



CANADIAN
THORACIC
SOCIETY

10 YEARS

ADVANCING KNOWLEDGE. IMPROVING OUTCOMES.

2025 ANNUAL REPORT

ADVANCING KNOWLEDGE. IMPROVING OUTCOMES.

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REFLECTING ON 2025 AND A DECADE OF PROGRESS

On August 5, 2015, the Canadian Thoracic Society (CTS) officially incorporated as a distinct national non-profit organization, a pivotal milestone in our history. This date was symbolic, corresponding with the historical birthdate of our medical society's origin under the Canadian Tuberculosis Association, now the Canadian Lung Association.

At the helm, during that transition were Diane Lougheed as President, Jean Bourbeau as past President, and Andrew Halayko as President-elect. Executive Director Janet Sutherland played a crucial role, leading the charge with tireless dedication and managing the complex details that unfolded over several years.

In her President's message that year, Diane remarked "Kudos to Jean, who spearheaded the process on behalf of the CTS with such energy and enthusiasm!... The result was a three-year action plan with four key strategic priorities:

- Fostering innovation to promote evidence based clinical practice;
- Providing state of the art professional education to transform lung health care;
- Fostering cutting edge lung health research, and
- Developing the next generation of respiratory health professionals and research."

Ten years later, these priorities still resonate deeply with our mission.

The early years were marked by rapid change. CTS acquired the rights to the Canadian Respiratory Conference, welcomed the Canadian Respiratory Healthcare Professionals under our umbrella, and launched our own peer-reviewed journal: the *Canadian Journal of Respiratory, Critical Care, and Sleep Medicine*, which quickly established itself as a trusted source of high-quality research. Despite financial challenges and unexpected hurdles, CTS leadership remained steadfast in our work:

Advancing Knowledge. Improving Outcomes.

By 2019, membership was growing, guidelines were being published, and educational programming was diverse and impactful. Then came the COVID-19 pandemic, which tested our resilience. CTS adapted quickly, shifting priorities

to meet member needs, focusing on advocacy and connection, and publishing timely information to support healthcare professionals in an evolving landscape.

Fast forward to 2025: Our society stands stronger than ever.

This past year, CTS continued to deliver exceptional continuing professional development and educational opportunities, including the Canadian Respiratory Conference in Quebec City. Our clinical practice guidelines remain evidence-based and methodologically rigorous, relevant, and recognized world-wide. We supported respiratory science research by providing venues for research results and innovations to be shared, including the Pre-CRC Research Day, the webinar Research Reflections: Highlights of the Year in Respiratory Research and the CTS Poster competition at the ATS international conference. We invested in the next generation of clinicians, scientists, and health care professionals through our Early Career Working Group and networking receptions.

Membership reached 895, reflecting sustained growth and engagement. Financially we've grown our investment portfolio since 2022 to cover 5.5 months of operating expenses. Our target by 2030 is to have 6 months of operating expenses, which is equivalent to hosting the CRC without any sponsorship, mitigating financial risks for the CTS into the future. Our journal continues to gain recognition, and our assemblies remain vibrant hubs for collaboration and innovation.

We can be proud of where we have come from, the lessons we've learned, and the resilience we've shown. As we look ahead, let's carry these reflections with us and continue building a future where CTS leads the way in advancing respiratory health and care in Canada.

Thank you to the Board and staff for your dedication to the organization, our members, and the promotion of lung health.

ERIKA PENZ MD, MSc, FRCP(C)
President, Canadian Thoracic Society

CTS 2015 – 2025: A DECADE OF GROWTH AND IMPACT

The Canadian Thoracic Society (CTS) has deep roots dating back to 1946, when it was established under the Canadian Lung Association (formerly the Canadian Tuberculosis Association) as a medical section dedicated to advancing education and research in respiratory diseases. As a National Specialty Society, CTS is an Affiliate of the Canadian Medical Association and an Accredited Continuing Professional Development Provider designated by the Royal College.

This timeline focuses on CTS' evolution as an independent national non-profit organization since its incorporation in 2015, highlighting a decade marked by growth, innovation, and leadership in respiratory health.

2015

A New Era Begins

CTS officially incorporated as a distinct national non-profit organization, a pivotal milestone in its history. At the time, CTS had 717 members, including adult and pediatric respirologists, residents, students. The organization's goals were clearly defined through a new strategic plan: to develop clinical practice guidance, foster respiratory research, provide continuing professional development and medical education for respirologists and support the next generation of clinicians and researchers. The focus during this foundational year was on retaining members, communicating change and building a strong financial base.

2016

Expanding the Community

CTS welcomed the Canadian Respiratory Health Professionals (CRHP) as a constituent assembly, bringing 170 CRHP members under its umbrella. CTS assumed the legal and fiduciary responsibility for the Canadian Respiratory Conference (CRC) and partnered with the European Respiratory Society (ERS) to offer joint membership opportunities. The Canadian Respiratory Journal was sold, prompting CTS to seek a new publisher and establish a new journal. The loss marked a significant transition for the organization. Membership dipped to 631, and the organization concentrated on demonstrating the value of a National Specialty Society to Canadian respirologists.

2017

Building Identity and Credibility

CTS established its own branding, secured office space, and launched a new website. This year marked the first full year of operation for CTS' newly established peer-reviewed journal: the *Canadian Journal of Respiratory, Critical Care and Sleep Medicine* (CJRCCSM), affectionately known as the "red and white journal". The organization focused on capacity building, scientific credibility through the publication of clinical practice guidance, financial sustainability, and membership growth. Membership stood at 670.

2018

Broadening Horizons

The CTS Board of Directors approved a new Clinical Assembly model to expand committee work beyond guideline development, incorporating journal clubs, educational activities, and interdisciplinary participation. CTS secured observer status on Health Canada's Scientific Advisory Committee on Respiratory and Allergy Therapies. To attract broader membership, CTS reduced membership fees for non-physician members and students and created a membership category for PhD scientists. Membership reached 711.

2019

Strengthening Partnerships and Education

CTS forged a partnership with the Canadian Society of Respiratory Therapists for joint membership benefits for CRHP and was invited to Health Canada's stakeholder group to advise on the mitigation of shortages of meter-dose inhalers. The CTS Mastermind Challenge, a team-based competition among adult respirology fellows was launched. Membership climbed to 779.

