

Expanding Horizons

2020 ANNUAL REPORT



SOCIÉTÉ
CANADIENNE DE
THORACOLOGIE



CANADIAN
THORACIC
SOCIETY

2020 ANNUAL REPORT

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Thank you to our CTS members

It really does take a village to provide quality care ... no truer words were ever spoken and demonstrated during this pandemic. Despite enduring your own challenges, you have taken the time to share your knowledge and experiences so others can continue to learn, adapt, and stay as safe as possible. You have been an inspiration and a leader to your colleagues and the public. You have shown empathy to your patients who live with great anxiety. You have tactfully and efficiently cared for those in need in the most innovative ways while persevering through the lockdowns, the peaks and post-peak phases of the pandemic. The CTS recognizes your invaluable contributions and is proud of the role you have played in treating patients with COVID-19 and the guidance you have provided to fellow health care professionals across a range of settings while confronting this new illness. We will continue to highlight and advocate the important work that you do. Thank you for your dedication and commitment to improving the lung health of Canadians!



President's Message



It has been more than a year since the WHO declared COVID 19 a pandemic and a year since I became President of CTS. Together, we can reflect on a year filled with challenges, grief, and hope. One of the biggest lessons we can take from the pandemic is the power of collaboration to come up with solutions quickly, something that will serve us all in the long run.

As a member of the Canadian Respiratory Health Professionals (CRHP), taking on the leadership position as CTS President has been the result of a long road to build inter-professional collaboration and fills me with hope for the future. I remember a time when CRHP and CTS were very separate and distinct entities. Fast forward to 2015 when CRHP agreed to join CTS on the path to become an independent professional society. In 2021, CRHP is undeniably an integral part of CTS, and there are no more barriers to collaboration and co-leadership. The evolution to include CRHP has made us stronger and continues to enrich our interdisciplinary professional society.

My year as president has been filled with challenges and opportunities. The cancellation of the 2020 Canadian Respiratory Conference was a major loss and had a negative impact on the CTS budget. But CTS faced this head on, and in response to the pandemic were able to attract some new resources for the development of COVID-19 clinical guidance to support our members and healthcare professionals in the wider respiratory community. As has been said, 'great things happen when we work together' and there is no time that this has not been truer. Collaboration has been the hallmark of CTS over the past year. In April 2020, the CTS convened a pan-Canadian Respiratory Roundtable of professional societies and patient organizations to facilitate the sharing of information and strategies during the pandemic and to identify areas of common interest and potential collaboration. A number of important initiatives emerged:

- a collaboration between CTS and the Canadian Society for Respiratory Therapy (CSRT) to produce a joint position statement on standards for the resumption of pulmonary function testing in the post-peak phase of the pandemic. We have subsequently collaborated with CSRT on related advocacy targeting the federal and provincial/territorial Ministries of Health;

- development of a joint statement on vaccine prioritization for people with respiratory disease that involved 20+ organizations and a social media campaign to promote awareness at the federal and provincial/territorial level
- publication of an evidence-based statement on clinical triage thresholds for people with respiratory disease;
- a collaboration with McGill University to establish a repository of clinical research for healthcare professionals related to COVID-19, and
- Roundtable participants disseminated CTS guidance documents to their constituents and translated our guidance into public and patient education materials and programs.

The Respiratory Roundtable has helped healthcare professionals and patients access the most up to date evidence-based information and medical expertise on issues impacting their lung health in the time of COVID-19. CTS will continue to foster the opportunities to collaborate with the respiratory community beyond the pandemic.

We have also taken strides this past year to position CTS as the national authority for respiratory medicine and research with the federal and provincial governments. With the support of Impact Public Affairs, we have disseminated our position papers to provincial/territorial and national Ministers of Health and responded to invitations to meet to discuss clinical triage thresholds (NL) and protection of healthcare professionals and patients during pulmonary function testing (ON). We prepared a Pre-Budget Submission to the House of Commons Finance Committee and had the opportunity in February to meet with the Chair to present our recommendations for federal investments related to a secure supply of PPE, a strategy to combat vaccine hesitancy, improved access to pulmonary rehabilitation, and increased funding for respiratory research.

It has been a privilege to serve as President of CTS. A huge shoutout to CTS staff and especially to our members and volunteers whose commitment to this work is extraordinary.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dina Brooks".

