



Canadian Consortium for the Investigation of Cannabinoids
Consortium Canadien pour l'Investigation des Cannabinoïdes

Annual Report | 2010

**Cannabinoid research and education:
Gaining momentum**

Message from the Executive Director

The year 2010 for the CCIC was, in many ways, all about outreach: to our members, as we gathered new interest from both basic science researchers and clinicians as well as policy developers and public health workers; to Canadian health care professionals (HCPs) through two nationwide lecture series and online educational programs; and internationally through conferences and symposia. Through these activities, the CCIC has further developed a solid base of dedicated researchers and educators to set a new standard in cannabinoid expertise.

The educational highlight of 2010 was undoubtedly the two Accredited Cannabinoid Education (ACE) programs, developed by a dedicated team of scientific and clinical experts, supported with our excellent educational partners RxMedia, and delivered by passionate and balanced facilitators. We owe an enormous debt of gratitude to these individuals and organizations who helped maintain the CCIC as a high quality source of balanced and evidence-based education. The two programs were also put online, and with this 'mixed methods' approach we reached over 1000 HCPs. Our registration responses and evaluations were excellent, and it is clear that we have identified and at least begun to address a major educational need.

We were present at eight major congresses in 2010 with our attractive booth which always generates good conversation, solid debate and more than a few bad jokes about the kind of plant we should have on display! More than once we hear "I am so glad you guys are here". At none of the major congresses we have attended has there been any other source of education about cannabinoids.

We also staged a full day symposium on Cannabinoids and Pain at the World Congress on Pain, the biannual meeting of the

International Association for the Study of Pain in Montreal, attracting over 100 delegates and providing an opportunity to catch up on the latest cannabinoid developments for pain.

We also congratulate our funding competition awardees; this year we granted one summer student award, five travel awards and two pilot projects to support some very important and groundbreaking research. We also acknowledge and thank the members of the scientific committee who oversees the annual competition.

Details of our work in 2010 are found in this Report and I invite you to follow our progress and to let us know of any areas where we may be able to add further value. As always, this work would not be possible without the dedication of the executive team of Daniel Ziemianski, Linda Ferguson and Marc Wayne. Without their efforts, we would not have interactive educational forums, logistic and research support, and a tight business strategy. I thank them personally for all that they do.

As we move in to 2011 and beyond, it is clear that physician education is critically important and we hope that the CCIC will continue to be a major player in this area. We look to Europe and the USA as important new regions in which to forge new partnerships. With our gathering experience and expertise, I am confident that we will continue to build momentum well into the future. We welcome our new members and encourage you to become active and engaged contributors to this unique organization.

Respectfully,



Dr Mark A. Ware
Executive Director, CCIC

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Mission statement

The purpose of the Canadian Consortium for the Investigation of Cannabinoids (CCIC) is to advance our understanding of the role of cannabinoids in health and disease through research and education.

Organization

The CCIC first came together in the spring of 2000 as a result of initial funding from the CIHR under the leadership of Dr Mary Lynch. Since that time the CCIC has grown to include basic science and clinical researchers and other health care practitioners. The CCIC has been consulted for Senate committee reports and regulatory guidelines for medical marijuana, and CCIC members have conducted and published research on cannabinoids.

In June 2007 the CCIC became a federally incorporated non-profit organization to continue to further our understanding of cannabinoids. The need for educational initiatives has also become clear and the CCIC aims also to provide a credible source of information on cannabinoids for the public and health care practitioners.



