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CanVECTOR is a pan-Canadian, patient-oriented, Community Development Program centered on venous thromboembolism-related research, training, and knowledge translation.

Message from the Directors

According to the Greek philosopher Heraclitus, "the only thing that is constant is change." We engaged in a flurry of activity over the past 3 years, and it seemed like we were settling into a more predictable course. Instead, the old adage is coming to mind as there are changes in store for CanVECTOR over the next few months and beyond.

First, our 3rd Annual Conference this year has changed in 2 ways: we will be welcoming attendees to a beautiful new location of Montreal, Quebec, and we also held our first Scientific Abstract competition. This *officially* qualifies our conference as **Canada's first and only thrombosis research conference** – we're very proud of this title and hope to only improve and grow every year. We've also improved efficiency for you by becoming more high-tech, with a modern and clean conference website, complete with registration process, schedule builder, and more! You can read all about these fun new conference features on page 2.

Second, this Fall, we'll be saying 'see you later' to a couple of longstanding members of our administrative team, but we also get to welcome new ones. We invite you to read personal messages from our outgoing and incoming staff on page 4.

Lastly and most importantly, we are working to ensure sustainability of the CanVECTOR Network in the long-term. Our continuous aim is to make CanVECTOR bigger and better! The Scientific Steering Committee has already begun to discuss long-term network priorities as well as operational processes and financial matters. We've also decided it's best to delve early into succession planning. Your input on these matters is very important to us, and will be solicited during the focus group session named "CanVECTOR Future Planning" at the Annual Conference (**please** register for this!). The result of these discussions will influence and bring about changes to the network as a whole, so we encourage you to voice your opinions.

In the end, we believe that change is good and we're embracing it with open arms. Some changes are exciting in nature, while others may bring about some uncertainty. Nonetheless, we're confident that we'll face any and all changes with the fortitude and resilience that characterizes the CanVECTOR community.

We hope you enjoy this edition of our newsletter and are ready to embrace change right alongside us.

Susan R. Kahn



Susan and Marc

What's New for the 3rd Annual Conference: Translating Science Together



New Conference Co-Chairs!

Rather than have Susan and Marc chair the conference for a 3rd year in a row we wanted to benefit from the organizational skills and brilliant ideas of more members. This led to the appointment of 2 new conference co-Chairs to head program planning: Dr. Shannon Bates (McMaster) and Dr. Vicky Tagalakis (McGill). They've been working hard to create an educational and enjoyable program for all. They will be thrilled to host you in Montreal this year!



New Keynote Speaker: Dr. Lisa Baumann Kreuziger

Hailing from the BloodCenter of Wisconsin and the Medical College of Wisconsin, we are welcoming Dr. Lisa Baumann Kreuziger as this year's keynote speaker. She specializes in the treatment of clotting disorders and other benign hematology diseases. Her research interests involve optimal anticoagulation therapy for cancer patients with catheter-related thrombosis and understanding the mechanisms of thrombosis in heart failure patients with left ventricular assist devices (LVAD). Dr. Baumann Kreuziger will present her research while relating this to career progression as a successful woman in science.



More breakouts and small group working sessions!

We always mention how important your feedback and suggestions are to influencing our programming and we mean it! The Planning Committee made sure to include more sessions that will allow you to get up and stretch your legs, meet a greater diversity of members, and work and learn in small groups. If you haven't already, please register for the working session on lay summary writing and the focus group discussion on CanVECTOR future planning. We're convinced these will be incredibly valuable and thought-provoking!

NEW CONFERENCE WEBSITE!

We've made everything simpler by having a clean, modern, and dedicated conference website. Register; check out the program; and more at canvector2018.ca

When you register for the conference, an account will be automatically created. Using the credentials that will be e-mailed to you, logging in to the conference website will direct you to Your Dashboard. From this Dashboard, you can access multiple functionalities:

1 Have some of your plans changed since your initial registration? Not to worry – your registration details can be changed by clicking on "Update Profile" from the Dashboard. You can also change your password through this module.

