Message from the Directors

Just over a year ago, we were rushing to put the finishing touches on our grant submission to CIHR. We were full of ideas on how to grow capacity for VTE research in Canada, attract trainees, ensure our young investigators get off to a roaring start, engage patients in our research in a meaningful way, and ensure that the knowledge we and others generate is translated into better patient care.

We’ve come a long way since then! The CanVECTOR Network is now a busy and exciting reality. Our six platforms (see organizational chart in next section) are bustling with activity and already providing support to network members (COBBRA, CanVECTOR’s first multicentre pilot trial, has already recruited 10 patients). Recently, we launched a pilot trial competition for the next CanVECTOR pilot study, and a trainee competition to select this year’s crop of CanVECTOR research fellows and trainees (more information in the ‘Updates’ section). Selection and training of our patient partners is underway, and we, in turn, will be trained at our first annual conference on how to work with patient partners.

Our website was recently launched (www.canvector.ca) and we’ve also been active on Twitter (@canvector). In the near future, our KT platform will regularly feed MORE-rated VTE articles directly onto our website. These
are some ways that we’re trying to ensure that our membership is kept up-to-date with fresh and relevant information.

We have gotten many projects and initiatives off the ground in a short time. To see the CanVECTOR Network finally come to fruition and be able to witness the dedication of our leadership team has been truly inspiring.

We are now busy working on the program for the inaugural annual CanVECTOR conference being held in Toronto on June 8-9, 2016. The meeting will provide a fun and informative opportunity for all of us to meet face-to-face to enhance our research, further develop our various programs, and network with our trainees, partners, and stakeholders. We are planning an interesting program that will showcase current and recently completed work and ongoing platform activities, and will include plenary and breakout sessions, a mentorship workshop, and social events.

CanVECTOR members can participate in many activities, such as joining one or more research platforms’ working groups, being a member of a subcommittee, or participating in the CanVECTOR Investigators Group.

Get Acquainted with the CanVECTOR Organization

CanVECTOR is OUR network – let’s invest in its growth, together, to achieve our collective goal of reducing the burden of VTE worldwide.

We hope that you enjoy CanVECTOR’s first newsletter!

SUSAN KAHN
MARC RODGER

Message from the Directors (cont’d)
**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**USING THE CANVECTOR LOGOS**
Our logo is available in acronym or full title versions, as well as in colour and greyscale (see top of first page and bottom of last page). The French full title version is in progress. If you would like to use our logos for any presentations or printed materials, please send a request to info@canvector.ca.

**NEW WEBSITE**
Our website officially launched on January 29th, 2016! Although work is still ongoing to complete all sections, make sure to visit us online at www.canvector.ca.

**FELLOWSHIP AND STUDENTSHIP COMPETITION**
The Training, Mentoring, and Early Career Development platform recently launched the CanVECTOR Fellowship and Studentship competition! There are up to 6 awards available.

**HOT OFF THE PRESS!**
Thrombosis Canada-CanVECTOR research Fellow Dr. Leslie Skeith had her article “A meta-analysis of low-molecular-weight heparin to prevent pregnancy loss in women with inherited thrombophilia” published in Blood in February.

**CALL FOR PROPOSALS FOR PILOT TRIALS**
The Clinical Trials and Shared Research Platforms platform recently announced a Call for Proposals for CanVECTOR Pilot Trials Funding! A total of $150,000 is available for one or more pilot trials to be conducted between October 2016 – September 2018.
More information, including how to apply, is available on our website under the Clinical Trials page.

Send applications to trials@canvector.ca
Deadline: May 15, 2016

**RCT BY CANVECTOR MEMBERS RECEIVES PRAISE**
The article “Screening for Occult Cancer in Unprovoked Venous Thromboembolism” published in the New England Journal of Medicine, whose first author is Dr. Marc Carrier, was named one of the top 12 NEJM articles of 2015, as well as the Canadian Hematology Society Paper of the Year 2015! All of the listed authors are CanVECTOR members. Congratulations to all!

**UPCOMING MEETING**
The next CanVECTOR Investigators’ Group (CIG) face-to-face meeting will be a working dinner held on June 7th, 2016, the evening before the Annual CanVECTOR Conference. The CIG is a working group to discuss and troubleshoot ongoing CanVECTOR-led multicentre studies and plan new studies. There are also monthly teleconferences.
If you are interested in participating in CIG, contact current CIG chair Sudeep Shivakumar at sudeep.shivakumar@nshealth.ca.

**UPCOMING CONFERENCE**
The First Annual CanVECTOR Conference will be held from June 8-9, 2016 at the DoubleTree Toronto downtown hotel. Program information will be posted on our website.

**JOIN CANVECTOR**
If your colleagues or research collaborators wish to join our network as a CanVECTOR member, they can send us an e-mail at info@canvector.ca and we will send them a Membership Form to complete.

Stay tuned for the next phase launch of our website where many more pages will be available!
What do you think?

Your feedback is VERY important to us. If you have any ideas or suggestions on how we can improve our communications, please let us know! Write to us at info@canvector.ca

CONNECT WITH US.

@canvector  CanVECTOR Network

Do you have news, accomplishments, or pictures you’d like to share with the CanVECTOR community? Send them to us at info@canvector.ca for the chance to be featured!