Dina Brooks, PhD, MSc, BSc (PT)
President

Canadian Thoracic Society Strategic Plan

The Canadian Thoracic Society is the trusted advocate and authoritative voice for the advancement of respiratory care in Canada. The Board of Directors met in March 2020 to set new areas of priority in the coming years to enable our Society to continue leading the transformation of lung health care in Canada.

Strategic Pillars

The Canadian Thoracic Society will continue to lead and promote:

- Leading evidence-based clinical practice
- Providing state-of-the-art professional education
- Developing the next generation of clinicians and researchers
- Fostering partnerships, research, and impact

Key Areas of Focus 2020-2023

Growing our Society

1. Business Development
2. Risk Management
3. Measure and evaluate performance and delivery of core services
4. Invest in staff and members
5. Financial stability and sustainability
6. Explore feasibility of a Foundation

Increasing and Enhancing Membership

1. Membership retention and management
2. Governance
3. New clinical assembly model
4. Share our story

Expanding Collaboration and Expertise

1. Strategic alliances
2. Advocacy
3. Knowledge transfer and application in practice



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Evidence-based Clinical Practice

Outputs



12 COVID-19 Position Statements



5 CTS COVID-19 CHEST publications



2 Position Statements finalized in 2020 (CTS/ CCS Pulmonary Hypertension; Mechanical Insufflation-Exsufflation published in 2021)



3 Addendums (Face Mask, Sleep, Pulmonary Function Testing)



13 Year in Review Articles finalized in 2020 and published in 2021



2 Inhaled Salbutamol Shortages – Asthma and COPD Medication Strategies



2 Guidelines finalized in 2020 and published in 2021 (Mild and Very Mild Asthma and Long-Term Non-Invasive Ventilation in patients with COPD)



6 Guidelines in preparation (Adult and Pediatric Sleep; Tuberculosis; Cannabis & Lung Health; Full Asthma Guideline; COPD Pharmacotherapy Update)

Knowledge Translation

COVID-19 website: <https://cts-sct.ca/covid-19/>

Guideline Library: <https://cts-sct.ca/guideline-library/>

Total pageviews 2019 – 154,657

Total pageviews 2020 – 233,820

Total guidance downloads 2019: 37,757

Total guidance downloads 2020: 61,124

↑ 66%

↑ 62%

New Asthma and COPD Tool Kits

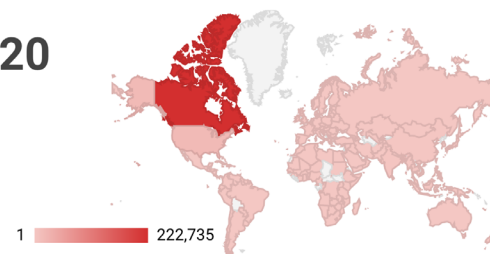
<https://cts-sct.ca/guideline-library/knowledge-tools-resources/>

Tools included in this website are concurrent with evidence-based recommendations in CTS guidance documents.

Revised Guideline Production Manual

<https://cts-sct.ca/guideline-library/methodology/>

2020



	Country	Pageviews ▾	% Δ
1.	Canada	222,735	74.9% ↑
2.	United States	19,145	62.6% ↑
3.	India	2,746	56.6% ↑
4.	United Kingdom	2,097	19.3% ↑
5.	France	1,814	24.6% ↑
6.	China	1,179	203.1% ↑

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Continuing Professional Development

Although the Canadian Conference Respiratory Conference was cancelled in April 2020 due to the pandemic, CTS was able to develop and deliver exceptional educational activities to its members.



Top Tweet earned 2,688 impressions

Congratulations to @CTS_SCT President Dina Brooks @brooksdli on receiving an ERS Lifetime Achievement Award! twitter.com/pulmonary_reha...

2 4 44

Top media Tweet earned 2,504 impressions

So proud to announce renowned PR expert Dr. Roger Goldstein @westparkhcc, as our 2020 Honorary Lecture Award recipient in recognition of his significant contributions & impact! Don't miss his presentation @CTS_SCT Scientific Program at @accpchest. See: cts-sct.ca/education-and-... pic.twitter.com/nOg8g6p04Y



Virtual accredited co-developed symposia:

- PF-ILD in the Canadian Landscape: Sharing Best Practices in Management. Presented by Dr. Martin Kolb on June 2, 2020 (co-developed with BI)
- Are all Inhaled Corticosteroids (ICS) Created Equally? Presented by Dr. Donald Cockcroft on June 17, 2020 (co-developed with GSK)
- A Role in Digital Health in the Behaviour Change Challenges Associated with the Management of Chronic Lung Disease in Canada. Presented by Andrew Kouri on September 29, 2020 (co-developed with BreatheSuite)
- PAH: Improving Outcomes & CTEPH: Updated Guideline. Presented by Drs. Sanjay Mehta and Andrew Hirsch on November 12, 2020 (co-developed with Janssen)

