

Glaucoma Research Society of Canada

Highlights from the 2020 Annual Supporters' Meeting

The Year in Review

The Glaucoma Research Society of Canada (GRSC) held its Annual Supporters' Meeting online as a live webinar on Tuesday, October 6, 2020.

President James Parks welcomed attendees and thanked Board members and staff for their efforts during the past year. He introduced each of the Board members with a slide show describing how their backgrounds contributed to the overall running of the Society.

James noted that the Covid-19 pandemic had affected the Society's operations including the Annual Supporters' Meeting which had traditionally been held in-person. The Board was pleased that the virtual meeting was accessible online to supporters from across Canada.

Board Treasurer Tom Gottlieb reported on the revenue and expenses for the fiscal year that ended on May 31, 2020. He thanked supporters and donors for their generosity which allowed the GRSC to award nine grants totalling \$180,000 in Spring 2020.

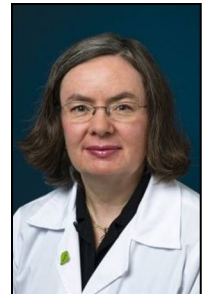
Tom reminded attendees about the upcoming Scotiabank Toronto Waterfront Marathon, urging supporters to join in the fundraising efforts by participating or donating.

Efforts from 2019 had raised over \$55,000 and helped fund a number of essential glaucoma research projects in 2020.

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Recognition Award Recipients

Dr. Catherine Birt
in recognition of
her dedicated service
creating a Research Portal
for the Society's website



Dr. Cindy Hutnik
in honour of
her presentation of
the 10th Albert Waxer
Lecture at the
Society's 2020 Annual
Supporters' Meeting



Don K. Johnson, OC
in recognition of
generous financial
contributions to
the Society





Myrna Bergen from Team Aequus Montreal raised the highest amount of donations on Team Aequus!



Scotiabank
WATERFRONT

Thank You Scotiabank Waterfront Members, Supporters & Friends

GRSC Board Members, supporters, and volunteers from across the team spanning from Montreal to Vancouver participated in the 2020 Scotiabank Toronto Waterfront Walk to fund three research projects this year.

Way To Go!



Dr. Catherine Birt, Tom Gottlieb, Suzanne Marshall, Patti and Kevin Birch and Janet Lacasse from Aequus Toronto



Team Aequus Vancouver – Ivana Postic, Jean Emond, Ana Ornalles



Back: Kevin and Patti Birch, James Parks, Dr. Catherine Birt, Martin... Front: Barry McDonnell, Suzanne Marshall, Tom Gottlieb, Janet Lacasse



Scotiabank TORONTO
WATERFRONT MARATHON

*Team Aequus Toronto – Janet
Lacasse, Barry McDonnell,
Grant Larsen, Munira Quintyn,
Alex Odunlami*



Scotiabank Toronto Waterfront Marathon 2020 Participants!

and an Aequus Pharmaceuticals
donation, helped us raise \$53,026
for the Waterfront Marathon. That's enough
to make a difference!



*Team Aequus – Munira Quintyn, Janet Lacasse;
GRSC Supporters – Patti and Kevin Birch*



*Grant Chasson, Grant Larson, Alex Odunlami
Janet Lacasse, Munira Quintyn*

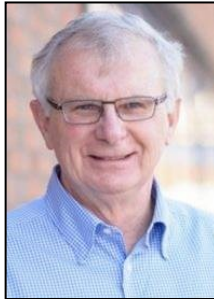
2021 Scotiabank Toronto Waterfront Marathon Announced

This year's Marathon will follow the same virtual rules as last year, so anyone from coast-to-coast can participate and become a fundraiser.

We had a great time preparing for and participating in the Marathon last year. If you'd like to join us in 2021, contact Suzanne, our office administrator or check GRSC's website this summer for details!

More Recognition Award Recipients

Stuart Murray
in recognition of
his dedicated service
creating & implementing
a website for the Society
& the Research Portal



Santen Canada Inc.
in gratitude for
their financial
assistance towards
the Society's first
live online event



The Year in Review continued from front page ...

GRSC Founder and Chair of its Scientific Advisory Committee, Dr. Graham Trope then introduced Dr. Cindy Hutnik and her team of glaucoma researchers from Lawson Health Research Institute in London Ontario to present the 10th annual Albert Waxer Lecture.

Following the presentation, a panel made up of Dr. Hutnik and GRSC Board members and glaucoma specialists Dr. Graham Trope, Dr. Catherine Birt and Dr. Rajiv Bindlish hosted a twenty-minute Question and Answer session.

Following the Q & A session, James presented the Society's Recognition Awards. Before ending the meeting, he thanked everyone who attended, along with Santen Canada Inc. for funding this year's online event.

We recorded GRSC's 2020 Annual Supporters' Meeting. You can find the link to view it on our website www.glaucomaresearch.ca or by emailing Suzanne at info@glaucomaresearch.ca

Dr. Cindy Hutnik Presented the 10th Albert Waxer Lecture

Effect of Neuroprotective Drugs in Glaucoma

Dr. Hutnik discussed the importance of continued glaucoma research and the positive impact the GRSC has had on the glaucoma research community.

She presented current glaucoma statistics and explained why lowering eye pressure is so important for glaucoma treatment.

Dr. Hutnik and her team, consisting of Dr. Vinay Kansal, Dr. James Armstrong and Jacqueline Slomovic, presented the background and initial findings from their research project, **Effect of Neuroprotective Drugs in Glaucoma**, a 2020 GRSC grant recipient.

The study investigated the side effects of current medications on the market to see if they contribute to reducing the pressure of the inner-eye.

The presentation showed how each member of the team contributed to the research project.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, members of Dr. Hutnik's team were situated across Canada but were able to present together because of the online format.

Dr. Hutnik is a professor in the Departments of Ophthalmology and Pathology at the Schulich School of Medicine and Dentistry. She is Chair of Research and Director of the Ophthalmology Basic Science Laboratory at the Lawson Health Research Institute in the Centre for Clinical Investigation and Therapeutics.

To see Dr. Hutnik's presentation, visit the GRSC's website or Facebook page or contact our office administrator, Suzanne, to request a video link.