# CCAC YEAR-END PERFORMANCE REPORT 2007–2008

In compliance with the planning and reporting framework required by the Canadian Council on Animal Care (CCAC), this *CCAC Year-End Performance Report 2007-2008* provides Council members with a public report on CCAC activities.

## A. INTRODUCTION

# 1. CCAC's Grant Submission to CIHR and NSERC for 2008-2011

The operations of the CCAC will be reviewed by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) and the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) Evaluation Committee on March 10, 2008. The CCAC grant application, titled *Achieving Sustainable Good Animal Practice® in Science*, was delivered to the granting Agencies on December 14, 2007. As per the production timeline, comments from the standing committees on the second draft of the CCAC grant submission 2008-2011 were received by October 26, 2007, and final comments from the Board of Directors on the third draft by November 26, 2007.

The grant application highlights the fact that the widening gap between increasing total federal expenditures on S&T performed in the higher education sector and NSERC-CIHR funding for the CCAC resulted in a \$157,280 deficit incurred for CCAC services to academic institutions in 2005-2008.

The CCAC is seeking a 44% increase in budget to \$8,069,229 over the 2008-2011 term to: (i) consolidate progress achieved over the past six years amid previous chronic under funding; (ii) address the increasing deficit of funding for services to academic institutions; and (iii) meet the growing needs of its academic clients in a sustainable manner. Accordingly, 32% of the budget increase requested for the coming three years is for increased workload and 12% is for new initiatives.

# 2. Harry C. Rowsell Award for Outstanding Service to the CCAC

The Harry C. Rowsell Award for Outstanding Service to the CCAC is the highest honour bestowed upon individuals who have made truly outstanding contributions to the CCAC and its programs. In exceptional circumstances, more than one award can be bestowed upon meritorious candidates in a given year. Dr. Edwin Kroeger and Dr. Peter Flanagan were recently nominated for their joint seminal contributions in leading the CCAC through times of unprecedented difficulties in the late 1990s towards the present well-structured, nationally and internationally recognized CCAC system.

The CCAC is pleased to report that the nomination of Drs. Flanagan and Kroeger received unanimous support from the Award Selection Committee, the CCAC Board of Directors and CCAC Council members. The CCAC is also delighted to confirm that Drs. Flanagan and Kroeger both agreed to accept the Award. Unfortunately, they could not attend the March 8<sup>th</sup> CCAC Annual Dinner, so it was agreed to present their awards to them personally at the fall 2008 Council meeting.

## **B. RESULTS BY BUSINESS LINE**

# 1. Planning and Priorities

#### 1.1. Review of the Structure and Size of Council

The August 10, 2007 request from the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA) to move from limited term to regular membership on CCAC Council was favourably received by Council members at their September 30, 2007 meeting. The CVMA's first term as regular member will be effective April 1, 2008.

The Canadian Federation of Biological Societies (CFBS) asked to be considered for membership on the CCAC Council on March 3, 2007. At their September 30, 2007 meeting, CCAC Council members adopted a motion granting the CFBS a limited term membership of three years on Council once a seat becomes available. Given the change in membership status detailed above, the CFBS was informed on February 7, 2008 that their first term on CCAC Council will begin on April 1, 2008.

## 1.2. Universality, Harmonization and Recognition of CCAC Standards

#### 1.2.1 At the National Level

#### Bill S-203: Amendments to the Criminal Code

Bill S-213 is a private member's Bill that was tabled in late April 2006 by Senator John Bryden to amend the animal cruelty sections of the *Criminal Code* to increase penalties imposed for offences. At its June 13, 2006 meeting, the CCAC Board of Directors decided not to issue comments on Bill S-213, as questions addressing increased penalties were not deemed relevant to the CCAC's mandate. The same Bill was re-introduced in the Senate under number S-203 on October 17, 2007, and received third Reading on November 22, 2007. It received first and second reading in the House of Commons on November 29, 2007, and has been under study by the Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights since January 31, 2008.

