

Annual General Meeting

May 22, 2024

Agenda

- 1. Welcome
- 2. President's report
- 3. Advocacy report
- 4.EDI committee report
- 5. Secretary's report
- 6. Treasurer's report
- 7. Closing remarks

CAN Direction & Activities









Promote neuroscience research through meetings and communications

Work to increase
Equity, Diversity, &
Inclusion in
neuroscience research

Advocate for increased science funding

Promote collaborations
between
neuroscientists through
partnerships

CAN Meetings

CAN2018 (Vancouver) – 710 registrants, 468 poster abstracts CAN2019 (Toronto) - 1116 registrants, 694 poster abstracts CAN2021 (Virtual) - 613 registrants, 414 poster abstracts CAN2022 (Toronto) - 825 registrants, 540 poster abstracts CAN2023 (Montreal) – 1183 registrants, 773 poster abstracts CAN2024 (Vancouver) – 850 registrants, 531 poster abstracts CAN 2025 (Toronto) – 1082 registrants, 630 poster abstracts

Next meeting: May 18-21, 2026, Hotel Bonaventure Montréal

We are very grateful to our CAN2025 meeting sponsors and exhibitors

Platinum Sponsors:

- CIHR/INHMA
- IBRO
- The Azrieli Foundation
- Brain Canada Foundation
- + all Institutional sponsors

+ 23 exhibitors













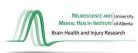
























CAN 2026

- Montreal
- May 18-21, 2026
- Hotel Bonaventure Montréal

CAN 2027

Calgary

• June 6-9,2027

• Calgary Telus Convention Centre



CAN Partnerships

- SfN Advocacy support New Memorandum of understanding signed
- Travel awards BrightFocus, IBRO
- Brain Star / CAN meeting collaboration with CIHR-INMHA
- FENS (meeting registration)
- Lundbeck Foundation (Brain Prize lecture)
- Japanese neuroscience Society (meeting registration and joint symposium)
- French neuroscience society (TBC)



Objective: To advocate for increased funding for science and research in Canada.

- Temple Scott Associates (Government and Public Relations Firm)
- Monitor activity on Parliament Hill
- Pre-budget and post-budget engagement
- Other opportunities for engagement
- Third In-Person CAN Hill Day (Ottawa, November 2024)
- More from Liisa Galea / Tabrez Siddiqui (Advocacy Committee Co-Chairs)

Trainee Initiatives

Networking and Training: Canadian Neuroscience Seminars – Postdoctoral Series (CNS-PDS)

- Goal: This series is aimed at showcasing the outstanding research performed by our postdoctoral fellows.
- Organizer: Ève Honoré and CNS-PDS Committee
- Inaugural Presentations March 2023
- Monthly

Trainee power pitch sessions

Organized by trainees, for trainees.

Congratulation to Liv Ansley-Engel and Zeeshan
Haqqee



 Conference Childcare, Dependent, or Disability Care Subsidy

Who: CAN trainee members, postdoctoral fellows, and pretenure faculty (or equivalent) who attend CAN meeting

What: support childcare or adult dependent care while attending the meeting for oral or poster presentations. Members who require a travel companion due to their own disability are also eligible for the subsidy.

Professional development awards

CAN doubled the funds for travel awards this year In addition to funds from IBRO and BrightFocus



Thank you!

Outgoing members

- Adriana Di Polo (Past president)
- Karl Fernandes and Elsa Rossignol (Board members)



Advocacy Report

Advocacy committee

Co-chairs:

- · Liisa Galea, CAMH
- · Tabrez Siddiqui, U Manitoba

Committee members:

- · John Mielke, University of Waterloo
- Ciaran Murphy-Royal, Université de Montréal
- Shalina Ousman, University of Calgary
- · Lisa Saksida, U Western
- Doug Zochodne, University of Alberta, CAN Vice-President
- Haung (Ho) Yu, CAMH U of Toronto

Trainee members:

- · Shalini lyer, University of British Columbia
- Amy Smith-Dijak, McGill University
- Leanne Young, McGill University

CAN Advocacy targets 2024-2025

Recommendation 1: That the Government of Canada increase the core budgets of CIHR, NSERC and SSHRC by ten percent annually for the next five years, as recommended in the 2023 Report of the Advisory Panel on the Federal Research Support System (Bouchard report), which stressed the necessity of increased funding for investigator-initiated research and talent support. The objective of this recommendation is to bring Canada's investments in research and development to a level on par with other countries in the G7.

