

2021 ANNUAL REPORT



**ADVANCING KNOWLEDGE.
IMPROVING OUTCOMES.**

SOCIÉTÉ
CANADIENNE DE
THORACOLOGIE



CANADIAN
THORACIC
SOCIETY

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Member driven | Evidence-based knowledge production and transfer |
Transformation of patient care | Collaboration and partnership | Good governance



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President's Message



I write this message with renewed hope of Spring's imminent arrival and a faintly visible path for us to emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic. After having to cancel our conference in Niagara 2020 and successfully delivering a virtual conference in 2021, the

Canadian respiratory community will be meeting again in-person in beautiful Victoria for the Canadian Respiratory Conference in April 2022. Although I have appreciated the opportunity to maintain regular contact with colleagues from across the country through various virtual platforms, nothing can truly replace real face-to-face interactions.

I want to express my admiration and gratitude for the dedication, professionalism, and extraordinary efforts of our respiratory community in meeting the challenges of the pandemic. You have provided exemplary care for your patients, found innovative means to educate the next generation of health care professionals, and researched creative solutions to the problems posed by the current global respiratory health threat. Thank you!

The Canadian Thoracic Society remains very active in providing support to our members to meet the challenges of the pandemic. The CTS COVID Task Force, chaired by past president Dina Brooks, provides strategic guidance on where to prioritize our efforts. The Clinical Assemblies continue to produce high quality clinical guidance documents to help clinicians optimize management for their patients during the pandemic. The CTS has shown national leadership by regularly convening the COVID-19 Respiratory Roundtable, bringing together more than 20 Canadian respiratory professional societies and patient advocacy groups to share ideas and identify opportunities to collaborate. In the past year, we joined other professional bodies in calling for mandatory COVID-19 vaccination policies for health care workers. Under the leadership of Sanja Stanojevic, and in collaboration with the Canadian Society for Respiratory Therapists, we have advocated for protection of our members and patients against COVID-19 by hosting multiple roundtable meetings with key stakeholders and publishing best practice guidance documents to address the issue of aerosol precautions and PPE in high-risk clinical environments, such as in pulmonary function laboratories.

In terms of societal issues beyond those directly related to the pandemic, the CTS, led by Najib Ayas and the Sleep Assembly, and in collaboration with the Canadian Sleep Society, has

advocated for a resolution to the urgent situation resulting from the Philips Respironics positive airway pressure device recall. The CTS Executive and Board have also taken a firm public stance condemning the takeover of the inhaled medicines company Vectura by tobacco giant Philip Morris International. Last summer, we delivered an official written submission of recommendations to the federal government for their consideration in the development of the federal budget. The CTS will continue to work with our public relations firm Impact Public Affairs to address issues of concern to the Canadian respiratory community, such the impact of climate change on air quality and equitable access to healthcare by disadvantaged groups, where our collective voice and input can make a difference.

In line with our 2020-2023 strategic plan, launched by then president John Granton, there have been a number of important internal changes at the CTS in the past year. In order to promote the further growth and sustainability of our society we have established an investment fund and, under the leadership Jean Bourbeau, a new Business Development Advisory Committee. The CTS has recently hired a methodologist to support the exceptional work of the Clinical Assemblies and the CTS' Canadian Respiratory Guidelines Committee, chaired by Samir Gupta, to continue producing high quality, evidence-based clinical practice guidelines. Donna Goodridge has spearheaded the creation of a Palliative Care working group, which aims to improve the care and quality of life of people living with advanced respiratory disease. Most recently, we formed an Equity, Diversity and Inclusion working group, co-chaired by Sunita Mathur and Andrea Gershon, to help develop and update our leadership, management and governance policies and procedures to be fair, and to reflect, expand, and engage the diversity of our membership. Given the commitment of our members to improve the lung health of Canadians, I foresee more progress and positive changes at the CTS in the years ahead.

Lastly, I want to personally acknowledge the invaluable guidance and support provided to me over the last year by my good friends and colleagues - Past President, Dina Brooks, and other members of the CTS Executive (Richard Leigh, Mohit Bhutani, and Donna Goodridge), CTS Board members, CTS members, and especially Executive Director, Janet Sutherland (I will definitely miss our weekly Zoom calls), and the CTS staff. It has been a privilege to serve as CTS President.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Paul Hernandez'.