2020

Responding to a Global Crisis

The COVID-19 pandemic forced the cancellation of the Canadian Respiratory Conference 2020 and led to a decline in membership to 749, with financial challenges looming. Despite this, CTS convened a pan-Canadian Respiratory Roundtable of more than 20 respiratory health-focused patient organizations and professional societies to share information and strategies during the pandemic.

2021

Innovating in a Virtual World

As the pandemic continued to impact daily life and work, CTS successfully delivered a virtual national scientific conference, formed a Business Development Advisory Committee, and launched new working groups focused on Palliative Care and Equity, Diversity and Inclusion. Membership rose to 769.

2022

Returning to In-Person Engagement

The CRC returned in-person in Victoria, B.C. The CJRCCSM achieved its first Impact Factor of 0.8, a significant milestone for the Journal's credibility. Membership stood at 766. CTS published the 8th Edition of the *Canadian Tuberculosis Standards*.

2023

Strategic Growth and Global Collaboration

CTS updated its Strategic Plan and celebrated CJRCCSM's Impact Factor rising to 1.5. Membership grew to 830. CTS participated in the inaugural Respiratory Societies of the Americas session at American Thoracic Society 2023 International Conference.

2024

Record-Breaking Engagement

CRC 2024 was the largest to date, with more than 760 attendees gathering in Toronto, ON. CTS hosted the inaugural Research Highlights webinar, summarizing hot topics and significant research findings from the year. Membership reached 879.

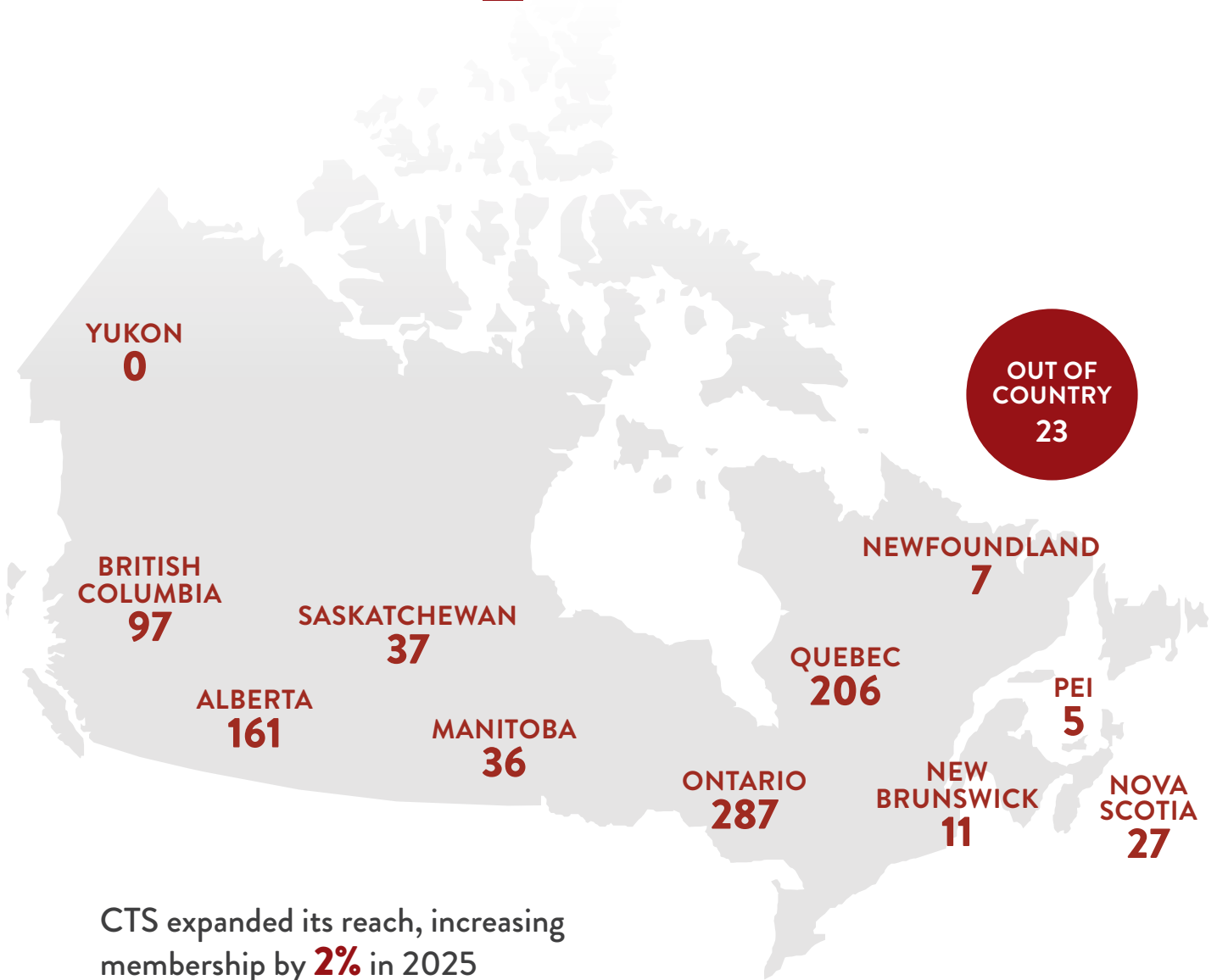
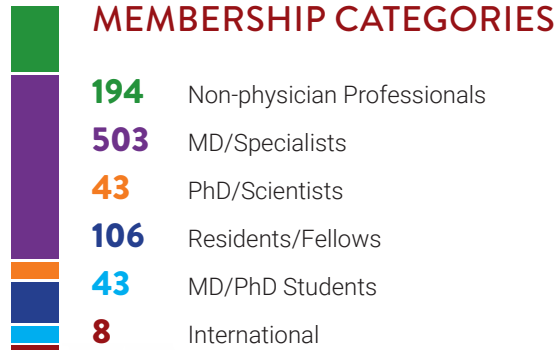
2025

Continuing the Momentum

Membership climbed to 895 (a 25% increase from 2015), reflecting sustained growth and engagement as CTS entered its second decade as an independent organization. From incorporation in 2015 to record-breaking engagement, CTS has evolved into a dynamic, financially stable, and scientifically credible organization. Its commitment to advancing respiratory health through education, research, and collaboration continues to shape the future of respirology in Canada and beyond.