## Environment Canada (EC) and Health Canada (HCan): New Substances Notification Regulations

The New Substance Notification Regulations are under development by EC-HCan to replace the current blanket research and development (R&D) exemption for organisms other than micro-organisms. In collaboration with the granting Agencies, the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC) and members of the CCAC Biotechnology Subcommittee, the CCAC developed a list of 23 veterinarians, laboratory managers, researchers and senior administrators of research institutions with backgrounds in scientific fields relevant to the objectives of the *New Substances Notification Regulations (Organisms)*. The list was delivered to EC-HCan on October 18, 2007 as part of the CCAC's contribution to the preparation of their December 5-6, 2007 second workshop on the proposed regulations. The CCAC Executive Director and the Guidelines Program Director encouraged individuals on the list to participate in the workshop through the advanced circulation of the November 20, 2007 Phase II Discussion Document, the development of focused briefing materials and personal communications. The Executive Director and Guidelines Program Director also participated in a November 20, 2007 teleconference with the workshop organizers to review the agenda and the appropriateness of representation.

The December 5-6, 2007 workshop included a much broader representation of stakeholders likely to be impacted by the proposed amendments to the regulations than had been present at the June 5-6, 2006 consultation. Representatives included those from the biomedical and biological funding agencies, researchers using genetically-engineered animals (GEAs), directors of animal facilities housing GEAs, companies engaged in commercialization of GEAs, and representatives from the EC-HCan's New

Substance Program, as well as representatives from other government departments with a role in the regulation of GE organisms.

The Phase II Discussion Document provided to participants prior to the workshop was a great improvement on previous discussion materials, and provided a useful framework for the consultation. On February 12, 2008, the CCAC posted an alert on the home page of its website with a link to the Phase II Discussion Document, and sent an e-mail information capsule urging its constituents to forward comments on the Phase II Discussion Paper to EC-HCan by February 29, 2008.

As a follow up to the December 5-6, 2007 workshop, the Executive Director and the Guidelines Program Director were invited to participate in a February 5, 2008 meeting of the funders of animal-based research, involving CIHR, NSERC, Genome Canada and the Health Charities Coalition of Canada, to define their collective views on issues arising from the workshop. Future steps were discussed with members of the CCAC Biotechnology Subcommittee at a February 5-6, 2008 meeting, in preparation for a February 15, 2007 meeting called by EC-HCan to receive the CCAC's feedback on the process to date, and explore collaborative involvement for future steps.

At the February 15, 2007 meeting with EC-HCan, it was agreed that a small expert working group was needed to classify organisms to be covered by the notification system; the CCAC offered assistance in identifying scientific experts. In parallel to this, an initiative to bring national organizations in charge of confinement and containment standards and guidelines together will be initiated by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency in late March 2008. Finally, on the basis of knowledge collected from these two activities, a gap analysis will be conducted to ensure seamless certification in support of exemption from notification where justified. This information will then be collated to inform the third consultation workshop being planned for the fall of 2008, with the view to meeting EC-HCan's intent to publish the final regulations in the summer of 2009.

## **National Animal Health Strategy (NAHS)**

Seven of the fourteen members of the CCAC Working Group on the NAHS participated in the September 18-19, 2007 second Multi-Partner Workshop, held to determine the key focus areas that should be addressed by the NAHS. The Workshop Report was released on December 19, 2007 as a background document for the development of a draft discussion paper that outlined vision statements, strategic objectives and strategic actions to reach those objectives for the third Multi-Partner Workshop, held on January 15-16, 2008. The following points were discussed at the January workshop: elements to include and exclude from the scope of the strategy, proposed guiding principles, proposed strategic outcomes, proposed vision statements and several strategic objectives relating to each visions statement.

The fourth Multi-Partner Workshop will take place on April 15-16, 2008, with the view to reaching agreement on key deliverables to meet strategic objectives. Three months will then be allowed for the approval of the NAHS by government officials, with publication planned for July 2008. The final phase of the process includes a fifth Multi-Partner Workshop in September 2008 to reach agreement on specific action plans in association with the NAHS, followed by official approval and publication of the action plans in December 2008, two years after the launch of the NAHS development process.

## 1.2.2 At the International Level

#### **American Association for Laboratory Animal Science (AALAS)**

Drs. Gilly Griffin, Michael Baar, Gilles Demers and Clément Gauthier and Ms. Marie Bédard attended the 58<sup>th</sup> American Association for Laboratory Animal Science (AALAS) National Meeting in Charlotte, North Carolina in October 2007, as part of their mandatory continuing education. With Drs. Denna Benn, University of Guelph, Chris Harvey-Clark, University of British Columbia and Tom Moon, University of Ottawa, they

participated in a seminar on Best Practice Through Interpretation and Implementation of Canadian Animal Care and Use Guidelines on Fish on October 15, 2007, which was jointly organized by the Canadian Association for Laboratory Animal Science (CALAS), the Canadian Association for Laboratory Animal Medicine (CALAM) and the CCAC.