John Clark, Mary Lynch and Mark Ware at the Canadian Pain Society Meeting in Calgary (May 2010)

Outreach in 2010

The booth was displayed at the following conferences with the help of CCIC staff and members:

- American Academy of Pain Management: 21st Annual Clinical Meeting, Las Vegas, USA
- American Pain Society: 29th Annual Scientific Meeting, Baltimore, USA
- Canadian Pain Society, Annual Pain Conference 2010, Calgary, Canada
- Family Medicine Forum 2010, Vancouver, Canada
- International Association for the Study of Pain: 13th World Conference on Pain, Montreal, Canada
- International Cannabinoid Research Society: 2010 Annual Symposium, Lund, Sweden
- 18th International Congress on Palliative Care, Montreal, Canada
- Patients out of Time: 6th National Clinical Conference on Cannabis Therapeutics, Provincetown, USA



Daniel Ziemianski at the 13th World Congress on Pain



Mary Lynch and Mark Ware at the Canadian Pain Society Meeting 2010

Symposium

Cannabinoids and Pain

An Official Satellite Symposium of the 13th World Congress on Pain

On August 28th, 2010 in Montreal, the CCIC hosted internationally renowned expert speakers and over 100 participants for a full day symposium dedicated to discussing up-to-date clinical and basic science research and exploring the direction of the future in the dynamic field of cannabinoids and pain.

Interest:

Number of registrants: 96

Number of speakers: 11

Number of posters: 9

Staff and organizers: 5

Total participants: 112



Symposium Presenters; Vincenzo Di Marzo, Jason McDougall and Tim Young.

Being able to hear basic scientists and clinicians discuss the current state of knowledge regarding cannabinoid-based research gives me hope for the future.

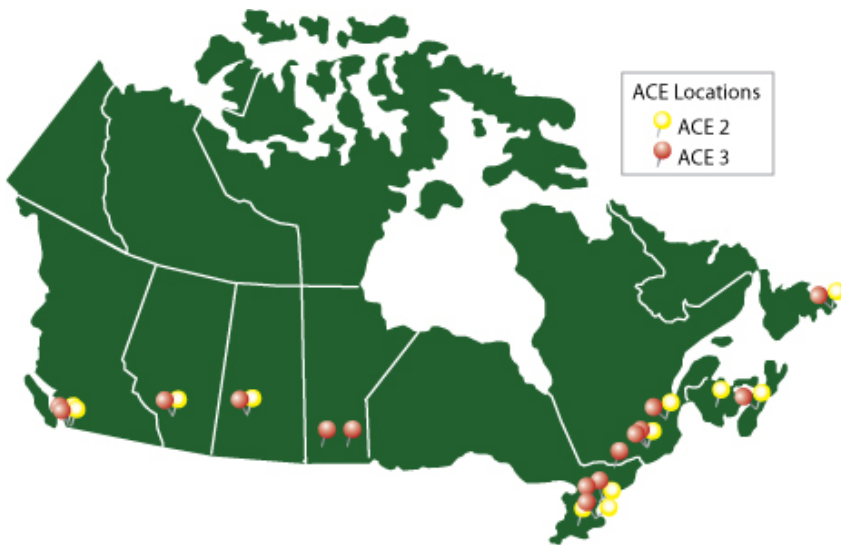
Great first symposium! Getting the current bench and bedside research was very enlightening and informative

It is refreshing to have such a symposium.

Education

The CCIC continued its commitment to engaging health care practitioners regarding therapeutic issues surrounding cannabinoids and the endocannabinoid system. In combination with maintaining online resources, two large scale Accredited Cannabinoid Education (ACE) programs were held in 2010.

The CCIC Accredited Cannabinoid Educational (ACE) program for 2010 reached over 1000 health care practitioners both online and in live workshops across Canada.

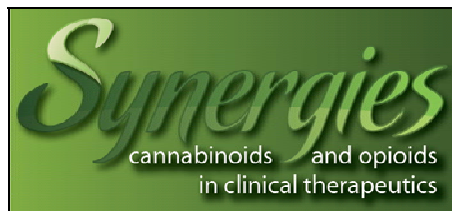


ACE2: Cannabinoids in Clinical Practice: Challenges and Opportunities



A highly interactive case-based program discusses practical issues surrounding the potential therapeutic uses of cannabinoids. This accredited program involves an in-depth exploration of the evidence of safety and efficacy of cannabinoids in various conditions, patient selection, monitoring and clinical pearls. Close to 500 health care professionals attended 19 sessions across Canada. An innovative online program has been launched and is available free online.

