



## The Henry G. Friesen Prize International Prize in Health Research Institutional visits – Dr. Zulfiqar Bhutta

**University of  
Waterloo  
January 16 2024**

**McMaster  
University  
February 27 2024**

**University of  
Calgary  
May 24 2024**

**University of  
Manitoba  
June 26 2024**

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Season's Greetings!

This has been quite a year for me as I started my role as Interim President of Friends of CIHR on January 1, 2024. In that time with the help of many of my FCIHR colleagues we have accomplished a lot!

This included visits by Dr. Zulfiqar Bhutta, the 2023 Henry Friesen International Prize in Health Research Awardee and myself to memorable events in Hamilton, Calgary and Winnipeg in the Spring and events with the 2024 Friesen Prize awardee Dr. Gordon Guyatt in Toronto and Ottawa this fall. As well, we celebrated the 2024 Janet Rossant Lecture awardee, Dr. Sunit Das in October at Massey College in the Massey Grand Rounds. Details including videos about these events can be viewed on our website at [FCIHR.ca](http://FCIHR.ca)

Next year we will be attending events in Hamilton, Waterloo, Winnipeg, Edmonton & Calgary, and Vancouver, completing the institutional visits by Dr. Guyatt. Very exciting!

We are pleased to announce that Dr. Andrea Baumann is the incoming Vice-President of the FCIHR succeeding Dr. Bev Holmes who served in that role since 2020. Thanks Bev! We are also pleased to announce the appointment of 2 new Board Members, Ms. Deborah Gordon-El-Bihbety and Dr. Duncan Stewart (details can be found at <http://www.fcibr.ca/fcibr-board/>). This year, leaving the Board of Directors are Dr. Brian Postl, Dr. Linda Rabeneck, Dr. Robert Roberts and Dr. Calvin Stiller. Thank you all for your many contributions over the years. Regretfully, Dr. Henry Friesen has stepped down as an Honorary Director - Henry thank you for your continued support of FCIHR.

Additionally, our Board of Directors has created two new committees to contemplate the future of the FCIHR - Planning & Priorities and Governance & Nominating. We look forward to considering and implementing the new ideas certain to arise from their discussions.

I especially wish to thank Dr. Aubie Angel, Founding President of FCIHR, for the many hours he spent mentoring me in this complex role. As well, many thanks are deserved by Miss Cristina Castellvi the FCIHR Administrative Assistant, for her support and guidance.

2024 has been a challenging year for FCIHR in several areas including fundraising, membership renewals and office space. We are hopeful that these issues can be resolved in the coming year. We are very pleased to learn about the appointment of the new Principal of Massey College, Dr. James Orbinski (<https://www.masseycollege.ca/2024/08/16/announcing-the-7th-principal-of-massey-college/>) and the President of CIHR, Dr. Paul Hébert (<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2024/11/government-of-canada-appoints-new-president-of-the-canadian-institutes-of-health-research.html>) both of which augur well for the FCIHR in 2025.

Speaking of 2025 - next year marks the 25th anniversary of the founding of CIHR and FCIHR. Planning is in the early stages but we intend to celebrate these events in several very meaningful ways. Stay tuned!!

We wish you all a wonderful Holiday Season and trust that you will continue to support FCIHR in the coming years in its promotion of the benefits of health research.

All the best to you and yours.

Dr. Peter Lewis, Interim President, Friends of CIHR

The 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Massey Grand Rounds Symposium was held at Massey College on September 18, 2024. **Dr. Sunit Das**, 2024 Janet Rossant Lecturer, addressed: *"Advances in the Diagnosis and Treatment of Brain Tumors"*. Complementary speakers include **Dr. Michael Szego** (Senior Director, Centre for Clinical Ethics, Unity Health) & **Dr. Rola Saleeb** (Genitourinary Pathologist/Site lead, Unity Health).

Thank you to Founding MGR Senior Mentor Dr. Aubie Angel, C.M., MD, BSc (Med), MSc (Exp Med), FRCPC, FCAHS. 2024-25 MGR Co-Chairs: Stacy Chen & Jane Zhao Massey College Junior Fellows.



2024 MGR Symposium – Sept. 18  
2024 Janet Rossant Lectureship featuring Dr. Sunit Das,

L to R: Dr. Michael Szego, Dr. Aubie Angel, Dr. Sunit Das,  
Dr. Peter N. Lewis, Dr. Rola Saleeb.



**Dr. Sunit Das**  
2024 Janet Rossant Lecturer

Associate Professor & Keenan Chair  
in the Department of Surgery at the University of Toronto  
Neurosurgeon and Scientist at St. Michael's Hospital and  
the Hospital for Sick Kids  
Provincial Lead for CNS Oncology at Cancer Care Ontario

The Janet Rossant Lectureship is a joint collaboration of Friends of CIHR and Massey College. It is an integral part of the annual Massey Grand Rounds (MGR) Symposium organized with the Junior Fellows.