## **Seventh World Congress on Alternatives to Animal Use in Life Sciences (7WC)**

The CCAC Executive Director accepted an invitation to join the Steering Committee for the 7WC, to be held in Rome, Italy in August 2009.

## 1.3. Promoting the Principles of the Three Rs

The CCAC hired an independent contractor to upgrade the Three Rs section of the CCAC website, as recommended by the former Task Force on the Three Rs. Initiated on November 5, 2007, the work to be delivered by early March 2008 includes:

- a review of all materials currently linked to the CCAC website, with rewrites where necessary;
- a review of international websites on the Three Rs with recommendations of material which might be linked from the CCAC website, on the basis of defined criteria;
- the development of a 4x3 matrix to provide information on research, teaching, testing and production (of animals and biologics for scientific purposes) for each of the Three Rs (replacement, reduction and refinement);
- the development of an approach to assist Canadian scientists in searching for alternatives, with particular emphasis on ensuring that the most appropriate model, whether in vitro or in vivo, and the most appropriate experimental design will be used; and
- the preparation of new, detailed web content for the "reduction" line of the matrix for the categories of research, teaching and testing, including resources for good experimental design and statistical analysis.

### 2. Assessment

## 2.1 Personnel Changes

Ms. Maryse Dansereau, Scientific Writer for the Assessment Sector, transferred in November 2007 to the Guidelines Sector as the Scientific Translator/Research Assistant. The Assessment Program thanks Ms. Dansereau for her five years of dedicated service to the program, and wishes her well in her new role within the Guidelines Program. Ms. Pascale Belleau, a biologist and excellent writer who recently earned her MSc in wildlife studies at McGill University, was hired to replace Ms. Dansereau on a one-year contract beginning in November 2007. Ms. Belleau is now in charge of writing all the French (as well as some English) assessment reports; follow-up correspondence on French implementation reports; the Assessment Program portions of the annual, mid-year, and year-end reports; and the annual survey of animal use report.

## 2.2 Assessment Visits

Of the 27 assessment visits to be conducted between September 30, 2007 and March 7, 2008, there are 13 regular, 2 interim, 1 initial, 8 special, and 3 orientation visits. At least three private and two academic institutions plan to join the CCAC Program by April 1, 2008.

# 2.3 Assessment and Implementation Reports

Following assessment visits, detailed reports are prepared in collaboration with the CCAC assessment directors, scientific writers, assessment panel members, and the Assessment Committee (AC). Assessment reports may, and generally do, include recommendations to help institutions improve their animal care and use program and meet CCAC guidelines and policies. Between September 30, 2007 and the time of the production of this report (February 11, 2008), the average length of time to produce an assessment report or letter, from the day of the visit to the day the report is sent to the institution, was 6.1 weeks (n=15, range from 1 to 10 weeks). These reports covered one initial, one interim, two orientation, six regular, and five special visits.

Institutions respond to assessment report recommendations in implementation reports submitted to the CCAC, with a different due date for each type of recommendation (Major, Serious and Regular). Recruiting Ms. Jumoke Fasoyinu to the Manager of Assessment Communications position in May 2006 has considerably improved implementation report processing timelines and helped the Assessment Sector work towards the objective of processing complete and satisfactory implementation reports within eight weeks (from the day a complete implementation report is received until the day the Certificate of GAP – Good Animal Practice® is sent to the institution), and providing feedback to all institution in a timely manner.

Between September 30, 2007 and the time of the production of this report (February 11, 2008), a total of 16 CCAC Certificates of GAP - Good Animal Practice® were issued. Nine institutions were assigned a status of Compliance and seven were assigned a status of Conditional Compliance. The average length of time to process an implementation report was 11.7 weeks (range from 3 to 53 weeks). However, over half of the implementation reports (nine) were processed within the eight week target, four reports were processed between 9 and 16 weeks and three reports were processed in greater than 21 weeks.

