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CANADIAN ASSOCIATION FOR NEUROSCIENCE
ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE DES NEUROSCIENCES

Vancouver, Calgary and Québec city, February 28th, 2018

From: Dr. Lynn A. Raymond, MD, PhD, FRCPC, President
Dr. Jaideep Bains, PhD, Vice-President
Dr. Katalin Toth, PhD, Chair of the Advocacy Committee,
Canadian Association for Neuroscience

To: The Honourable Kirsty Duncan, Minister of Science and
Minister of Sport and Persons with Disabilities
The Honourable William Francis Morneau, Minister of
Finance
The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister
Government of Canada

Dear Ministers Duncan, Morneau and Trudeau,

As representatives of the largest association of neuroscientists in Canada, we wish to thank you and applaud the announcement of important new financial support for Investigator-led fundamental research in budget 2018. This budget makes significant strides towards the implementation of the recommendations of the Fundamental Science Review, commissioned by the honourable Kirsty Duncan, and is good news for scientists across the country and all Canadians.

The investments announced today will have a significant impact for all Canadians. Scientific research is among the highest-yield investments that the government can make – it provides training for highly qualified personnel and leads to discoveries that improve the lives and health of everyone.

The new investments in the three major granting councils of Canada, NSERC, CIHR and SSHRC, will have a major impact on the health of Canada's research ecosystem. These investments also demonstrate your government's openness to listen to scientists, universities and stakeholders.

We are very grateful for the dialogue that has been initiated with the government, and we look forward to working with you to follow this road to rebuild support for science in Canada. The Science Minister Kirsty Duncan and the Chief Science Advisor Mona Nemer are in a position to facilitate communication between scientists and the Government, and this budget shows you are really listening to scientists.

These investments in the federal research councils will support the maintenance and development of a research community that is both diverse

The Canadian Association for
Neuroscience

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and innovative, and it will propel Canada in the new knowledge-based global economy. They enable leading-edge discoveries and support equity, diversity and inclusivity in the research community.

In addition to new investment in investigator-led research, budget 2018 provides important support for research infrastructure through the Canadian Foundation for Innovation. This provides essential support for innovative research and the development of the tools for the future.

Taken together, these investments show this government's commitment to supporting Canada's research community and improving Canada's economy, competitiveness, health and well-being.

Thank you again for commissioning the science review, for listening to scientists, and for your commitment to support science in Canada.

With our warmest regards

Lynn Raymond,
President

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Katalin Toth,
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