## 2024 U of T-Dalla Lana Friesen Prize Events

**Dr. Gordon Guyatt** delivered the 2024 U of T-Dalla Lana Friesen Lecture entitled: *“The Foundations of Evidence-Based Medicine”*. Thank you to **Prof. Leah Cowen** (Vice-President, Research and Innovation, and Strategic Initiatives, U of T) and **Prof. Justin Nodwell** (Vice Dean, Research & Health Science Education, Temerty Faculty of Medicine, U of T) for the Major Sponsorship support. Thank you to **Dr. Adalsteinn “Steini” Brown** (Dean, Dalla Lana School of Public Health, U of T) for spearheading the 2024 Dalla Lana-FCIHR Roundtable in conjunction with Roundtable Chair **Dr. Ross Upshur** (Head, Division of Clinical Public Health, Dalla Lana). Thank you to Speakers: **Dr. Allan Detsky** (former Physician-in-Chief, Mount Sinai Hospital); **Dr. Lauren Lapointe-Shaw** (Inst. of Health Policy, Manag. and Eval., UofT, UHN) and **Dr. David Naylor** (Emeritus President, U of T; 2018 Friesen Prizewinner).



**2024 U of T-Dalla Lana Friesen RoundTable – Oct. 31, 2024**

L to R: Dr. Ross Upshur, Dr. Gordon Guyatt, Dr. Lauren Lapointe-Shaw, Dr. David Naylor, Dr. Allan Detsky



**2024 U of T-Dalla Lana Friesen Lecture – Oct. 31, 2024**

L to R: Dr. Andrea Baumann (VP, FCIHR); Zeesy Powers (MGR Junior Fellow) & Dr. Reinhart Reithmeier (Treasurer)



**2024 Faculty Club Award Luncheon – Oct. 31, 2024**

Dr. John Dirks, Ms. Cindy Sinclair, Dr. Aubie Angel  
Dr. Gordon Guyatt, Dr. Peter Lewis, Dr. Ross Upshur  
Ms. Jane Zhao, Dr. Andrea Baumann



**Congratulations, Dr. Andrea Baumann!**  
**New Vice President, FCIHR**

**Dr. Andrea Baumann, PhD, FCAHS, FAAN, C.M.**, is Director, WHO Collaborating Centre in Primary Care & Health Human Resources, McMaster University.



### **CITATION**

**Dr. Gordon Guyatt, 2024 Friesen Prize**

*“For his pivotal role in developing the concept of evidence-based medicine and advancing its application to medical education, research methodology, and clinical decision-making.”*

# 2024 U Ottawa Friesen Prize visit

Dr. Gordon Guyatt delivered the 2024 U Ottawa Friesen Lecture entitled: *"The Foundations of Evidence-Based Medicine"*. Thank you to Ottawa Team Lead **Dr. Alex MacKenzie** (Secretary, FCIHR; Senior Scientist, CHEO); **Dr. Jason Berman** (Chief Executive Officer and Scientific Director, CHEO Research Institute; Vice President Research, CHEO) and **Dr. Duncan Stewart** (New FCIHR Board Member; Immediate Past CEO & Scientific Director, OHRI & Executive Vice-President, Research, The Ottawa Hospital). The 2024 U Ottawa Lunch Panel Discussion was held in the Dean's Boardroom and addressed the theme: "The Future of Evidence-Based Medicine". Featured Panel Members: **Dr. Paul Hébert** (Palliative Care Physician, Bruyère Health, 2025 CIHR President); **Dr. Julian Little** Thank you to **Dr. Bev Holmes**, PhD, for advisory support as Vice President 2020-2024, Friends of CIHR and **Dr. Jodi Edwards** (Director of the Brain and Heart Nexus Research Program, U Ottawa Heart Institute).



## New FCIHR Board Members

**Dr. Duncan Stewart** (former CEO of OHRI)

**Ms. Deborah Gordon-El-Bihbety**  
(former CEO Research Canada)

## 2025 Friesen Prize Institutional visits

Dr. Gordon Guyatt (2024 Friesen Prizewinner) will embark on Friesen Prize Institutional visits to meet with young trainees and senior leaders.

Mark your Calendars!

**February 5, 2025 – U Waterloo**

**March 10-14, 2025 – U Alberta & U Calgary**

**April 29/May 1, 2025 – McMaster**

**June 3, 2025 – U Manitoba**

## Call for Nominations – 2025 Friesen Prize

**Deadline: February 14, 2025**

<http://www.fcibr.ca/prize/about/nomination>

Nominations for the 2025 Friesen International Prize are welcome. Members are encouraged to submit nominations.

## THANKS TO SPONSORS & DONORS!

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## CHARITABLE DONATIONS – Received for 2024

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## FCIHR Spotlight – An Annual Report of Activities

Produced and Published by: FCIHR  
Editor: Dr. Peter N. Lewis, Interim President, FCIHR  
Design and Production: Miss Cristina S. Castellvi,  
Administrative Assistant, FCIHR  
Contact: FCIHR, 4 Devonshire Pl, Toronto, ON M5S 2E1  
Tel. #: (416) 978-6759; FriendsOfCIHR@gmail.com