A TOTAL OF 897 MEMBERS STRONG



CTS expanded its reach, increasing membership by **2%** in 2025

*Membership statistics as of December 10, 2025

CANADIAN RESPIRATORY ROUNDTABLE

The Canadian Respiratory Roundtable is a forum for 20+ patient and professional organizations working in lung health. This network enables healthcare professionals and patients access to the most up-to-date evidence-based information and medical expertise on issues impacting their lung health.

- AlphaNet Canada
- Asthma Canada
- BC Lung Foundation
- Canadian Lung Association
- Canadian Network for Respiratory Care
- Canadian Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation
- Canadian Sleep Society
- Canadian Society of Allergy & Clinical Immunology
- Canadian Society of Palliative Medicine
- Canadian Society of Respiratory Therapists
- COPD Canada
- Cystic Fibrosis Canada
- Alberta Lung
- Lung Association of Manitoba
- Lung Association of Nova Scotia and PEI
- Lung Sask/RESPTREC
- Lung Cancer Canada
- Lung Health Foundation
- NB Lung/Poumon NB
- Public Health Physicians of Canada
- Pulmonary Hypertension Association of Canada
- Réseau Québécois d'Éducation en Santé Respiratoire
- Respiplus

ATS 2025 – RESPIRATORY SOCIETIES OF THE AMERICAS

CTS participated in the Respiratory Societies of the Americas at ATS 2025 International Conference. The session featured representatives from four societies discussing both the adult and pediatric perspectives of *Vaping: Respiratory Impacts and Public Health Challenges in the Americas*. Erika Penz, CTS President, co-chaired the session and presented the Canadian perspective. Theo Moraes also contributed to the project for the Canadian pediatric perspective.

Maria Enedina Scuarcialupi presented for the Brazilian Thoracic Society, Adrián Rendon presented for the Latin American Thoracic Society, Hasmeena Kathuria presented for CHEST, and Laura Crotty Alexander presented for the ATS.





“ Its important to be inquisitive, to network, and to take on tasks when asked if you want to have more input into the society and how it operates. ”

Andrew Halayko

Professor of Physiology and Pathophysiology, and Internal Medicine
Tier 1 Canada Research Chair in Lung Pathobiology and Treatment
Associate Head (Research) Department of Internal Medicine
Acting Co-CEO, Children's Hospital Research Institute of Manitoba
Editor in Chief, American Journal of Respiratory Cell and Molecular Biology
Past President, Canadian Thoracic Society

As a new independent researcher, Dr. Andrew Halayko worked with trainees on stipend awards and was invited to join the Canadian Lung Association/CTS fellowship and studentship grant panel, which eventually led to deeper CTS involvement through workshops and eventually to serving as Research Chair on the CTS Board of Directors and later as President. Some of Dr. Halayko's fondest memories with the CTS include launching the annual CTS Poster Competition at the ATS International Conference, which he chaired for nearly a decade and became a premiere event for Canadian trainees, as well as collaborating with Dr. Denis O'Donnell to establish the framework of what became the Canadian Respiratory Research Network and RENASCENT Training Program, which are still thriving today. If he were to impart wisdom to trainees and fellows, it would be to network, take on new tasks, and to be inquisitive. Presenting abstracts and attending meetings at the Canadian Respiratory Conference (CRC) can lead to greater involvement within the CTS, which can help build the critical mass needed to make the CRC a "must-be-there" event that reflects the diversity and strength of Canada's respiratory research community.

CTS RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Chair: Grace Parraga

The New Kids on the Block session at the Canadian Respiratory Conference (CRC) 2025 showcased research highlights from early career investigators. Thank you to Jeenet Mehareen (University of British Columbia), Madia Suray Tan (McMaster University) and Kalysta Makimoto (University of Toronto) for your engaging presentations.

The webinar *Research Reflections: Highlights of the Year in Respiratory Research*, delivered in December 2025, featured presentations by Stacey Lok (Updates in ILD), Don Sin (COPD Year in Review) and Krystelle Godbout (Asthma Year in Review).

The 12th Annual CTS Poster Competition, chaired by Grace Parraga, was hosted on May 17, 2025 in San Francisco, California at the ATS International Conference and featured Canadian investigators. Twenty-nine clinical and basic science poster presenters participated. The **James C. Hogg Basic Research Award** was presented to: Sumiha Karunagaran, University of Toronto – Pleural Cavity-resident B Cells and Macrophages Form Immune Scaffolds on the Lung Surface in Response to Bacterial Stimuli. The **Frederick Hargreave Clinical Research Award** was presented to: Joël St-Pierre, Université de Sherbrooke – Type-2 Inflammation and Lung Function Changes in the Placebo Arms of Asthma Clinical Trials: Findings from the Oracle2 Meta-analysis.

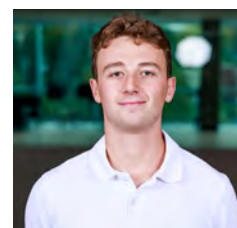
CTS is committed to assisting our members to attract funding for respiratory research. In 2025, CTS provided 10 letters of support to members.

Looking ahead, the Research Committee is excited to present the CTS Research Forum, taking place on April 15, 2026 in Calgary. Presented as a celebration of science, program highlights include:

- **What's New in 2026** – Exciting new research underway
- **Science Spoken Succinctly** – Abstract presentation competition for the CTS Research Awards
- **BlueSky Panel** – Join the conversation on the future of respiratory research
- **BEAVER DEN** – Innovators pitch their project to a panel of expert Beavers who will award the top presentation an Innovation Award of \$10,000



Sumiha Karunagaran



Joël St-Pierre

CANADIAN JOURNAL OF RESPIRATORY, CRITICAL CARE, AND SLEEP MEDICINE

Editor in Chief: James Martin, MD, DSc

Deputy Editor: Andrea Gershon, MD

The *Canadian Journal of Respiratory, Critical Care, and Sleep Medicine (CJRCCSM)* was established in 2017 and is the official journal of the CTS. Six issues of the CJRCCSM are distributed annually and it is published by Taylor & Francis Group.