Paul Hernandez, MDCM, FRCPC
President, Canadian Thoracic Society

Strategic Pillars

The Canadian Thoracic Society will continue to lead and promote:

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



Key Areas of Focus

Growing our Society

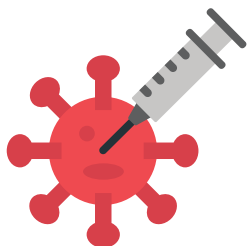
1. Business Development
2. Risk Management
3. Measure and evaluate performance and delivery of core services
4. Invest in staff and members
5. Financial stability and sustainability
6. Explore feasibility of a Foundation

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



COVID-19 GUIDANCE

- Rehabilitation for COVID-19 and implications for pulmonary rehabilitation
- Bronchoscopy during COVID-19 pandemic
- Update of the CTS recommendations regarding the use of face masks by the public during the pandemic
- Update of the Resumption Pulmonary Function Testing during the pandemic
- CTS Information and Guidance for Respiratory Health Care Professionals on COVID-19 Vaccination



Canadian Respiratory Guidelines



Asthma

CLINICAL PRACTICE GUIDELINES

- A focused update on the management of very mild and mild asthma
- 2021 Guideline Update: Diagnosis and management of asthma in preschoolers, children and adults



Home Ventilation

- Long-term non-invasive ventilation in patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease



TB / Infectious Diseases

- Canadian Tuberculosis Standards (15 chapters, 2 appendices) updated in collaboration with AMMI Canada and the Public Health Agency of Canada for publication on World TB Day 2022.

POSITION STATEMENTS

- Mechanical insufflation-exsufflation and available funding for Canadian adult patients
- Joint Statement from the Canadian Thoracic Society, Canadian Sleep Society and the Canadian Society of Respiratory Therapists Philips Respironics Device Recall.

CTS RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE DIAGNOSIS AND MANAGEMENT OF ASTHMA in Preschoolers, Children and Adults



WHAT IS ASTHMA?

- Inflammatory disorder of the airways
- Variable hyperresponsiveness of airways to endogenous or exogenous stimuli
- Variable airflow limitation



GOALS OF ASTHMA TREATMENT

Well-controlled asthma with no or minimal exacerbations.

HOW TO DIAGNOSE ASTHMA?

- Clinical history of paroxysmal or persistent symptoms such as: AND Objective confirmation

MEDICATIONS FOR ASTHMA IN CANADA

This table only includes oral and inhaled asthma medication. Biologic medications given subcutaneously or intravenously are available for patients with severe asthma.

VALVED HOLDING CHAMBERS		RELIEVERS			CONTROLLERS	
<p>To be used with metered dose inhalers</p>		<p>Albuterol 100/200 µg/actuation 100/200 µg/actuation</p>	<p>Formoterol 100/200 µg/actuation 100/200 µg/actuation</p>	<p>SABA 100/200 µg/actuation 100/200 µg/actuation</p>	<p>ICS 100/200 µg/actuation 100/200 µg/actuation</p>	<p>ICS/LABA 100/200 µg/actuation 100/200 µg/actuation</p>

KNOWLEDGE TRANSLATION

- Asthma Quick Reference Guide and Medication Table
- > 51,000 new website users in 2021
- Guideline Library is the top viewed page followed by CRC and COVID-19
- Top five countries visiting the CTS website

1. Canada
2. United States
3. India
4. China
5. United Kingdom

SUPPORT FOR RESEARCH

- CTS provided 14 letters of support in 2021
- CTS is a Knowledge User / Knowledge Translation Partner on 9 CIHR grants

The Canadian Respiratory Guidelines Committee Louis-Philippe Boulet Poster Award



This new CTS award was created in honour of Dr. Louis-Philippe Boulet, the inaugural chair of the CTS' Canadian Respiratory Guidelines Committee (CRGC), and recognizes an individual's innovation in the methodology, development, and /or implementation of clinical practice guidelines. This is an open poster competition for the best poster/presentation in guideline/implementation science to be held annually at the Canadian Respiratory Conference (CRC). This award will be adjudicated by the CTS' Canadian Respiratory Guidelines Committee and presented at CRC.