#### 2.4 Additional Assessment Sector Activities

## **Policy for Senior Administrators**

The CCAC policy statement for: senior administrators responsible for animal care and use programs is intended to provide general guidance to senior administrators responsible for animal care and use programs by detailing their fundamental responsibilities in ensuring sound institutional standards of animal care and use. The draft policy is nearing finalization as it has undergone several stages of review and revision since late 2006.

A fourth draft was produced in January 2008 and was sent to the AC for approval on February 1, 2008. The AC-approved draft is being forwarded to the Board of Directors for approval at its March 7, 2008 meeting. Once approved by the Board of Directors, the policy statement will then be presented to CCAC Council members for their approval.

#### **Revised Program Review Form**

The CCAC Animal Care and Use Program Review Form (PRF) is sent to each institution prior to an assessment visit. The completed form helps institutions recognize the strengths and weaknesses in their animal care program, and plan for the future of their program; it also provides essential information to assessment directors and panel members in preparation for a visit.

The PRF was originally developed (in 2002) primarily for larger institutions that use animals in a laboratory setting (most of the participants in the CCAC Program) but it has now been updated and adapted for institutions with smaller animal-based programs and for institutions that use fish, farm animals or wildlife. The most recent draft of the PRF was sent to 11 institutions for a beta-test.

Meanwhile, the draft is being translated. Work is being actively undertaken with IT consultants to ensure that a user-friendly web-based version will be available to all institutions. This will allow institutions to enter information on their animal care and use programs, which will be transferred into a database that will be easily searchable and usable by the Assessment Sector. Final French and English versions of the new PRF should be ready for use by institutions beginning in May 2008, for assessments beginning in late 2008.

#### **Contact and Assessment Databases**

A contact database for all CCAC constituents, developed by the Assessment Sector, has been used on a daily basis since August 2007 by the CCAC Secretariat. It is finalized, working well and fully functional. A request was recently sent to the IT consultants to develop a process, using the contact database, for creating lists of volunteers based on their roles and specialties (e.g. veterinarians, community representatives, scientists in various fields, etc.).

An assessment database to keep track of assessment-related reports, correspondence, events and materials is under development. This database should increase the effectiveness of the Assessment Program and is currently being tested by members of the Assessment Sector.

## **Update on SharePoint**

The Assessment Program site on SharePoint is now used to communicate with AC members about all assessment-related business. AC members have been provided with restricted access to the Assessment Program SharePoint site, and can now review assessment and implementation reports posted there. AC members continue to send their comments on assessment-related documents by email. However, over the course of 2008, the sector is working with the ETC Program towards developing a process that will allow the AC members to post their comments on SharePoint. The granting of a different level of restricted access to panel members is also currently being discussed.

## **CCAC Survey of Animal Use**

The 2006 survey of animal use was posted on the CCAC website on December 20, 2007. A memo reminding the institutions to send their 2007 animal use data by March 31, 2008 was sent in January 2008. It is planned to hire a summer student who will be responsible for entering 2007 data during the summer of 2008.

### **Upcoming review of CCAC policies related to the Assessment Program**

Eight CCAC assessment-related policies are slated for revision beginning in 2008. Revisions of four policies were initiated in January 2008: the CCAC policy statement on: confidentiality of assessment information (1999); the CCAC policy statement on: definitions of recommendations made in CCAC reports (1996); the CCAC policy statement on: compliance and non-compliance (2000); and, the CCAC policy statement on: Canadian Institutes of Health Research and Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council Policy on Non-compliance (2000); discussions have begun with respect to eventually combining the latter two policies into one policy statement. The first drafts of the revised policies will be presented to the AC for discussion at its March 2008 meeting. The presentation of the finalized revised policies to CCAC Council for approval is planned for either September 2008 or February 2009, following further work and revision with the AC, the Executive Director, the Board of Directors and the granting Agencies.

A work plan has been developed for the revision of four other assessment-related policies: the CCAC policy statement on: the importance of the independent peer review of the scientific merit of animal-based research projects (2000); the CCAC policy statement on: assessment panels (1999); the CCAC policy statement on: the assessment program of the CCAC (2000); and, the CCAC policy statement on: animal-

based projects involving two or more institutions (2003). Revisions of these policies are scheduled for completion by September 2008.