Accredited Continuing Medical Education

Co-developed online programs with GSK in collaboration with MDBriefCase:

- An accredited e-learning module on the COPD Pharmacotherapy Update was launched in English (April 2020) and French (August 2020). [1,160 participants, 89% overall satisfaction rate]
- Another online CME program on 'Recognition and Management of Severe Asthma' was launched in December 2019. [715 participants, 89% overall satisfaction rate]

CRHP Webinar Series

The CRHP Assembly is continuing to deliver webinar series on topics of interest to an interdisciplinary audience:

- Nutrition in Respiratory Health: Focus on COPD, presented by Karin Davis, RRT (January 2020)
- Canadian Consensus Recommendations for a Research Agenda in Pulmonary Rehabilitation Post-AECOPD, presented by Tania Janaudis-Ferreira (June 2020)
- Vaping associated lung injury, by Dr. Karen Bosma and Connie McKenzie (January 2021)

CTS Scientific Program at CHEST

- CTS delivered its scientific program in a virtual format as part of the CHEST Annual Meeting on October 18-21, 2020. Dr. Roger Goldstein delivered the CTS 2020 Honorary Lecture on "The Magic of Pulmonary Rehabilitation" on October 19, 2020.
- Early career faculty were featured in the CTS scientific program.
- Thanks to Program Chair Dr. François Maltais for leading the development of a high-quality program.

Webinar on Vaccine Hesitancy

Why won't they listen?! Using motivational communication strategies to promote vaccine acceptance in the era of COVID-19, by Dr. Kim Lavoie (December 2020)

Developing the Next Generation of Clinicians and Researchers

The new model for CTS Clinical Assembly Steering Committees includes positions for Early Career representatives. Implementation of this model was successfully achieved in 2020 with the Asthma and COPD Assemblies. Succession planning is underway in 2021 for the Interstitial Lung Disease, Home Mechanical Ventilation, Sleep Disordered Breathing and Pulmonary Vascular Disease Steering Committees.

Career development is also supported through:

- Featuring early career faculty at the CTS Scientific Program at CHEST
- Profiling young investigators as featured speakers at the Canadian Respiratory Conference
- Delivering an annual Pediatric Fellows Day and National Senior Respiratory Fellows Symposium to support preparation for the Royal College exam and transition to practice – only practice written exam was administered to the fellows locally by Adult Program Directors in 2020.
- Advertising career opportunities on the CTS website and through our 'Jobs in Respiriology' ebulletin
- Hosting and maintaining the Pediatric Respiriology 'Cross Canada Rounds' website.

Directory of Fellowships and Training Opportunities

The Directory of Extended Canadian Training and Respiratory Fellowships is available in the CTS member portal. This Directory is developed by CTS in collaboration with Adult and Pediatric Respiriology Program Directors across Canada.



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Expanding Collaboration, Expertise and Impact

CTS is expanding collaboration and leveraging partnerships to address priorities and solve challenges.



COVID-19 Respiratory Roundtable

CTS established the COVID-19 Respiratory Roundtable in April 2020, a forum of over 20 respiratory health organizations who meet regularly to exchange information on pandemic-related activities. This network has allowed health care professionals and patients to access the most up to date evidence-based information and medical expertise on issues impacting their lung health. In January 2021, Roundtable stakeholders issued a [joint statement](#) urging the federal, provincial and territorial governments to prioritize people living with lung disease who are at higher risk for more serious COVID-19 complications in the vaccination rollout. The Roundtable is now working to address the challenges around vaccination and ongoing issues related to post-COVID patient care.

Advising Health Canada - Drug Shortages Unit

CTS provided technical advice to Health Canada on the salbutamol shortage and prepared guidance for clinicians and patients on substitutions for [asthma](#) and [COPD](#). CTS was represented in a multi-stakeholder group by CTS members Drs. Mohit Bhutani, Chris Liciskai and Connie Yang. CTS continues to collaborate with the Canadian Pharmacists Association and the Canadian Medical Association.

Support for People with Advance Respiratory Disease

CTS created a new inter-professional community of practice on Support for People with Advance Respiratory Disease (through to palliative care) to provide a forum for information-sharing and the eventual development of standards and training. This initiative is being led by CTS/CRHP member Donna Goodridge.

