
CCA/MRC Joint Partnership Program Awards



Dr. David Leprich DC
President,
Canadian Chiropractic
Association



Dr. Grayden Bridge DC
Chair,
Canadian Chiropractic
Association
Research Committee



Dr. David Peterson DC
President,
Chiropractic Foundation
for Spinal Research



Dr. Murray McEwen DC
Chair,
Canadian Chiropractic
Examining Board

The CCA's research activities are designed to raise the profile of chiropractic research in Canada so as to make our research enduring and sustainable. Our strategies include establishing targeted research initiatives while building intellectual **chiropractic** academic capacity. This is accomplished in part, by funding young researchers through personnel training awards. The CCA/MRC Joint Partnership is a program aimed at strengthening linkages between the Medical Research Council of Canada (MRC), chiropractic health researchers and the CCA. The total funding for this joint partnership program will support two Chiropractic Fellowships and one Doctoral Research Award to a maximum of \$221,260 over a two year period. The CCA and the MRC will co-fund these training awards on a 50/50 basis. This is a magnificent opportunity for the CCA to provide training awards specifically for chiropractic research. The building of such an historic bridge with the MRC will have substantial long terms benefits for our profession and will build not only our academic capacity but also raise the profile of the profession in terms of being a key player in the health care system. We will continue to capitalize on such initiatives in a proactive manner.

In this first historic agreement between the Canadian Chiropractic Association and the Medical Research Council of Canada, we realized three successful MRC Peer Reviewed Awards. The CCA announces that the following recipients are the first successful awardees in the CCA/MRC Joint Partnership Program:

Doctoral Research Award

Annalyn Mercado (\$19,500/year)

Fellowship Awards

Dr. Greg Kawchuk (\$45,300/year)

Dr. Jill Hayden (\$45,300/year)

In further support of these awards, the CCA has partnered internally with the *Chiropractic Foundation for Spinal Research* (CFSR) and the *Canadian Chiropractic Examining Board* (CCEB). Both organizations have taken leadership roles in furthering the profession's research capacity.

Based on the success of this first agreement and the relationship established with the MRC, the CCA has been invited to partner in a second cycle of awards and because of this past relationship has successfully proposed that MRC partner with CFSR. The second CCA/MRC and first CFSR/MRC agreement have each negotiated a **scholarship award** to be recognized as a "Chiropractic Research Chair". In addition to providing a salary of \$50,000 per year plus fringe benefits over a 5 year period, this award would also provide the mechanism for the MRC to fund a chiropractic research project. This is an exciting opportunity for chiropractic to become further entrenched in the university system with a dedicated Chiropractic Research Chair supported by the Medical Research Council of Canada for a 5 year period.



**Dr. Greg Kawchuk
DC, MSc**
PhD candidate,
University of Calgary,
MRC Fellowship
Award

Dr. Greg Kawchuk graduated from the Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College in 1990 and completed his master's thesis at the University of Calgary where he is currently a PhD candidate in spinal mechanics at the McCaig Centre for Joint Injuries and Arthritis Research. His doctoral work is focused on delineating how different tissues interact to define spinal stiffness. Recently he was awarded the Surgical Dynamics Travel Fellowship from the International Society for the Study of the Lumbar Spine to participate in a collaborative study at State University New York at Stony Brook and Yale with Drs. Khalsa, Cholewicki and Panjabi.



Dr. Jill Hayden DC
PhD candidate,
University of Toronto,
MRC Fellowship Award

Dr. Hayden graduated with an advanced major degree and a bachelor of science honours certificate in biology from Dalhousie University in 1991 and 1992 respectively. She

completed her chiropractic undergraduate training at the Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College in 1996 and has recently completed the two-year residency portion of the Clinical Sciences Residency Program also at CMCC. Dr. Hayden is currently involved in several investigations including conducting two research studies: a systematic review of pain outcome measure instruments suitable for use in assessing pediatric low back pain, and a multiple site prospective study investigating the chiropractic management of pediatric low back pain. She has recently commenced training in the Clinical Epidemiology program at the University of Toronto and will be conducting her research at the Institute for Work and Health.



Annalyn Mercado
PhD candidate,
University of
Saskatchewan,
Doctoral
Research Award

Annalyn Mercado graduated from the University of Manitoba in 1995 with a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Psychology. In 1998 she received her master's degree in clinical psychology at the University of Saskatchewan. Her thesis studied the factors associated with coping with neck and back pain in the Saskatchewan adult population. She is currently in the second year of her PhD program in clinical psychology at the University of Saskatchewan. Ms Mercado's clinical interests include psychological interventions for individuals dealing with injuries resulting from motor vehicle accidents. For her doctoral thesis, she will study the relationship between coping behaviour and recovery in two separate populations: 1) the Saskatchewan adult population and 2) motor vehicle accident victims. This research will be conducted through the Institute for Health and Outcomes Research at the University of Saskatchewan.