Thank you to all who contributed articles, research, and opinions.

Thank you to our Associate and Junior Editors for your thorough reviews.





“ **Get involved! It will enrich your life, allow you to make a meaningful difference, and help you build lasting friendships.** ”

Dina Brooks

Executive Vice-Dean and Associate Vice-President, Academic

Faculty of Health Sciences, McMaster University

CTS Chronic Cough Working Group Co-Chair

Past President, Canadian Thoracic Society

Dr. Dina Brooks' journey to CTS membership began when the CHRP and CTS merged, recognizing the value of joining a unified community. One of her fondest memories of the Society, so far, is serving as CTS President during the COVID-19 pandemic – a challenging yet rewarding time that showcased the resilience and collaboration of CTS members. Her advice to trainees and fellows is simple: become involved early, as participation will enrich their life, allow them to make a meaningful impact, and help build lasting friendships. Dr. Brooks is proud to be part of CTS and encourages others to embrace opportunities for engagement and leadership, knowing that together we can advance research, education, and patient care in transformative ways.

CTS CLINICAL ASSEMBLIES AND WORKING GROUPS

CTS members are part of a community of leaders in respiratory health. The Society creates a platform for knowledge exchange, ensuring that the respiratory health community across Canada works together to learn from one another and focus on accomplishing our collective goals.

CTS Clinical Assemblies and Working Groups serve as dynamic hubs for interdisciplinary scientific and clinical collaboration, fostering innovative exchanges among CTS members. Below are many of the initiatives that took place in 2025:

Asthma Assembly (Co-chairs: Tom Kovesi, Clare Ramsey) [View website](#)

- Initiated partnership with RQESR for an asthma referral tool project with Andréanne Côté as the CTS representative.
- In development:
 - Guideline - Severe Asthma: Focused Update on Biologics & Triple Therapy
 - Position Statement – Diagnosing Asthma in Children in Resource-limited Settings

Asthma Journal Club Webinars (Lead: Sze Man Tse)

- *Do Your Patients Have an Oximeter at Home, How Reliable is it, and How do they use it?*
Presented by Dr. Tom Kovesi, accredited for MOC Section 1

Canadian Respiratory Healthcare Professionals (CRHP) Assembly (Chair: Sophie Vallee-Smejda) [View website](#)

- The CRHP Leadership Council presented a webinar on Cool Air, Clear Relief: Exploring the Mechanisms and Utility of Fan-to-Face Therapy for Management of Exertional Breathlessness in Chronic Lung Disease presented by Dr. Rachelle Aucoin on World COPD Day.
- Members of the CRHP Leadership Council are organizing a “Chronic Cough Masterclass: From Diagnosis to Treatment – Hands-On Workshop” at CRC 2026, in collaboration with the Chronic Cough Working Group. This interactive workshop will include hands-on learning opportunities, patient perspectives, and expert lectures delivered by Canada’s leading authorities on Chronic Cough.
- CRHP created a new partnership with RESPTREC (Respiratory Training and Educator Courses) which allows members to access programs at a discounted rate.

CRHP Webinar

Cool Air, Clear Relief:
Exploring the Mechanisms and Utility of Fan-to-Face Therapy for Management of Exertional Breathlessness in Chronic Lung Disease

Wednesday
November 19
12:00 – 1:00 PM ET

Dr. Rachelle Aucoin
Speaker

www.cts-sct.ca REGISTER NOW!

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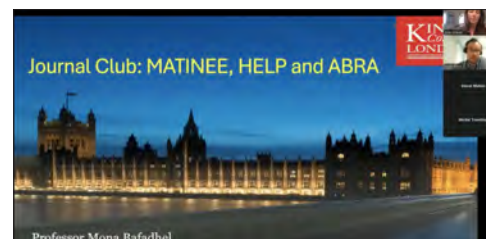
COPD Assembly (Co-chairs: David Gourde, Joshua Wald) [View website](#)

- Clinical Input and Feedback was sent to Canada’s Drug Agency for:
 - Dupilimab for patients with COPD
 - Mepolizumab for adult patients with COPD with an eosinophilic phenotype
- Press Release for World COPD Day to raise awareness of COPD in Canada.
- Endorsement of CIHR-funded project, CTS representative Tania Janaudis-Ferreira is leading *Best practices for virtual pulmonary rehabilitation in Canada*.
- Endorsement of multi-project research program designed to improve guideline-CTS-concordant COPD care with CTS representative Samir Gupta leading *EAPOC-COPD*.



COPD Journal Club Webinars (Lead: Bryan Ross)

- *Biologic Therapies in COPD: MATINEE and ABRA*
Presented by Professor Mona Bafadhel, accredited for MOC Section 1



Choosing Wisely Canada (CWC) Working Group (Chair: Geneviève Digby)

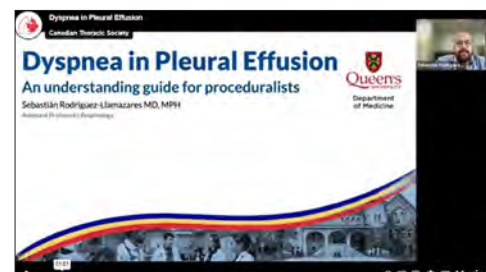
- The *Go Zero - Feasibility of a Sustainable and Accessible Inhaler Recycling Program* is underway, taking place at five different sites. Through this study, the group will be able to measure plastic and metal recycling weight and how that varies by site and greenhouse gases saved through this recycling process.
- Three new CWC recommendations were created in collaboration with the Chest Procedures Working Group to accompany CTS Position Statement on Chest Procedures and the Environment.
- CTS Choosing Wisely updated their recommendation #2: Don't perform CT screening for lung cancer among patients at low risk for lung cancer.

Chest Procedures Working Group (Chair: Marc Fortin, Vice Chair: Simon Houston)

- In development:
 - Position Statement - Environmental Impact of Chest Procedures, including Bronchoscopy
 - Guideline – Bronchoscopic Endobronchial Lung Reduction

National IPM Rounds (Lead: Marc Fortin)

- Seven centres presented talks in the National IPM Rounds in 2025. These are fellow-focused webinars, highlighting the research that is being done at each centre and any new pathways or procedures that can contribute to other centres.