Research

CTS supports national respiratory research priorities and promotes lung health research and ensures optimal respiratory care is informed by the best research evidence. In 2020, CTS provided 7 letters of support for COVID related grant applications (3 as a Knowledge End User), and 10 letters of support for research grants (5 as a Knowledge End User). If you need a letter of support, please contact Anne Van Dam, CTS Director of Knowledge Mobilization at avandam@cts-sct.ca.

The CTS Executive met with the Scientific Director and leadership team of the Institute of Circulatory and Respiratory Health of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research in November 2020 to exchange information, interests and explore potential collaborations.

National and International Partnerships

CTS is focused on *enhancing partnerships* with other organizations including, the American Thoracic Society (ATS), CHEST (American College of Chest Physicians), European Respiratory Society (ERS), Canadian Cardiovascular Society, Canadian Pharmacists Association, Canadian Sleep Society, Canadian Society for Respiratory Therapy and the Canadian Lung Association.

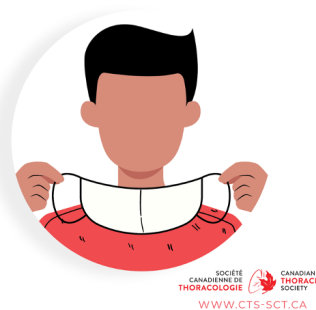
CTS has official representation in national coalitions and networks such as the Canadian Respiratory Research Network, Canadian Sleep and Circadian Network, Choosing Wisely Canada, and Immunize Canada.

2020 Public Facing Campaigns

Impact Public Affairs was engaged in 2020 to support the dissemination and awareness of our COVID-19 publications and to develop an advocacy and government relations strategy. A Pre-Budget Submission was prepared for the House of Commons Finance Committee for the 2021 federal budget. CTS had the opportunity to meet with the Chair to present our recommendations for federal investments related to a secure supply of PPE, a strategy to combat vaccine hesitancy, improved access to pulmonary rehabilitation, and increased funding for respiratory research. Social media infographics on the wearing of masks and vaccination were created and information provided to MPs for their fall letter campaign coinciding with the return to school and work. The statement on clinical triage thresholds and pulmonary function testing were disseminated to federal, provincial, and territorial ministers of health.

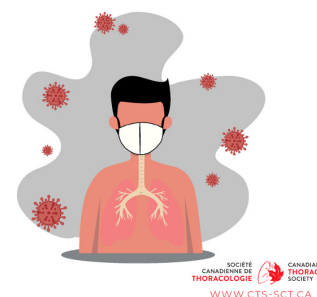
... HOW DO I WEAR A FACE MASK?

Only touch the
straps when
putting on or
taking off your
face mask.
...



Have a chronic lung disease?

...
There is no
evidence that
**wearing a
face mask**
could worsen
your lung
symptoms.
...



...
CTS is advocating that Budget
2021 continue to invest in
**broad-based promotion of
vaccinations, including but not
limited to COVID-19 vaccines.**

This is important to combat
vaccine hesitancy widely in order
to reduce pressures on Canada's
healthcare system and deliver
better health outcomes for
all Canadians.

...
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...
Canadians with
lung disease
deserve early
protection from
COVID-19 and
should be
prioritized
in vaccination
programs.
...



Awards and Recognition



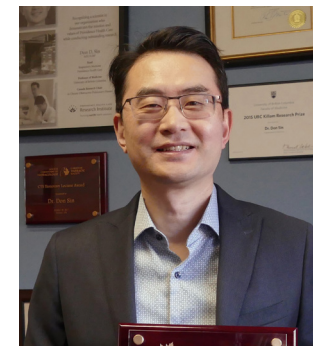
Lifetime Achievement in Pediatric Respiratory Medicine – Carina Majaesic, Calgary AB



CRHP Distinction Award – Gail Dechman, Halifax NS



CTS Honorary Lecture at CHEST – Roger Goldstein, Toronto ON



CIHR/ICRH-CTS Distinguished Lecture in Respiratory Sciences – Don Sin, Vancouver BC

LEADERSHIP

Heartfelt thanks to our Chairs and Co-Chairs who contributed to the work of CTS assemblies and other key initiatives in 2020:

Canadian Respiratory Health Professionals Assembly – Elizabeth French
 Pediatric Assembly – Tamizan Kherani
 Education & Continuing Professional Development – Patrick Daigneault
 Membership & Communications – John Gjevre
 Business Development – Jean Bourbeau
 Research – Larry Lands
 Long-term Planning – Catherine Lemiere
 Canadian Respiratory Guidelines Committee – Samir Gupta
 Asthma Assembly – Chris Liciskai, Connie Yang
 – PRESTINE Expert Panel Working Group – Diane Loughheed
 Bronchiectasis Working Group – Maeve Smith, Tanweer Azher
 Canadian Respiratory Guideline Committee – Samir Gupta
 COPD Assembly – Mohit Bhutani, Gail Dechman
 Chest Procedures Assembly – Christopher Hergott
 Home Mechanical Ventilation Assembly – Doug McKim
 Interstitial Lung Disease Assembly – Martin Kolb
 Pulmonary Vascular Disease Assembly – Andrew Hirsch

Sleep Disordered Breathing Assembly – Najib Ayas
 Tuberculosis and Infectious Disease Committee – Dick Menzies

Canadian Respiratory Conference Scientific Committee Co-Chairs – Christopher Hergott, Lisa Wickerson
 CTS Scientific Program at CHEST – François Maltais
 National Senior Respiratory Fellows Symposium – Alia Kashgari
 Pediatric Respiratory Fellows Day – Melinda Solomon, Connie Yang

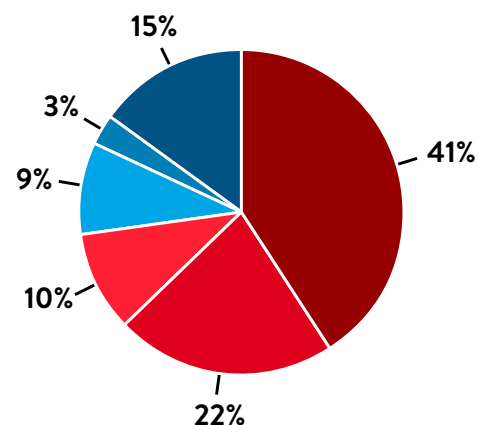
And appreciation to those who represent CTS with partner organizations:

Canadian Lung Association National Board – Pearce Wilcox
 Canadian Partnership Against Cancer/Lung Cancer Screening Framework – Anne Gonzalez, Christopher Hergott
 Canadian Society of Respiratory Therapists – Sanja Stanojevic
 CHEST Annual Meeting Program Planning Committee – John Gjevre, David Zielinski (Co-Chair)
 Choosing Wisely Canada Task Force – Samir Gupta, Donna Goodridge
 European Respiratory Society, CTS National Representative – Diane Loughheed
 Royal College Specialty Committee for Respiriology – Ashley Gillson

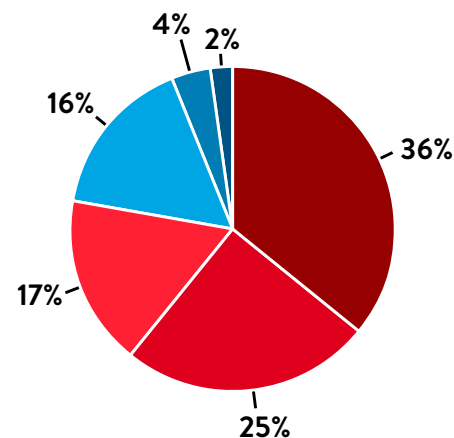
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2020 CTS Financials

REVENUE	2020	%
Corporate Sponsorship	\$328,250	41%
Membership	\$173,482	22%
Conference	\$84,470	10%
Journal/Publications	\$74,619	9%
Grants / Fee for Service	\$23,120	3%
Other (CERS, CEWS)	\$118,480	15%
Total	\$802,421	100%



EXPENSES		%
Salaries & Benefits	\$267,025	36%
Conference	\$182,592	25%
Office & Operations	\$124,909	17%
Contractors (Projects, CRC)	\$121,479	17%
Travel & Meetings	\$26,684	4%
Legal & Audit Fees	\$11,798	2%
Total	\$734,487	100%



NET **\$67,934**

The full audited financial statement will be posted on the CTS website and available on request via info@cts-sct.ca

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2020 Corporate Sponsors

PLATINUM



GOLD



BRONZE



Continuing Medical Education Programs



Accredited e-learning modules through MDBriefCase on the 'COPD Pharmacotherapy Update' and 'Recognition and Management of Severe Asthma'

Co-developed Accredited Webinars



Support to CTS COVID-19 Initiatives





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