Louis-Philippe Boulet

Founder and Chair of the CRGC 2007– 2013
Past-Chair of CRGC 2014–2017
Honorary Member of CRGC 2018–2021
Editor in Chief, CTS Journal 2018 - present

Continuing Professional Development

Accreditation

- With the leadership of the CTS Education and CPD Committee, CTS was successful in renewing its status as a Royal College Accredited CPD Provider for a period of 8 years.
- In addition to its programs, CTS accredited five external programs from Alberta Respiratory Centre, Canadian Women in Medicine and Manitoba Thoracic Society.

Accredited Continuing Medical Education

- An accredited webinar was delivered on October 8th in collaboration with the Quebec Respiratory Health Research Network (QRHN) on Asthma Research and to provide an update on the CTS asthma guidelines.
- An accredited webinar for primary care physicians on the 2021 CTS Guideline on Very Mild and Mild Asthma developed for delivery in April 2022, supported by a grant from GSK.

CRHP Webinar Series

The CRHP Assembly delivered webinars on topics of interest to an interdisciplinary audience:

- Vaping associated lung injury, by Karin Bosma and Connie McKenzie (January 2021)
- Mechanical insufflation-exsufflation and available funding for Canadian adult patients: A CTS Position Statement, by Karla Horvey (June 2021)

CTS Scientific Program at CHEST

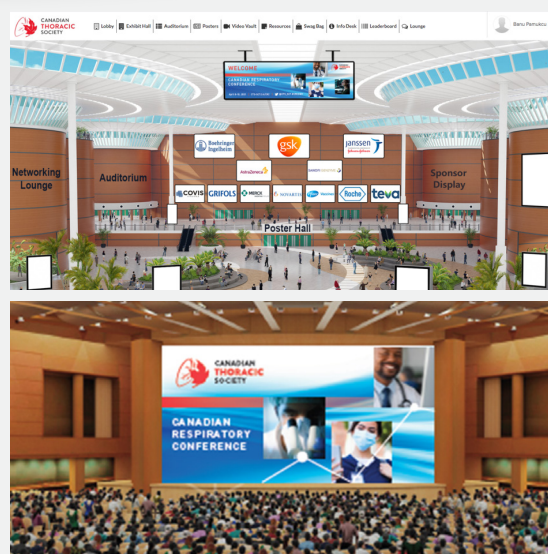
- The 2021 CTS Scientific Program at CHEST was held virtually as part of the CHEST Annual Meeting on Monday, October 18, 2021. The CTS program was comprised of live and on-demand sessions and featured early career faculty.
- Dr. James Martin delivered the CTS Honorary Lecture on “Irritant Asthma and Innate Immunity; a Neglected Area”.

CTS Speakers’ Bureau

- Three webinars on the 2021 CTS Guideline on Very Mild and Mild Asthma were delivered to primary care physicians for GSK in June and September 2021.
- Four other Speakers Bureau engagements on the 2021 CTS Guideline on Very Mild and Mild Asthma delivered for AstraZeneca and Covis Pharma between January-March 2021.

13th Annual Canadian Respiratory Conference

- Delivered our first virtual national conference April 8-10, 2021
- 511 delegates attended the virtual CRC which exceeded the expectations due to the 3D virtual conference experience and the quality of the sessions.
- Within the scientific program at CRC, the following three sessions were developed as Accredited Self-Assessment activity (Section 3)
 - Cardiopulmonary Exercise Testing Workshop
 - Pediatric Clinical Cases
 - Update in Lung Cancer: From Screening to Treatment
- Co-developed eight symposia with AstraZeneca, Boehringer-Ingelheim, Grifols, GSK (2), Janssen, Merck and Sanofi Genzyme.



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 has been achieved with the Asthma, COPD and ILD Assemblies. The model will be implemented next in the Home Mechanical Ventilation, Sleep Disordered Breathing, and Pulmonary Vascular Disease Assemblies.

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 the practice written exam was administered to the fellows locally by Adult Program Directors in 2021
- Advertising career opportunities on the CTS website and through our 'Jobs in Respiriology' ebulletin
- Hosting the Pediatric Respiriology 'Cross Canada Rounds' and 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.