#### Review and revision of SOPs

The Assessment Sector standard operating procedures (SOPs) are in the process of being reviewed and updated. SOPs on office-related procedures, assessment visit preparation and assessment visits have been reviewed by sector personnel with a view to finalizing them by March 2008. Other Assessment Sector SOPs will be reviewed and updated throughout summer 2008.

### 3. Guidelines

## 3.1. Guidelines Development

## CCAC guidelines on: procurement of animals used in science

After receiving Council approval to publish these guidelines in fall 2007, the document underwent a final translation. It was published on the CCAC website in February 2008.

### CCAC guidelines on: the care and use of farm animals in research, teaching and testing

The Guidelines Sector and Farm Animals Subcommittee have been working to incorporate feedback from the final review of these guidelines. Work on this document is nearing completion, and the final draft will be submitted to the Guidelines Committee, Board of Directors and Council for approval to publish in spring 2008.

### CCAC adopted guidelines on: euthanasia

The widespread review of the euthanasia guidelines, which concluded on September 29, 2007, generated a great deal of feedback from a total of 33 reviewers. This feedback has been evaluated by the subcommittee and is currently being incorporated into a final draft of the guidelines.

#### CCAC guidelines on: the care and maintenance of marine mammals

The Marine Mammal Subcommittee and the Guidelines Sector have been working with the feedback from the widespread review of these guidelines to produce the final draft.

#### CCAC guidelines on: genetically-engineered animals

A Biotechnology Subcommittee meeting was held on February 5-6, 2008 in Ottawa to reach consensus on outstanding issues in the draft guidelines, such as the management of breeding colonies and the acquisition of information relating to the welfare of genetically-engineered animals. The subcommittee also discussed actions to be taken in light of the proposed changes to the EC-HCan New Substance Notification Regulations (Organisms). The Guidelines Sector and Biotechnology Subcommittee are currently finalizing the second draft of the guidelines for widespread review.

## CCAC adoption of Australian care and maintenance guidelines

Work on this document has not progressed recently as resources were focused on other guidelines that were nearing completion.

## 3.2 Additional Guidelines Program Activities

## **Guidelines implementation**

The animal user training module on migratory birds, developed by the Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS), has been finalized and translated. It is currently undergoing layout for posting on the CCAC website. The species-specific recommendations on birds have also been finalized and translated, and will soon be posted on the website.

#### **International harmonization**

The Guidelines Program Director attended the AALAS meeting on October 15-17, 2007 in Charlotte, North Carolina, where she gave a presentation on the CCAC fish guidelines for the AALAS Seminar on Best Practice through Interpretation and Implementation of Canadian Animal Care and Use Guidelines on Fish.

The Guidelines Program Director and the Scientific Translator/Research Assistant attended the 4<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the International Veterinary Academy of Pain Management (IVAPM) in Montréal on November 2-3, 2007, where the Guidelines Program Director chaired a session.

## **Interaction with the scientific community**

The Guidelines Program Director attended the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA) Animal Welfare Committee meeting on October 18-20, 2007 in Saskatoon.

The Guidelines Program Director and the Research Fellow attended the CCAC National Workshop on November 1, 2007 in Montréal. The Guidelines Program Director gave a presentation entitled *CCAC adopted guidelines on euthanasia*.

The Guidelines Program Director and the Scientific Translator/Research Assistant attended a meeting of le Réseau de recherche en transgenèse du Québec (RRTQ) on November 24, 2007 in Laval, Québec.

The Guidelines Program Director attended a meeting of the National Research Council Joint Committee on Animal Care on November 16, 2007 in Ottawa, and gave a presentation titled *Developing guidelines on genetically-engineered animals*.

The Guidelines Program Director and the Executive Director attended a meeting on the New Substances Notification Regulations on December 5-6, 2007 in Gatineau, Québec. A follow-up meeting involving the Guidelines Program Director, the Executive Director, the Assessment Directors and representatives of HCan and EC was held on February 15, 2008 in Ottawa.

The Guidelines Program Director, the Executive Director and one of the Assessment Directors, Dr. Demers, attended a meeting on the National Animal Health Strategy on January 15-16, 2008 in Ottawa.