ACE 3: Synergies – Cannabinoids and Opioids in Clinical Practice



To address concerns expressed in earlier ACE program feedback, this series of workshops focuses on the use of cannabinoids in clinical practice in combination with and compared with opioids. Expert facilitators engaged participants with practical clinical considerations including; patient selection, initiating, titrating and monitoring cannabinoids. Over 500 participants attended 20 learning sessions across Canada. Free accredited online learning material has also been developed.

Funding Competition

Aiming to promote basic science research on cannabinoids the CCIC launched its first Funding Competition. CCIC members conducting basic science research on cannabinoids were eligible for this year's competition. We would like to thank all those who applied and are proud of our 2010 recipients.

Summer student research support award

Tiffany Tien-Yan Lee, PhD Student,
Department of Psychology, University of British Columbia

Trainee conference support awards

Mohammad Bashashati, Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of
Physiology and Pharmacology, University of Calgary

Endocannabinoids anandamide and 2-arachidonoylglycerol regulate gastrointestinal contractility in the mouse: the role of fatty acid amide hydrolase (FAAH) and cyclooxygenase (COX)-2. 2010 Joint International Meeting in Neurogastroenterology and Motility, Boston, USA

Brain Hudson, PhD Candidate,
Department of Pharmacology, Dalhousie University

WIN 55,212-2 reduces intraocular pressure in mice through a mechanism dependant on β -adrenergic receptors. ICRS 2010, Lund, Sweden

Ryan McLaughlin, PhD Candidate,
Department of Psychology, University of British Columbia

Cannabinoid CB₁ receptor binding in the ventromedial prefrontal cortex is significantly upregulated following exposure to chronic unpredictable stress. Cannabinoids and Pain Symposium, Montreal, Canada

Caitlin Riebe, PhD Candidate, Max Plank Institute of Psychiatry

Differential modulation of PTSD symptomatology via genetic modulation of endocannabinoid receptors. ICRS 2010, Lund, Sweden

Erin Rock, PhD Candidate,
Department of Psychology, University of Guelph

Cannabidiol, a Nonpsychotropic Component of Cannabis, Attenuates Vomiting and Nausea by Activating 5-HT_{1A} Somatodendritic Autoreceptors in the Dorsal Raphe Nucleus (DRN). Society for Neuroscience 2010

Research

The CCIC is committed to the advancement of basic and clinical research on the endocannabinoid system and therapeutic applications of cannabinoids.

The CCIC supported the following research projects

A Scoping Study to Determine the Current State of Knowledge on the Outcomes of Cannabinoid Use for Medicinal Purposes – Measures of Functionality.

James Henry, PhD, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioural Neuroscience,
McMaster University, Hamilton Canada

Questionnaire on patterns of cannabis/marijuana use among persons admitted to a Palliative Care Program.

Paul Daeninck, MD, FRCPC, MSc, Faculty of Medicine, University of Manitoba,
Winnipeg Canada

The CCIC received support for the following research project

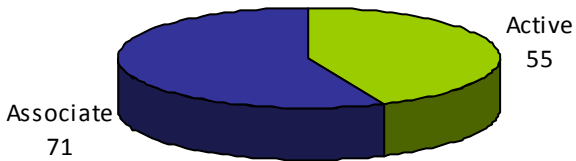
Cannabinoids and sleep architecture (CASA): a pilot study of the effects of nabilone on sleep.