Business Development

In 2021, the CTS created a Business Development Advisory Committee (BDAC) and hired a part-time business development specialist in support of its work. The BDAC has a focus on business strategy, fund development, marketing, and promotion of CTS' portfolio of business. More specifically, over the next few years the BDAC will:

- Develop revenue generation and business development strategies
- Review and assess tactical plans and business development goals
- Diversify the corporate sponsorship model and increase opportunities to monetize and market CTS products
- Explore other business models and new partnerships to develop opportunities
- Explore the feasibility of a foundation

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

A new working group, reporting to the CTS Executive and Board, has been created to focus on equity, diversity and inclusion and to contribute to the development of an operational framework for our professional society to ensure transparency, opportunity and participation. The EDI working group will shape the development of policies and procedures in the domains of member engagement, committee participation, organizational development and governance.



Expanding Collaboration, Expertise and Impact

- CTS continued to convene the national COVID-19 Respiratory Roundtable, meeting 11 times in 2021 to share information, identify common issues and align education and advocacy initiatives. CTS established this pan-Canadian Roundtable of over 20 patient and professional organizations working in lung health in April 2020. 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 during the pandemic. The Roundtable is working to address ongoing issues related to post-COVID patient care.
- Aerosol Precautions and PPE Stakeholder Roundtables organized by CTS and Canadian Society of Respiratory Therapists on May 17th and November 1st to develop strategies to influence decision-makers on access and safety issues for patients and healthcare professionals
- Biologic Therapy and COVID-19 vaccine – CTS developed an FAQ for clinicians and individuals with asthma as a joint initiative with the Canadian Society for Allergy and Clinical Immunology
- Development of a joint statement/media release with AMMI Canada promoting dual vaccination against influenza and COVID-19

Advocacy and Government Relations

In January 2021, Respiratory 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.

CTS Pre-budget Submission – A meeting was held with the Chair of the House of Commons Finance Committee to discuss CTS recommendations on federal government budget priorities, including:

- Combatting vaccine hesitancy
- Supporting the development of vaccines and treatments
- Improving outcomes for those with respiratory diseases
- Improved access to national PPE supply

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



...
CTS is advocating that Budget 2021 invest in programs that will improve clinical outcomes **for those living with respiratory diseases** and the delivery of care for those living with the long term effects of COVID-19.
...

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- Advocacy/consultation on clinical triage thresholds – Government of Newfoundland & Labrador
- Advocacy/consultation on pulmonary function testing – Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care
- CTS-Canadian Society for Respiratory Therapy joint statement in response to the Nov 12th 2021 statement from PHAC confirming aerosol transmission of COVID-19
- Call for mandatory COVID-19 vaccinations for health care workers
- CTS-AMMI Canada press release/joint statement promoting dual vaccination against influenza and COVID-19

2021 Awards and Recognition



Brian Graham,
Saskatoon, SK
*Distinguished
Achievement*



Janet Sutherland,
Ottawa, ON
Dedicated Service Award



James G. Martin,
Montreal, QC
CTS Honorary Lecture



Mark Montgomery,
Calgary, AB
*Lifetime Achievement in
Pediatric Respiratory
Medicine*



Tania Janaudis-Ferreira,
Montreal, QC
CRHP Distinction Award



Renata Mancopes,
Toronto, ON
*CRHP Research Poster
Award*

Leadership

Heartfelt thanks to our Chairs and Co-Chairs who contributed to the work of CTS assemblies and other key initiatives in 2021:

CANADIAN RESPIRATORY HEALTH PROFESSIONALS ASSEMBLY

David Gourde

PEDIATRIC ASSEMBLY

Dhenuka Radhakrishnan

CANADIAN RESPIRATORY GUIDELINES COMMITTEE

Samir Gupta
Sanjay Mehta

PRESTINE EXPERT PANEL WORKING GROUP

Diane Loughheed

EDUCATION & CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Patrick Daigneault