Chronic Cough Working Group (Co-chairs: Dina Brooks, Imran Satia)

- In development:
 - Position Statement – Evaluation and Management of Chronic Cough in Canadian Children
- Chronic Cough Working Group is collaborating with the CRHP Leadership Council on the delivery of a workshop at CRC 2026 in Calgary, AB.

Cystic Fibrosis (CF) Working Group (Leads: Mark Chilvers, Patrick Daigneault, Julian Tam, Melinda Solomon)

- Mark Chilvers is the CTS Representative for the endorsement of the Canadian Consensus Standards for CF Care (CanCon)
- In development:
 - CTS/CF Canada Position Statement: Optimal clinical care for infants, children and youth diagnosed with CFSPID

Early Career Working Group (Co-Chairs: Kimberley Kaspy, Brienne Philipenko)

- Hosted the inaugural Early Career Reception in Quebec City in conjunction with CRC 2025. Over 75 residents, fellows, students, and program directors attended the session.

Home Mechanical Ventilation (HMV) Assembly

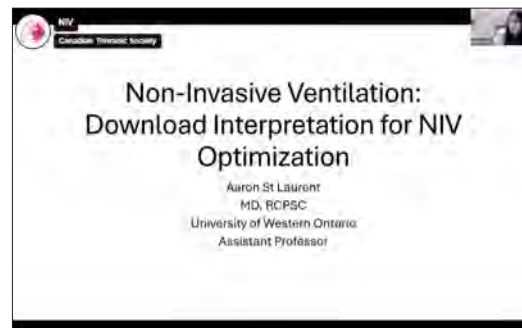
(Co-chairs: Marta Kaminska, Sherri Katz) [View website](#)

- Hosted the Non-Invasive Home Mechanical Ventilation Systems Workshop in conjunction with the Canadian Respiratory Conference 2025 in Quebec City. The workshop featured interactive, small group sessions with preceptors demonstrating equipment and guiding participants through practical case scenarios.

HMV Webinar Series (Lead: Marta Kaminska, Sherri Katz)

[View website](#)

- Launched to support clinicians caring for pediatric and adult patients requiring long-term home ventilatory support, the HMV Webinar Series features expert insights on key topics including: Managing the Neuromuscular Patient with Progressive/Late Chronic Respiratory Failure, Emergencies and Alarms: Troubleshooting Home NIV, Evaluation of the Neuromuscular Patient: Diagnostic and NIV Initiation for Outpatient, Ambulatory Monitoring of NIV and Inpatient Management of the Patient with Chronic Respiratory Failure: NIV Initiation, Hospital Care, Discharge Planning.



Non-CF Bronchiectasis Working Group (Leads: Sharon Dell, Adam Shapiro, Maeve Smith)

- In development:
 - Guideline – Adult Non-CF Bronchiectasis, Position Statement – Standards of Care in the Diagnosis, Monitoring and Treatment of Primary Ciliary Dyskinesia
- Maeve Smith acted as CTS representative to the 2025 World Bronchiectasis Day on July 1, participating on the Global Planning Committee.
- Maeve Smith and Melinda Solomon were CTS representatives for the 8th World Bronchiectasis Conference July 14-17 in Brisbane, Australia.

Palliative Care Working Group (Co-chairs: Donna Goodridge, Tara Lohmann)

- In development:
 - Position Statement – Integrating a Palliative Approach into Respiratory Care.

Pediatric Assembly (Chair: Jackie Chiang) [View website](#)

- April Price acted as the CTS National Ambassador to the INSPIRED Conference June 26-29 in Barcelona.

Cross Canada Rounds (CCR) (Leads: Michael Derynck, Kristen Ebbert and Jody Platt)

- CCR is a joint venture between the Pediatric Program Directors and the CTS Pediatric Assembly.
- In its 28th year, CCR continues to facilitate discussion, highlight the variety of diagnostic and treatment approaches, expose fellows to different pathologies by sharing rare cases, and provide an up-to-date literature review on various topics. Ten 2-hour sessions were held in 2025.

Pediatric Bronchoscopic Cryotherapy Workshop (Leads: Kimberley Kaspy, April Price, Melinda Solomon)

- The Pediatric Bronchoscopic Cryotherapy Workshop was hosted as a post-conference activity at CRC 2025 and offered hands-on practice of cryotherapy techniques. Participants gained exposure to disposable flexible bronchoscopes and to a virtual artificial intelligence bronchoscopy simulator.

Asthma Lecture Series for Pediatric Fellows (Lead: Connie Yang)

- An 11-week online series starting January 2025 with topics on: Asthma Pathophysiology: A Deeper Dive into Understanding Inflammation and Bronchoconstriction, Medications for the Treatment of Severe Asthma, Treatment of Very Mild and Mild Asthma, Diagnosis of Asthma, Tips and Tricks from an Asthma Educator, Asthma from an Allergist's Perspective and What Pediatric Respiriologists Should Know About Other Atopic Conditions, Treatment of Moderate Asthma (What comes after Daily Inhaled Corticosteroids), Working Up the Patient with Exercise-Induced Shortness of Breath, Aerosol Science and Inhaled Medication Delivery and The Future of/Pipeline of Asthma Research. Recordings are available in the [CTS Member Portal](#).

Long-Term Ventilation Lecture Series for Pediatric Respiriogy Fellows (Leads: Reshma Amin, Jackie Chiang)

- A 9-week online lecture series was developed for pediatric fellows, delivered virtually with topics on: Overview of CSA, Low Oxygen Saturations, McGill Score, and Approach to Oximetry Interpretation, Overview of Nocturnal Hypoventilation, Overview of OSA, Introduction to Sleep Reporting, Non-Invasive Ventilation, Tracheostomy, Airway Clearance/Cough

Assist and Invasive Ventilation (Initiation and Ventilators). Recordings are available in the [CTS Member Portal](#).

Pulmonary Vascular Disease Working Group (Chair: Jason Weatherald, Vice Chair: Nathan Hambly)

- Jason Weatherald was appointed as the CTS Representative on the American Thoracic Society Clinical Practice Guidelines of Management of Pulmonary Hypertension.

