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ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE DES NEUROSCIENCES

Douglas Munoz, Ph.D.
President
Queen's University

Freda Miller, Ph.D.
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Katalin Tóth, Ph.D.
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**Members of the Advocacy
Committee:**

Jaideep, Bains, Ph.D.
University of Calgary

Jean-Claude Béique, Ph.D.
University of Ottawa

Michael Hendricks, Ph.D.
McGill University

Beverly Orser, MD, Ph.D.
University of Toronto

David Kaplan, Ph.D.
University of Toronto

Doug Zochodne, MD, Ph.D.
University of Alberta

Communications Director:
Julie Poupart
julie.poupart@can-acn.org

Secretariat:
Caitlin Mooney
Podium Conferences
2661 Queenswood Drive,
Victoria, BC
V8N 1X6
Canada
secretariat@can-acn.org
1.250.472.7644

March 30th, 2016

The Honourable Bill Morneau
Minister of Finance
90 Elgin Street
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0G5

Dear Minister Morneau,

On behalf of the Canadian Association for Neuroscience (CAN), we sincerely thank the Federal Government for increasing the budgets of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and the National Science and Engineering Council by \$30 million and supporting the Brain Canada Foundation with \$20 million for the next 3 years. CAN is strongly encouraged by the additional support to genomics and stem cell research in Canada through Genome Canada and the Stem Cell Network. Our research community is excited that the Federal Government recognizes the need for investigator-led discovery research, as it is the foundation of an innovative society. We strongly believe that unfettered support for discovery research that takes place in laboratories across the country is essential to generate breakthroughs in our understanding of how to keep our brains healthy, and to develop treatments for the aging, injured, and diseased brain. Academic research is also relied upon by the pharmaceutical and biotechnology sectors to provide a pipeline of discoveries to translate into new and more effective therapies.

We are looking forward to working with The Honourable Kirsty Duncan, Minister of Science as she undertakes a comprehensive review of all elements of federal support for fundamental science over the coming year. We are eager to help with this undertaking in any way we can. Minister Duncan can count on our expertise, opinion and analysis throughout this review process.

Sincerely yours,

Douglas P. Munoz, Ph.D.
President of the Canadian Association for Neuroscience
Canada Research Chair in Neuroscience
Director, Centre for Neuroscience Studies



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Professor of Biomedical and Molecular Sciences
Queen's University

Katalin Tóth, Ph.D.

Chair of the Advocacy Committee - Canadian Association for Neuroscience

Professor

Quebec Mental Health Institute

Department of Psychiatry and Neuroscience,

Faculty of Medicine,

Université Laval

2601 chemin de la Canardiere, Québec

Québec, G1J 2G3, QC, Canada

Tel: 1 (418) 663 5747 ext. 4702

Cell: 418-265-0705

e-mail: katalin.toth@fmed.ulaval.ca

cc.

- The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, P.C., M.P., Prime Minister of Canada
- The Honourable Jane Philpott, Minister of Health
- The Honourable Navdeep Bains, Minister of Innovation, Science, and Economic Development
- The Honourable Kirsty Duncan, Minister of Science