2 Did you register but forget to "pay" for your conference registration fee? For your registration to be complete, you must select the conference registration category that applies to you and check-out. This module will allow you to see all of the payments you've made and generate invoices. If this area is blank for you, click on "Buy Tickets" and it will load the Payment options.

3 When viewing the program, you can add different sessions to your schedule by clicking on the orange "Add to my Schedule" button. **4** From your Dashboard, you can view your **personalized** schedule! If you prefer a paper copy, you can print it directly from the Dashboard, or if you want the entire schedule, this can be printed from the Program page.

1 Update Profile: Update your registration information and change password.

2 Payments & Invoices: Go to this page to complete your pending payments, if any, and to download and print invoices for fees paid for registration.

3 My Abstracts: Access this menu to submit abstracts and manage abstract(s) you have already submitted.


4 My Schedule: Manage your personal schedule including sessions you have added and checked-in to.

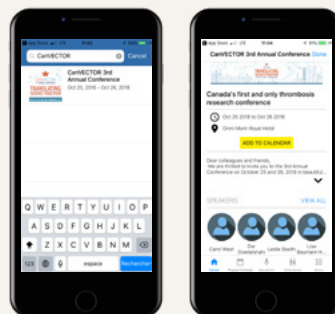
REMEMBER:

Using the discount code "FreeReg2018" will waive 100% of your registration fees! Make sure you also buy your FREE ticket to the social group dinner event since spots are limited!

The screenshot shows a dashboard for the 'CanVECTOR 3rd Annual Conference'. It includes sections for 'Pre-Conference Meetings Oct 25, 2018' and 'Conference Day Oct 26, 2018'. A 'REGISTRATION' section is highlighted, showing a time slot of 07:00 - 08:00 and a '3 Add to my Schedule' button. Below the registration section, there is a note: 'Upon registration, you will receive your conference badge and any other relevant information packets. The registration table will be open as of 7:00am until 1:00pm, and again from 1:30pm to 5:00pm.'

Prefer to go completely digital? Download our Event App!

1. Download the Dryfta, Inc. App;  Available for iPhone and Android
2. Once it is installed on your smartphone, launch App and search for "CanVECTOR" – event will appear;
3. Click on the event and you'll be able to access the homepage, program, list of speakers & attendees! By logging in with your account credentials, you can do even more like build your schedule and change your registration details.



Be part of *Translating Science Together!*

REGISTER TO ATTEND BY OCTOBER 1, 2018



Don't forget to use the discount code!

The Patient Perspective: Evaluation Surveys Coming to an Inbox Near You

We have good news: The Patient Partners Platform evaluation program recently received full research ethics approval and now has the green light to move forward!

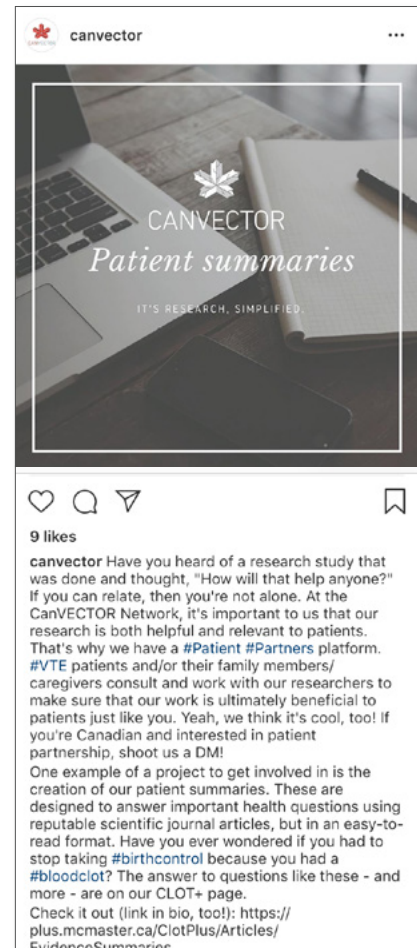
This means that very soon (the next few weeks), consent forms and questionnaires will be sent out electronically, via REDCap (a secure web application used for building and managing online surveys and databases [visit <https://www.project-redcap.org> for more info on the platform]). A signed PDF version of the consent form will be automatically sent to all who complete it, and the questionnaires selected have been carefully reviewed and revised to ensure they are as relevant and brief as possible.