Sleep Disordered Breathing Assembly (Co-chairs: Jaimie Peters, Clodagh Ryan)

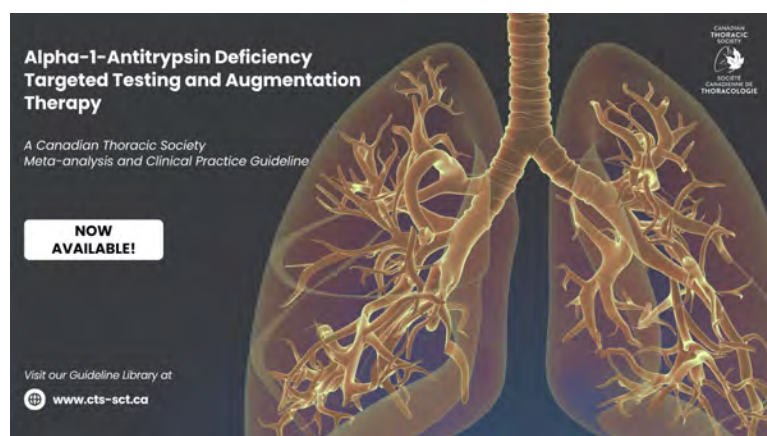
- In development:
 - Guidelines – Adult Obstructive Sleep Apnea, Pediatric Obstructive Sleep Apnea



PUBLISHED CTS GUIDANCE 2025

In January 2025, the *Alpha-1-Antitrypsin Deficiency Targeted Testing and Augmentation Therapy: A CTS Meta-analysis and Clinical Practice Guideline* was co-published in the *Canadian Journal of Respiratory, Critical Care, and Sleep Medicine* with *CHEST Journal*. Two webinars were delivered in the spring (in English and French) with 222 attendees in total to disseminate key information and updates from the guideline.

Two manuscripts have been submitted for publication at the end of 2025: *The Canadian Thoracic Society/Canadian Sleep Society Guideline on the diagnosis of obstructive sleep apnea in children*, and *Infection Screening Before Starting Immunosuppression in Interstitial Lung Disease: A Canadian Thoracic Society position statement*. Other guidelines under development are noted under Assembly and Working Group activities, however, there are two guidelines under development that don't fall under the leadership of a CTS Assembly or Working Group. These are *Cannabis and Lung Health* and *To Prevent and/or Treat Post-COVID Lung Disease*.



CTS GUIDANCE TOPIC PROPOSAL PROCESS

The Canadian Respiratory Guideline Committee (CRGC) have implemented a new process for submitting proposals for guidance document development. This new process will streamline the review and approval process, provide transparency, and lays out a structured timeline allowing Assemblies and Working Groups to better plan future projects. There will be two intakes a year when CTS members can submit a proposal to develop a guidance document - a Spring intake (submission deadline of May 14) and a Fall intake (submission deadline of December 15).

PARTNERSHIPS IN CLINICAL PRACTICE GUIDANCE

CTS continues to partner with American Thoracic Society (ATS), Latin American Thoracic Society (ALAT) on the development of a guideline for diagnosis and management of hospital-acquired and ventilator-associated pneumonia, and with Canadian Society of Respiratory Therapists (CSRT) on a position statement on the implementation of international pulmonary function testing standards in Canada.



“ Attend assembly meetings, and seize opportunities to volunteer on a committee or working group. You will be rewarded by camaraderie of like-minded individuals who inspire and motivate you. ”

Diane Lougheed

Professor of Medicine, Departments of Medicine (Division of Respiriology), Biomedical and Molecular Sciences and Public Health Sciences

Vice Dean, Clinical, Queen's Health Sciences

Medical Director, Southeastern Ontario Academic Medical Organization (SEAMO)

Past CTS President

Dr. Diane Lougheed was a resident competing at the CTS Resident Research Competition, where she was honoured to win a prize for best clinical presentation. Impressed by the conference quality, networking and grant funding opportunities, Dr. Lougheed was encouraged by her Queen's faculty colleagues to become a member of the CTS and engage in committees. Among her fondest CTS memories are the friendships and collaborations formed by participating in the intense process of guideline development as part of the Asthma Assembly, the CTS Executive, and the Journal Editorial Board. It was during her year as President that CTS transitioned to become independent from the Canadian Lung Association and launched the new Canadian Journal of Respiratory, Critical Care and Sleep Medicine – stressful at the time but now a source of pride, as CTS thrives. Dr. Lougheed's advice to trainees and fellows is to join the CTS, attend the CRC and international meetings, and volunteer on committees or working groups, where they will find camaraderie, inspiration, and motivation. One parting note of encouragement would be for all CTS members to support our Journal.

CTS completed year five of its eight-year period as an Accredited CPD Provider designated by the Royal College.

ACCREDITED CME & CO-DEVELOPED PROGRAMS

Through the Royal College Maintenance of Certification Program, CTS accredited:

10 Section 1 MOC accredited programs

5 Section 3 MOC accredited programs

Throughout 2025, CTS delivered a variety of Continuing Professional Development activities for physicians, specialists, and respiratory healthcare professionals.

Accredited Activities:

- **CANADIAN RESPIRATORY CONFERENCE 2025**
- **2025 CANADIAN THORACIC SOCIETY GUIDELINE ON ALPHA-1 ANTITRYPSIN DEFICIENCY**, co-chaired by Paul Hernandez and Darcy Marciniuk, disseminated in two webinars which were co-developed with Takeda.
- **BEYOND TRIPLE THERAPY: PERSONALIZED MEDICINE & BIOLOGICS IN COPD**, chaired by Mohit Bhutani, was co-developed with Sanofi and delivered through three webinars.
- **THE PH MEDICAL THINK TANK** program was co-developed with Pulmonary Hypertension Association of Canada (PHA Canada), chaired by John Granton, and delivered in September 2025 in Toronto, ON.
- **PAH IN PRACTICE: A CASE-BASED ONLINE LEARNING PROGRAM FOR BETTER PATIENT CARE**, chaired by Steeve Provencher, co-developed with Merck as an online module and was launched in September 2025.
- **FOUR-FRONT DEFENSE: FLU, PNEUMOCOCCAL, RSV AND COVID-19 VACCINES**, chaired by Samir Gupta, co-developed with Respiplus and delivered through two webinars. This program was sponsored by GSK and Moderna.