### 3.3 CCAC Fellowship

The second Research Fellow has finished collecting data for the case study on shellfish toxin testing and will be presenting the final results in a poster at the Society of Toxicology meeting in March 2008. As a follow up to her success at the 6<sup>th</sup> World Congress on Alternatives & Animal Use in the Life Sciences, she authored two papers that will be published in the meeting's proceedings. She also gave a presentation at the European Centre for the Validation of Alternative Methods (ECVAM) Workshop on the current Canadian regulations, *Three Rs* 

Approaches in the Production and Quality Control of Fish Vaccines, and spent a week at ECVAM to gain an understanding of the role of ECVAM in supporting EU legislation and policy.

# 4. Education, Training and Communications

## 4.1 Training and Education

## National Institutional Animal User Training (NIAUT) Program

A training module on migratory birds in research, prepared in collaboration with the Canadian Wildlife Services, is currently undergoing layout and will soon be added to the CCAC website.

## **Workshops and Scientific Sessions**

The CCAC National Workshop 2007 was held on November 1, 2007 in Montréal. A total of 240 participants registered for the workshop. Feedback from 126 of the participants is being used to prepare for the next CCAC National Workshop, tentatively scheduled for May 2009. This workshop will be held in Ottawa, and delivered over a two day period to accommodate the growing number of participants and topics to be covered.

The CCAC sponsored a scientific session on Laboratory Animal Pain Management with invited speakers Drs. Alex Livingston, University of Saskatchewan, Coenraad Hendriksen, Netherlands Vaccine Institute and Paul Flecknell, University of Newcastle, UK, at the November 2-3, 2007 joint congress of the Ordre des médecins vétérinaires du Québec (OVMQ) and the International Veterinary Academy of Pain Management (IVAPM).

## 4.2 Communications

## CCAC's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

In celebration of the CCAC's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary, an announcement was posted on the website. A 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary poster has been produced and will be circulated to CCAC constituents as an insert to the spring 2008 special edition of *RESOURCE*.

## **Information capsules**

The following information capsules were sent to constituents:

- October 5, 2007 widespread review of the CCAC guidelines on: laboratory animal procedures adopted guidelines on euthanasia
- October 9, 2007 CCAC National Workshop 2007
- December 20, 2007 results of the 2006 AUDF survey
- February 12, 2008 reminder to submit comments regarding the New Substance Notification Regulations
- February 21, 2008 CCAC guidelines on: procurement of animals used in science

#### Website

The website was modified in order to accommodate a reference database with search capacity to assist in using CCAC guidelines documents.

## 4.3 Information Technology

A security audit was conducted by NOVA Networks in December 2007, in which a series of tests were performed to ensure that the IT infrastructure is secure and adequately maintained. Additionally, security and other critical updates were distributed to all servers and workstations.

A project to automate the collection of information from institutions through the Program Review Form (PRF) was initiated. The Assessment Sector requested support to create a database and IT infrastructure to receive PRFs via a secure channel from participants in the program.

The CCAC Portal was extended to facilitate the exchange of information for two new working groups.

## 5. Finance

A final decision was made by the AUCC Council in early October 2007 regarding a proposed change in auditors. As per the motion adopted by CCAC Council on September 30, 2007, the CCAC followed up with the suggested new auditors, KPMG.

At the September 2007 meeting, the Finance Committee (FC) suggested that a cost analysis be done to cover employee severances, rent, leases, advertising of closure to clients, auditors' fees, legal fees, archiving publications, etc., as well as the CCAC's aim for a surplus fund to cover these expenses. The FC also requested that the granting Agencies be consulted regarding the amount of granted funds that can be carried over from year to year. One of the Agencies reported that their practice is to allow up to one year of grant funds to be carried over. The CCAC auditors were also consulted regarding the amount allowed as surplus, and they reported that the surplus must be kept at a reasonable amount and the funds be used to carry out the functions of the Council.

The FC thoroughly reviewed the proposed three-year budget to be submitted in the grant application. Members advised adjusting some line items in the budget to take into account more realistic cost increases. It was also suggested that reference to the total federal expenditures for research performed by higher education institutions in association with the increased workload faced by the CCAC be added in the grant submission. The Chair of the FC met with Dr. Gauthier on November 21, 2007 to further comment on the grant submission. He will also participate in the March 10, 2008 meeting with members of the NSERC-CIHR Evaluation Committee reviewing the CCAC's grant submission.

Respectfully submitted by:

Mark Evered, PhD Chair of Council, CCAC March 9, 2008