While participation is entirely voluntary, we sincerely hope for the generous participation of all stakeholders involved. Without you, completing the evaluation will not be possible so we thank you in advance for your time and contribution to this project.



The Patient Perspective Continues Summer Socials: Patient Partners Engage on CanVECTOR's Instagram

Posting pictures with fancy filters, receiving 'likes', and writing #hashtags – these are all key elements of using Instagram. What does that have to do with our network? Over the summer, along with 2 of our dedicated and social media savvy patient partners, we've committed to actively using the platform as a means of outreach and communication with those affected by VTE and its complications. Our posts are mostly created by patients, on subjects that are affecting them directly and in the moment. Our goal is to generate discussion, serve as a resource for patients searching for a community they can relate and belong to, and of course, share more about our projects and initiatives that could be of interest to potential patient partners. If you meet a patient who wants to engage in dialogue or is looking for some support, tell them to get online and find us on Instagram! Here's a preview of some of our more recent posts:



News & Updates



The Training, Mentoring & Early Career Development Platform recently launched another edition of the Emerging Research Leader Initiative (ERLI) funding opportunity. A total of \$150,000 is available over a 3-year tenure. The deadline to complete the notice of intent is September 15, 2018. More information is available on our website. Interested applicants can inquire for additional information through info@canvector.ca.



Congratulations to Ms. Jessica Emed, CanVECTOR Co-Lead of the Patient Partners Platform, who was recently appointed as Associate Dean, Health Professions Education for the Faculty of Medicine at McGill University!



We are excited to welcome **Alexion Pharma** on board as a new partner. Alexion has long been involved in discovery and commercialization of therapeutic agents for disorders linked to thrombosis, such as paroxysmal nocturnal hemoglobinuria (PNH). We know their partnership will be an asset and hope that it will help our network with its sustainability for years to come.

Comings & Goings

Say hello to: **Maryam Ebrahimi**

"I am extremely happy to join the CanVECTOR team. Coming from a genetic research background, the opportunity to be the Montreal Network Manager presents a new set of challenges to me. Yet, I am confident that I can utilize my recently acquired skills, as the organizer of CIHR-IG's outreach programs, to help the community affected by thrombosis."



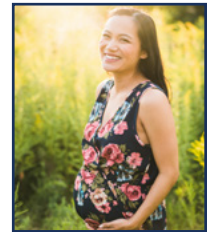
Saying see you later: **Faizan Khan**

"It has been a great pleasure to work with an exceptionally hard-working, organized, supportive, and fun CanVECTOR executive and the Training, Mentoring and Early Career Development platform team this past year. I am grateful for the invaluable skills and experiences I have acquired as these will undoubtedly benefit me as I move forward in my career. I wish CanVECTOR all the best in the coming years and hope to continue my involvement within the network."



Saying bye for now: **Charlotte Guzman**

"I've been part of the Canadian thrombosis research world since 2009, then a 4th year undergraduate student. It's remarkable to see how much things have changed in a relatively short time, due to the calibre and productivity of this community. While I'm excited to embark on a new life chapter, I'll miss being your official CanVECTOR Tweeter! Truly, it has been an utmost pleasure to help build the CanVECTOR Network alongside you all. Since I just can't get enough, I'll be seeing you at the 3rd Annual Conference (don't forget to register)... maybe accompanied by a special little guest 😊."



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