Mark Ware, MBBS MRCP MSc, Canadian Consortium for the Investigation of Cannabinoids

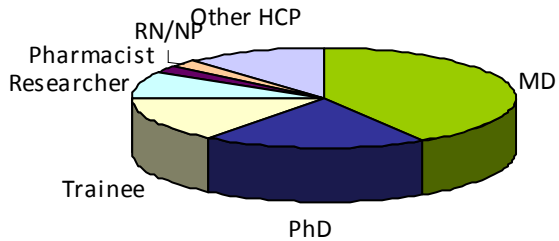
Membership

The CCIC welcomed 37 new Active and 55 new Associate members in 2010, bringing our total number of members to 126. Some characteristics of our members are shown below:

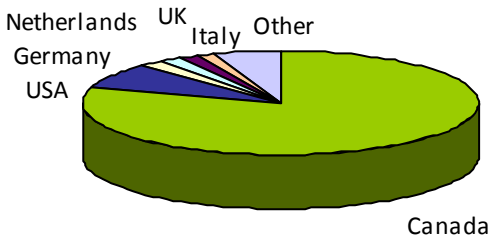
Consortium Members



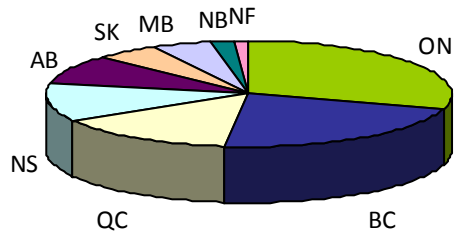
Member Professions



Member Countries

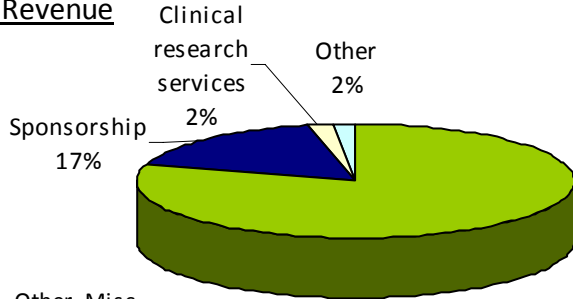


Canadian Member Provinces

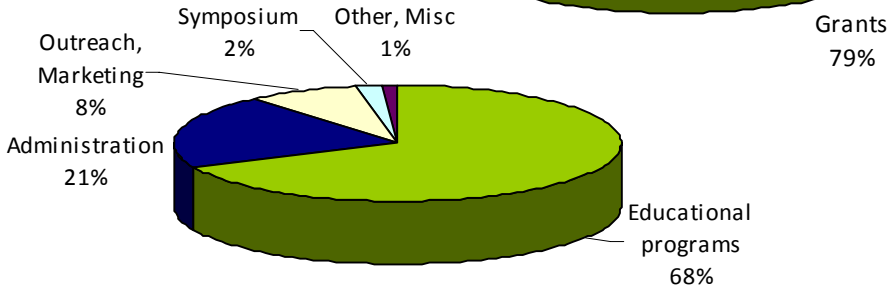


Financial Statements

2010 Revenue



2010 Expenses



Revenue		
Grants	\$ 884 000	80%
Sponsorship	\$ 185 000	17%
Clinical research services	\$ 19 000	2%
Other	\$ 19 000	2%
Total	\$ 1 107 000	

Expenditures		
Education Programs	\$ 523 000	68%
Administration	\$ 158 000	21%
Outreach/Marketing	\$ 63 000	8%
Symposium	\$ 15 000	2%
Other, Misc	\$ 8 000	1%
Total	\$ 767 000	

Thank you to our symposium supporters

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CCIC Executive Team

Dr. Mark Ware
Executive Director

Marc Wayne
Director of Business Development

Linda Ferguson
Research Coordinator

Daniel Ziemianski
Education Coordinator

Partners and Collaborators

Throughout 2010, the CCIC has worked with numerous organizations. They include the McGill University Centre for Continuing Health Professional Education, RxMedia Healthcare Communications Inc., the Quebec Pain Research Network, the International Cannabinoid Research Society, Carters Professional Corporation, Samson Belair Deloitte & Touche Inc. We thank them all for their contributions to our ongoing success.

The Canadian Consortium for the Investigation of Cannabinoids wishes to acknowledge with special recognition in 2010,



L'Institut de recherche
du Centre universitaire de santé McGill
The Research Institute
of the McGill University Health Centre



Réseau québécois
de recherche sur la douleur
Quebec Pain
Research Network



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