EXTERNAL PROGRAMS ACCREDITED

In addition to its programs, CTS accredited two external programs for the University of Toronto, Division of Respiriology:

- **ANNUAL RESPIROLOGY SUMMER CME EVENING**
- **ANNUAL DAY IN RESPIROLOGY & CME EVENING**

CTS SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM AT CHEST

The 2025 CTS Scientific Program at CHEST, chaired by Christopher Hergott, was delivered as part of the CHEST Annual Meeting on Monday, October 20, 2025, in Chicago, IL.



“ Becoming a CTS member has been an important part of my career, giving me a cross-Canada network of colleagues and friends, a platform to help shape conversations in our field, and a professional home that continues to motivate and inspire me. ”

Melinda Solomon

Chair, Respiriology Specialty Committee, Royal College of Physicians & Surgeons

Medical Director, Lung Transplant Program

Director, Cystic Fibrosis Clinic

Pediatric Respiriologist

Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto

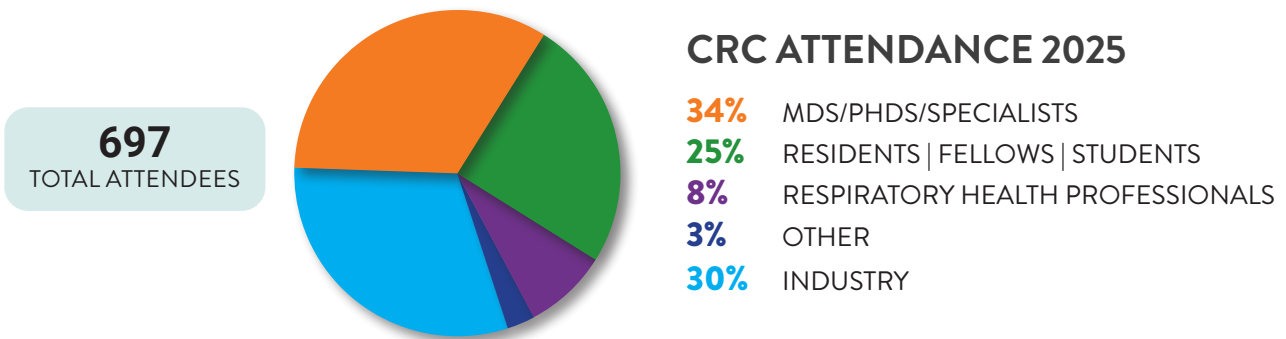
Professor, Pediatrics, University of Toronto

Immediate Past President, Canadian Thoracic Society

Dr. Melinda Solomon was first introduced to the CTS as a speaker at a Canadian Respiratory Conference Cystic Fibrosis session. Impressed by the CTS' breadth of opportunities—from working groups and guideline development to cross-disciplinary collaboration and emerging research, Dr. Solomon was drawn to the Society's strong sense of community. As a CTS member, Dr. Solomon's fondest memories include initiating and developing the inaugural Women's Forum at the CRC in Québec City in 2025, which came to life through the creativity and collaboration of the CTS team. After overwhelming enthusiasm, it will be featured once again at CRC 2026. She also cherishes her time working with the CTS' dedicated Board of Directors, whose commitment has strengthened CTS as the national voice of respiratory medicine. Dr. Solomon encourages trainees and fellows to get involved with the CTS early: becoming a CTS member offers exceptional opportunities to connect, learn, and grow, while contributing to committees, accessing cutting-edge education and collaborating with members who are passionate about advancing lung health.



CTS delivered the Canadian Respiratory Conference (CRC) in Quebec City, QC from April 3 - 5, 2025. The high-quality scientific program attracted an audience from across Canada and included 34 sessions, and 69 speakers. A record number of abstracts (128) were submitted for CRC 2025, of which 119 were accepted for display.



CTS co-developed eight symposia as part of the CRC 2025 scientific program with AstraZeneca, Boehringer Ingelheim, GSK, Sanofi-Regeneron, Takeda, and Vertex.

CRC 2025 included new pre- and post-conference activities, including the Pre-CRC Research Day, Non-Invasive Home Mechanical Systems Workshop, Pediatric Bronchoscopic Cryotherapy Workshop, and the AI and Automation in Respiratory Therapy symposium.

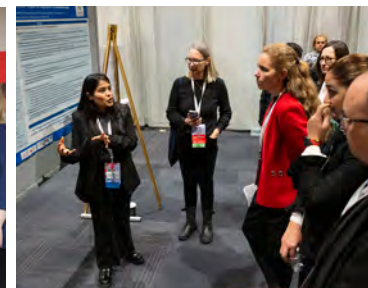
The inaugural *CTS Women's Forum: Inspiring Women in Respiratory Healthcare* hosted over 100 delegates as a breakfast session with an uplifting lecture from Patricia Rivera.

The CRC 2025 scientific program offered the following three sessions as accredited Self-Assessment activities (Section 3) through the Royal College.

- Advanced Bronchoscopy in Pediatrics and Beyond
- If you're Not Early, You're Late: Screening for Pulmonary Fibrosis
- COPD: New and Upcoming Treatment Options for Canadians with Severe COPD



5th CTS Mastermind Challenge



CRC 2025 Moderated Poster Session

CTS launched targeted initiatives to connect early career members, support their career development and actively engage fellows, trainees, and students through a variety impactful activity:

- An Early Career Working Group was established in 2024, co-chaired by Kimberley Kaspay and Brianne Philipenko. The group is open to CTS and CRHP members and has defined CTS early career as anyone within the first 5-years of practice. The inaugural early career reception was hosted in conjunction with the Canadian Respiratory Conference (CRC) 2025.
- The 5th *CTS Mastermind Challenge*, A team-based competition among respirology fellows was delivered at CRC 2025, organized and moderated by Christopher Hergott and Cory Yamashita – The winning team was McGill University.
- The annual *Pediatric Fellows Day* for pediatric respiratory fellows with faculty from Program Directors and CTS Pediatric Assembly was delivered in conjunction with CRC 2025. The Pediatric Fellows Day was co-chaired by Vincent Lavoie, Melinda Solomon and Connie Yang.
- The *National Respiratory Fellows Symposium (NSRFS)* is delivered in collaboration with respirology Program Directors and was co-chaired by Vanessa Luks (University of Ottawa) and Christopher Hergott (University of Calgary). The *NSRFS Review Course* was delivered virtually in November 2024. The 2025 Practice written exam materials were shared with the Program Directors for administration locally to their fellows in January 2025, and the in-person OSCE Practice Exam was delivered in conjunction with CRC 2025 in April.
- The *Directory of Extended Canadian Training and Respiratory Fellowships* was updated and posted on the CTS website and member portal and disseminated to CTS members through the eBulletin. This resource is updated annually by CTS in collaboration with Adult and Pediatric respirology Program Directors.

