

Highlights from the 2023 Annual Supporters' Meeting

The Glaucoma Research Society of Canada's Annual Supporters' Meeting (ASM) was held on Wednesday, October 11, 2023 as a live webinar. President James Parks opened the meeting by thanking all attendees and supporters for another successful year for the Society.

Mr. Parks introduced the members of the Board of Directors with a slide show that highlighted the professional background of each director. Each member, closely involved with the overall running of the Society, helped keep administrative costs to a minimum.

Mr. Parks went on to present Recognition Awards to supporters who went above and beyond in 2023: Mabel Barnard, Judith Matthews, and Jerry Wiseblott & Associates. He then introduced the Society's treasurer, Tom Gottlieb.



Before presenting his treasurer's report, on behalf of the Board, Mr Gottlieb said goodbye and thanks to Ms Suzanne Marshall, the Society's Office Administrator since January 2020. He noted that in her nearly 4 years at the Society, Ms Marshall streamlined office operations, and expanded her role to include web site management and publishing the newsletters. She resigned to take up a position at Dalhousie University in Halifax.

He then welcomed and introduced Ms Norlan Roberts, the Society's new Office Administrator. Ms Roberts is a Certified Administration Professional and member of the International Association for Administrative Professionals with 20 years of experience in executive administration, office and facilities management, human resources/payroll and accounting.



Mr Gottlieb presented the Society's 2023 operational highlights, reporting that \$374,874 was awarded to 16 research projects across Canada in 2023, up from \$315,040 to 16 recipients in 2022, and from \$256,419 to 13 grant recipients in 2021. He thanked donors for making that possible, adding that major sources of revenue in 2023 came from Dr Graham Trope's Retirement Fundraiser and the Toronto Waterfront Marathon, as well as from regular donations, and bequests.

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Dr Graham Trope then paid tribute to Ms Renée Wolfe, vice-president of the Society's Board of Directors, who was stepping down from the Board after nearly 30 years of dedicated service. He spoke about her numerous roles on the Board – as Treasurer from 1994 to 2004, as Vice-President since 2010, and as a superb fundraiser with programs such as the popular and innovative *Tealess Tea*.



Dr Trope then introduced Dr Brennan Eadie, the presenter of the 13th Annual Albert Waxer Lecture. Dr Eadie, along with his colleagues, Dr. Bonnie He and Dr. Ram Darwich, spoke about *Investigating Potential Associations Between Common Medications and Glaucoma*.

Following the presentation, Dr. Rajiv Bindlish hosted a question and answer session with Dr Eadie, along with Society Board members and glaucoma specialists Dr Cindy Hutnik and Dr Catherine Birt. Mr Parks then presented a certificate of appreciation to Dr Eadie and thanked everyone who attended before closing the meeting.

You can find a link to the recording of the 2023 Annual Supporters' Meeting by visiting www.glaucomaresearch.ca or by emailing us at info@glaucomaresearch.ca.

**2023 Waterfront Marathon
Supporters Raise Over \$44K
for Glaucoma Research**



GRSC Board Members James Parks, Dr Catherine Birt, Dr Mark Shaffer & Tom Gottlieb take part in the 2023 Waterfront Marathon.

**Get Active for the
Cure in 2024!**

**Coming Soon
More Details about
Our Own 2024
Walkathon**

**Check our website
www.glaucomaresearch.ca
or contact us at
info@glaucomaresearch.ca**

Powerful Ways for You to Help Fund Research

You can support the Society financially, not only with cash donations, but with donations of publicly listed securities (to avoid recognition of capital gains), transfers or designations of insurance policies or registered plans such as RRSPs, RRIFs or TFSAs, bequests under wills and through other methods of giving.

You can give an existing life insurance policy or purchase a new one naming the Glaucoma Research Society of Canada as owner/beneficiary. Gifts of an existing policy entitle the donor to a fair market value tax receipt, which may be greater than the cash surrender value. They may also require the donor to report income for tax purposes.

You can also designate the Society as the beneficiary under a life insurance policy, a registered retirement savings plan, a registered retirement income fund or a tax-free savings account. In that way, the funds will be paid directly to the Society without passing under a will or through an estate.

Giving marketable securities eliminates tax on a capital gain and entitles the donor to a fair market value receipt. This is more tax efficient than giving cash after selling the securities. Donors should seek tax advice in connection with gifts of insurance policies or securities or by making designations.

Corporations can also make donations to charities. A donation of securities by a private company could save tax and provide tax benefits to the company which could be worth as much as 90% of the value of the donation. A donor who owns securities personally can transfer them to a private company (at no tax cost by taking appropriate steps to avoid recognition of any accrued gains) and the company can then donate them to the charity.

Please ask our office for details or consult with your tax advisor.

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Editor/Writer: Linda Joyce Ott

Contact Us at Glaucoma Research Society of Canada

phone:

416-483-0200
1-877-483-0204 (toll-free)

e-mail:

info@glaucomaresearch.ca

mail:

1929 Bayview Avenue, Suite 215E
Toronto, ON M4G 3E8

website: www.glaucomaresearch.ca