Recommendation 2:

Given the rising prevalence of neurological and mental health disorders, it is imperative that the **Government of Canada prioritize brain and mental health research**. To address this urgent need, a comprehensive moonshot program dedicated to understanding the brain should be launched. This initiative will drive innovation and lead to significant improvements in public health across the country.

Recent Advocacy efforts

- CAN election one-pager April 2024
- CAN pre-election advocacy webinar with Evidence for Democracy – April 2024
- CAN at the 2024 Canadian Science Policy Conference November 2024
- CAN submits a brief to the House of Commons Science and Research committee study on the Capstone Research Funding Organization Announced in Budget 2024 – November 2024
- CAN Hill Day 2024 November 5, 2024
- Submission to pre-budget consultations of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance – August 2024



November 2024 Hill Day

15 CAN advocates from across Canada participating in meetings with Members of Parliament, Senators, Senior decision-makers and their staff.

Advocating for

- increased funds for CIHR, NSERC, SSHRC
- 2. Making research on Brain and Mental Health a national priority.









Advocacy webinar April 9



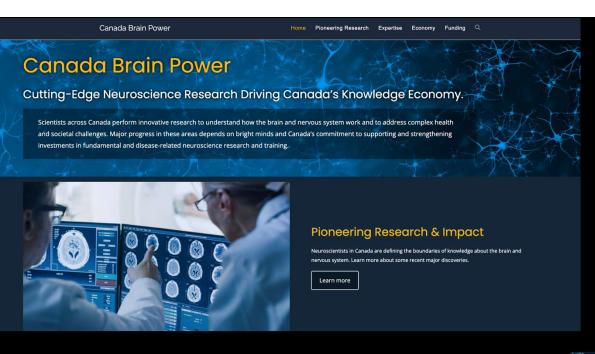
Recording available on the CAN website



Support for grass-roots advocacy initiatives

Sponsorships will consist of a financial contribution of up to \$1000 CAD to support a specific event/activity, a letter of recognition from the CAN advocacy committee, and a feature article about the event on the CAN website and social media accounts. The event/activity does not have to be in-person, but can be virtual, through social media, etc.

You can apply for funding too!



We need your stories!

https://CanadaBrainPower.com

Main goals of this website are to:

- To increase visibility of the impact of neuroscience research in Canada
- To provide consistent and constant messaging about the value of investments in fundamental and healthoriented research and training, and the need to boost support for Tri-Agency (CIHR, NSERC, and SSHRC).



Advocacy session at #CANACN25

Navigating Regulatory Frameworks for Research Models in Canada

Research animal models continue to play a vital role in our research ecosystem. These models are essential for understanding disease mechanisms, developing new treatments, and translating discoveries into real-world applications. However, their use is increasingly under scrutiny, with strict ethical and regulatory standards guiding their implementation.

Hosts: Liisa Galea and Tabrez Siddiqui, co-chairs of the CAN Advocacy committee

CAN Advocacy support

- Temple Scott Associates (Government and Public Relations)
- Monitor activity on Parliament Hill
- Pre-budget and post-budget engagement
- Other opportunities for engagement
- Coordinated the In-Person CAN Hill Day (Ottawa, November 2024)
- Funding by SfN through Memorandum of Understanding



More about

- ✓ CAN's outreach and advocacy activities
- ✓ Resources for neuroadvocate

On our website at

https://can-acn.org/advocacy



Equity, Diversity, Inclusion committee report

Members of the EDI Committee

CAN EDI subcommittee members:

- Derya Sargin | U of Calgary (Co-Chair of the committee)
- Jennifer Murray | U of Guelph (Co-Chair of the committee)
- Jibran Khokhar | Western U
- Annemarie Dedek | Carleton U

Trainee members

- Olivia Ghosh-Swaby | Western U
- Rocio Hollman | UBC
- Paul Sheppard | Western U
- Neil Merovitch | U Toronto
- Haley Vecchiarelli | U Victoria