MEMBERSHIP & COMMUNICATIONS

John Gjevre

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Jean Bourbeau

RESEARCH

Larry Lands

LONG-TERM PLANNING

John Granton

EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION WORKING GROUP

Sunita Mathur
Andrea Gershon

ASTHMA ASSEMBLY

Christopher Liciskai
Connie Yang

BRONCHIECTASIS WORKING GROUP

Maeve Smith
Tanweer Azher

CANNABIS GUIDELINE PANEL

Matthew Stanbrook

COPD ASSEMBLY

Raymond Aceron
Erika Penz

CHEST PROCEDURES ASSEMBLY

Christopher Hergott

HOME MECHANICAL VENTILATION ASSEMBLY AND GUIDELINE PANEL

Doug McKim

INTERSTITIAL LUNG DISEASE ASSEMBLY

Martin Kolb
Lisa Wickerson

PALLIATIVE CARE WORKING GROUP

Donna Goodridge
Tara Lohmann

PULMONARY VASCULAR DISEASE ASSEMBLY

Andrew Hirsch

SLEEP DISORDERED BREATHING ASSEMBLY

Najib Ayas

PEDIATRIC OBSTRUCTIVE SLEEP APNEA GUIDELINE PANEL

Joanna MacLean

TUBERCULOSIS AND INFECTIOUS DISEASE COMMITTEE

Dick Menzies

CANADIAN RESPIRATORY CONFERENCE 2021 SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRS

Steeve Provencher
Lisa Wickerson

CANADIAN RESPIRATORY CONFERENCE 2021 POSTER ABSTRACT SUB-COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRS

Marla Beauchamp
Mike Stickland

CTS SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM AT CHEST

François Maltais

NATIONAL SENIOR RESPIRATORY FELLOWS SYMPOSIUM

Alia Kashgari

PEDIATRIC RESPIROLOGY FELLOWS DAY

Melinda Solomon
Connie Yang

And appreciation to those who represent CTS with partner organizations:

CANADIAN LUNG ASSOCIATION NATIONAL BOARD

Larry Lands

CANADIAN PARTNERSHIP AGAINST CANCER/LUNG CANCER SCREENING FRAMEWORK

Anne Gonzalez
Christopher Hergott

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

IMMUNIZE CANADA

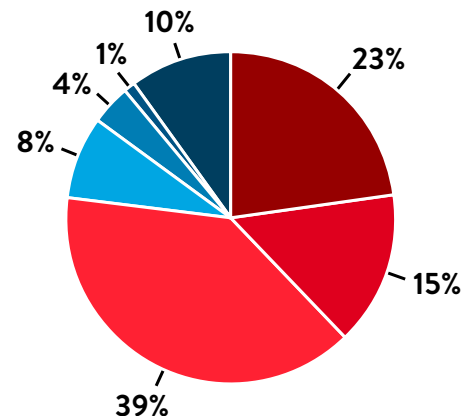
Anne Van Dam

ROYAL COLLEGE SPECIALTY COMMITTEE FOR RESPIROLOGY

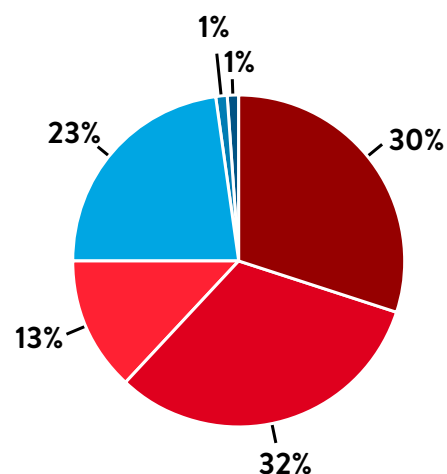
Ashley Gillson

2021 CTS Financial Statement

REVENUE	2021	%
Corporate Sponsorship	\$247,500	23%
Membership	\$169,329	15%
Conference	\$426,208	39%
Journal/Publications	\$85,700	8%
Grants / Fee for Service	\$48,687	4%
Accreditation / Programs	\$6,333	1%
Other (CERS, CEWS, advertising, interest)	\$111,562	10%
Total	\$1,095,319	100%



EXPENSES		%
Salaries & Benefits	\$294,356	30%
Conference	\$313,615	32%
Office & Operations	\$131,511	13%
Contractors (Projects, CRC)	\$224,321	23%
Travel & Meetings	\$4,979	1%
Legal & Audit Fees	\$14,189	1%
Total	\$982,971	100%



NET **\$112,348**

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

2021 Corporate Sponsors

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2021 Conference Sponsors

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FRIENDS

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Continuing Medical Education

Accredited webinars for primary care on the 2021 CTS Guideline on Very Mild and Mild Asthma



CTS Speakers Bureau Programs

2021 CTS Guideline on Very Mild and Mild Asthma





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