following sponsors for their generous support











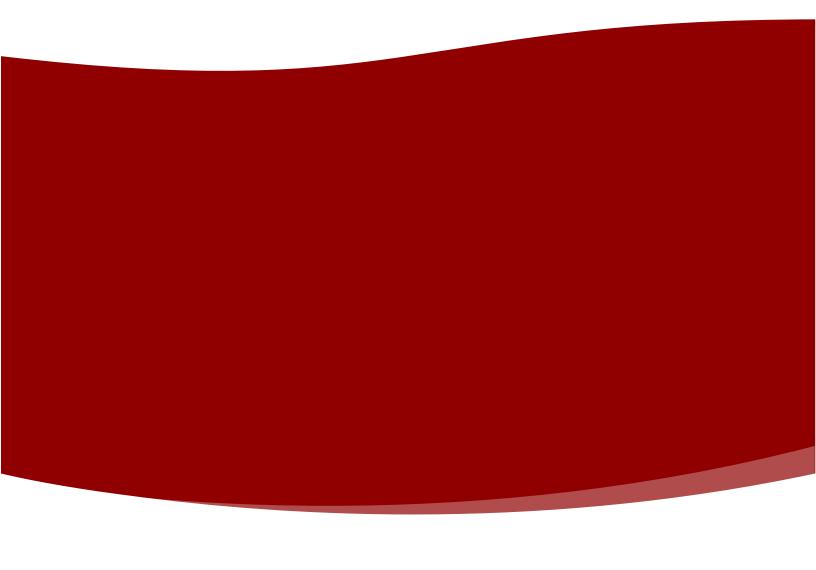






Medtronic





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