EDI at the CAN meeting

Economic barriers to trainee achievement, retention and funding opportunities

Session at the CAN meeting

Shalini lyer, graduate student, representative of Support our Science

Panelists

- •Dr. **Sam Weiss**, Professor at UCalgary, Scientific Director of the CIHR Institute of Neurosciences, Mental Health and Addiction
- •Dr. **Sarah MacFarlane**, Professor at UCalgary, Director of the REALISE Career Development Program
- •Dr. **Maithe Arruda-Carvalho**, Associate Professor at UofT, mid-career researcher
- •Dr. **Annemarie Dedek**, Assistant Professor at University of Waterloo, early-career researcher
- •Dr. Haley Vecchiarelli, Postdoctoral fellow (Tremblay lab, UVic)
- •CGSD-holding PhD student, **Adiia Stone** (Murray lab, UGuelph) Moderators: Dr. **Paul Sheppard** (postdoctoral fellow, UWestern) and **Olivia Reshmi Ghosh-Swaby** (PhD student, UWestern).

Increasing accessibility: Canadian Association for Neuroscience Conference Childcare, Dependent, or Disability Care Subsidies

CAN Commitment to Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

May - 2025

This is an important time to reiterate the commitment of the Canadian Association for Neuroscience (CAN) to the values and principles of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion. These are core values for CAN and they must inform research design and dissemination, and support for all researchers.

As a scientific society, we affirm that systematic barriers exist and that they place undue burden on the success of the marginalized, including Indigenous and racialized individuals, those with disabilities, the LGBQ+ community, non-binary and transgender people, and the intersectionality across these identities. CAN continues its commitment to work toward breaking down barriers and policies that impede the success for these people and others, including factors based on immigration status, family responsibilities, and generational status in education.

Furthermore, CAN continues its support for the inclusion of related such factors in experimental design, including sex as a biological variable with sex operationally defined, at all levels of study, from single cell microbiology through behaviour and in incorporating the spectrum of gender in studies involving human participants.

Science is strengthened by these principles and upholding them helps build a more resilient, inclusive, and sustainable future for all.



Secretary's report:
Soheila Karimi



- 1. Membership
- 2. Elections

Membership

YEAR	Membership	Meeting attendance	Location
2025	1125	1082	Toronto
2024	946	783	Vancouver
2023	1285	1202	Montreal
2022	955	900	Toronto
2021	766	613	Virtual
2020	914	0	cancelled
2019	1183	1116	Toronto
2018	836	710	Vancouver
2017	1151	1118	Montreal
2016	900	880	Toronto
2015	692	557	Vancouver
2014	1104	931	Montreal
2013	1018	943	Toronto
2012	541	484	Vancouver

2025 Elections

- 2 Board Members (every year, for 3 year terms).
- **VP-elect** (1 year term as VP, 1 year as President, 1 y as Past President)
- **Treasurer-elect** (2 year term, renewable)

• 377 Regular members eligible to vote – 170 votes (45% participation rate)

CAN Board and Committees - Election results



Matt Hill – Vice-President-Elect



Craig Moore Board member



Robert Bonin, Treasurer-elect



Arezu Jahani-Asl, Board member

Welcome!

Term beginning June 1



Treasurer's report

End of year Financial statements

Canadian Association for Neuroscience Statement of Revenues and Expenditures		
Year ended August 31	2024	2023
Revenue Courses and workshops Commissions and incentives Conference registrations Exhibits and sponsors Grants Membership fees Miscellaneous	\$ - 16,332 290,427 155,278 136,080 85,652 9,894 693,663	\$ 2,171 23,328 383,177 162,192 67,345 105,985 6,788
Expenditures Bad debts Board and committees Conferences (Schedule 1) General and administrative expenses (Schedule 2) Marketing and communications Memberships Special projects and initiatives (Schedule 3)	314 4,728 424,343 68,657 2,050 8,028 145,338	883 416,663 97,164 2,484 13,888 121,680
Excess of revenue over expenses from operations	40,205	98,224
Other Gain on foreign exchange	13,577	31,947
Excess of revenue over expenditures	\$ 53,782	\$ 130,171

CAN Net Assets (End of year)

Canadian Association for Neuroscience Statement of Changes in Net Assets				
Year ended August 31		2024		2023
Net assets, beginning of year	\$	682,011	\$	551,840
Excess of revenue over expenditures	_	53,782	_	130,171
Net assets, end of year	\$	735,793	\$	682,011



Thank you for attending and...

