



Dear Immunology Colleagues,

As the current academic year is well underway, I am writing to encourage your membership and involvement in the Canadian Society for Immunology (CSI), and to ask for your help in ensuring that your colleagues and trainees become aware of the many opportunities provided by a CSI membership.

The CSI is a nonprofit organization, founded in 1966, that fosters and supports the discipline of Immunology throughout Canada. As a focal point for Canadian Immunology, the Society organizes an [annual spring meeting](#) that alternates between the west and the east of the country. We are especially looking forward to our 31<sup>st</sup> meeting, in London, Ontario from June 1 – 4, 2018 (Friday – Monday), where we have a very exciting program planned, with renowned international speakers, as well as workshop and poster sessions that cover a wide range of topics. This meeting is an excellent venue to network with immunologists from across the country, and for our trainees to present their work.

One of the highlights of the annual meeting is the Cinader Award lecture, named in honor of Hardi Cinader, a founding member of CSI and its first president - congratulations to this past year's winner, Dr. Claude Perreault. The CSI also recognizes scientific excellence via a number of other [awards](#) including the CSI Investigator and New Investigator awards. If you are a CSI member, there will be an opportunity for you to nominate individuals for these awards coming up in the next few months. For trainee members of the CSI, we have a number of poster awards each year, and generous travel awards that allow graduate students, post-doctoral fellows and new investigators to attend the annual CSI meetings, as well as the International Congress of Immunology meetings. The Canadian Society for Immunology is managed by an elected [council](#) of immunologists from across Canada and with a diversity of immunological interests. CSI currently has more than 300 members from universities, hospital research institutes and other sectors across Canada.

The CSI lobbies for Immunology research funding in Canada, in part through its membership in [Research Canada](#). Thus, your membership in the CSI grants you access to their significant lobbying efforts – the more members we have in the CSI, the stronger our voice! The CSI also acts as a liaison between its membership and national funding agencies, such as the CIHR. CSI was one of the founding members of the [International Union of Immunological Societies](#) (IUIS) and participates in international events through this umbrella organization. The CSI also collaborates with the [American Association of Immunologists](#) and sponsors a symposium at their annual meetings.

By joining the Canadian Society for Immunology, your students and fellows become eligible to apply for travel awards and you are eligible for discounted registration to the annual meeting. New this year, CSI is offering a 2-year membership at a reduced rate for students and associate members. More importantly you demonstrate your collegial support for the discipline of Immunology in Canada. I encourage all those working in Immunology in Canada to go to the Society's web site (<http://www.csi-sci.ca>) and join today.

Sincerely,

John Gordon, President  
Canadian Society for Immunology

<http://www.csi-sci.ca>

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