Career development and networking opportunities for the next generation of clinicians and researchers is also supported through:

- Featuring early career faculty at the CTS Scientific Program at CHEST 2025.
- Profiling young investigators as featured speakers at the Canadian Respiratory Conference.
- CRHP Research Poster Competition.
- Advertising career opportunities on the CTS website and through our 'Jobs in Respirology.'
- Hosting and maintaining the Pediatric Respirology 'Cross Canada Rounds' website.
- Including an early career representative on CTS Committees, Clinical and Constituent Assemblies and Working Groups.

CIHR/ICRH – CTS DISTINGUISHED LECTURE IN RESPIRATORY SCIENCES AWARD

Grace Parraga



HONORARY LECTURE AWARD

Sharon Dell

DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

François Maltais



DEDICATED SERVICE AWARD

Sara-Edith Penney

CRHP DISTINCTION AWARD

Dina Brooks



LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT IN PEDIATRIC RESPIRATORY MEDICINE

Jean-Paul Praud

PEDIATRIC ASSEMBLY EARLY-CAREER OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS AWARD

Zofia Zysman-Colman



CRHP RESEARCH POSTER AWARD

Annie Newman

CRGC LOUIS-PHILIPPE BOULET POSTER AWARD

Matheson McFarlane



CTS EXTENDS THANKS TO THE CHAIRS AND CO-CHAIRS WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE WORK OF CTS COMMITTEES, CLINICAL ASSEMBLIES, WORKING GROUPS AND OTHER KEY INITIATIVES IN 2025:

Adult Obstructive Sleep Apnea Guideline Panel

Tetyana Kendzerska, Najib Ayas

Alpha1 Guideline Panel

Paul Hernandez, Darcy Marciniuk

Asthma Assembly

Tom Kovesi, Clare Ramsey

Business Development Committee

Mohit Bhutani

Cannabis Guideline Panel

Matthew Stanbrook

Canadian Journal of Respiratory, Critical Care, and Sleep Medicine

Editor in Chief, James Martin

Canadian Respiratory Conference 2026 Poster Abstract Sub-Committee Co-Chairs

Shirley Quach, Joshua Wald

Canadian Respiratory Conference 2026 Scientific Program Committee Co-Chairs

Clare Ramsey, Ray Aceron

Canadian Respiratory Guidelines Committee

Sanjay Mehta

Canadian Respiratory Health Professionals Assembly

Sophie Vallee-Smejda

Chest Procedures Working Group

Simon Houston, Marc Fortin

Chronic Cough Working Group

Dina Brooks, Imran Satia

Choosing Wisely Canada Working Group

Geneviève Digby

COPD Assembly

David Gourde, Joshua Wald

Cystic Fibrosis Working Group

Mark Chilvers, Melinda Solomon, Patrick Daigneault, Julian Tam

CTS Scientific Program at CHEST

Christopher Hergott

Early Career Working Group

Kimberley Kaspy, Brianne Philipenko

Education & Continuing Professional Development

Christopher Hergott

Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Working Group

Rebecca Amer, Nicholas Avdimiretz

Home Mechanical Ventilation Assembly

Marta Kaminska, Sherri Katz

Interstitial Lung Disease Assembly

Sarah Goodwin, Kerri Johansson

Long-term Planning Committee

Mohit Bhutani

Membership & Communications Committee

Christopher Li

National Senior Respiratory Fellows Symposium

Ambrose Lau, Christopher Hergott

Non-CF Bronchiectasis Working Group

Sharon Dell, Adam Shapiro, Maeve Smith

Non-CF Bronchiectasis Guideline Panel

Christina Thornton, Maeve Smith

Palliative Care Working Group

Donna Goodridge, Tara Lohmann

Pediatric Assembly

Jackie Chiang

Pediatric Respiriology Fellows Day

Vincent Lavoie, Melinda Solomon, Connie Yang

Pediatric Obstructive Sleep Apnea Guideline Panel

Joanna MacLean

Pulmonary Vascular Disease Working Group

Nathan Hambly, Jason Weatherald

Research Committee

Grace Parraga

Respiratory Long COVID Guideline Panel

Andrea Gershon, Grace Lam

Severe Asthma Guideline Panel

Andréanne Côté, Dhenuka Radhakrishnan

Sleep Disordered Breathing Assembly

Jaimie Peters, Clodagh Ryan

REVENUES	2025
Conference	\$1,158,207
Education programs & Accreditation	\$331,117
Memberships	\$214,838
Journal & publications	\$99,717
Licensing	\$87,912
Grants & Sponsorship	\$308,150
Other	\$11,916
Total	\$2,211,857

EXPENDITURES	2025
Advertising & promotion	\$45,540
Conference	\$865,660
Consultants & contractors	\$295,042
Meeting & travel	\$75,697
Office & operating	\$238,945
Professional & management fees	\$552,165
Total	\$2,073,049
Excess of revenues over expenditures before undernoted items	\$138,808

OTHER INCOME (EXPENSES)	2025
Investment income	\$9,689
(Loss) on foreign exchange	\$(146)
Gain on sale of investments	\$6,351
Unrealized gain on investments	\$26,089
Total	\$41,983
Excess of revenues over expenditures for the year	\$180,791

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

WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE THE GENEROUS SUPPORT OF
THE FOLLOWING 2025 CTS CORPORATE SPONSORS

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