

The Henry G. Friesen International Prize in Health Research was established in recognition of Dr. Friesen's distinguished leadership, vision and innovative contributions to health research and health research policy. The award, announced each spring, supports an annual fall lecture or series of lectures by a worthy and accomplished speaker of international stature on topics related to the advancement of health research and its evolving contributions to society. The lecture endeavours to reach the broadest possible audience at major centres across Canada. The Prize provides a significant cash award and covers the travel and hospitality costs of the Honouree. The Prize is a joint project of Friends of CIHR with the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences and financed through a fund established for that purpose. Broadcast partner is CBC Radio One.

HENRY G. FRIESEN



A renowned and visionary medical scientist, Dr. Henry Friesen is a Canadian endocrinologist credited with the discovery of human prolactin, and for redefining medical research in Canada. Now a Distinguished Professor Emeritus of the University of Manitoba, Dr. Friesen was a Professor and Head of the Department of Physiology and Professor of Medicine. As President of the former Medical Research Council of Canada, he brought together scholars, scientists, practitioners, governments, industry, and patient groups, and inspired the creation of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research. His integrity and selfless idealism attracted the support of thousands of advocates and admirers, both nationally and internationally. He fostered and nurtured the creation of Friends of CIHR.

Dr. Friesen was President of the National Cancer Institute of Canada and President of the Canadian Society for Clinical Investigation. He is the Past Founding Chair of Genome Canada. A Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, Dr. Friesen was named an Officer of the Order of Canada in 1987 and promoted to Companion in 2001. That same year he was inducted into the Canadian Medical Hall of Fame and also was awarded the Gairdner Foundation Wightman Award. In 2004, he was awarded the Order of Manitoba. He holds eight Honorary Doctorates from Canadian universities. In 2005, FCIHR bestowed upon him the Distinguished Service Award in recognition of his unique accomplishments in Canadian health research and his qualities as a dedicated servant of human kind.

FRIENDS OF CANADIAN INSTITUTES OF HEALTH RESEARCH (FCIHR)

Friends of CIHR was created to promote the value of health research and establish community-based partnerships. Since 2000, it has specifically supported the goals and initiatives of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) and has expanded its role to represent all health disciplines. The fifteen-person Board of Directors represents a membership active in universities, hospitals, voluntary organizations, community groups and agencies, as well as some private corporations across the nation. Strategic goals encompass medical, social and environmental determinants of health. In addition to promoting research funding with all levels of government, FCIHR presents annual educational symposia and publishes the proceedings. The Henry G. Friesen International Prize in Health Research is the latest innovative, collaborative program conceived by the group.

CANADIAN ACADEMY OF HEALTH SCIENCES (CAHS)

The Canadian Academy of Health Sciences was created in 2004 as a collaborative effort of six health science disciplines including Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Dentistry, Rehabilitation Science, and Veterinary Medicine and is guided by a thirteen-person Board. The organization's mission is to: develop informed, strategic assessments on important health issues; inform public policy on those issues; enhance Canada's readiness to deal with global health; and, provide a recognized and authoritative Canadian health science voice internationally. Elected members are recognized for their contributions to health science through demonstrated leadership, intellectual creativity, distinctive competencies and commitment to advance academic health sciences. CAHS is pleased to partner in the founding of The Henry G. Friesen International Prize in Health Research and embraces one of its lectures as a key feature of its annual meeting.

CBC RADIO

The public lecture associated with The Henry G. Friesen International Prize in Health Research is recorded for broadcast on the CBC radio program, Ideas. Hosted by veteran broadcaster and documentarist, Paul Kennedy, Ideas, now in its fortieth season, is CBC Radio One's program of contemporary thought. Broadcast weekday evenings on CBC Radio One to more than 400,000 people across Canada, and all over North America on Sirius Satellite Radio, Ideas offers an eclectic hour of documentaries, interviews, discussions and lectures on contemporary social issues, history, biography, geopolitics, science and technology, the humanities, culture and the arts.

In addition to the public broadcast, the Lecture is published and available in both electronic and printed forms.

FINANCIAL SPONSORS

Financial support is welcome from organizations, institutions, and individuals interested in maximizing the social, economic, political, and scientific benefits of health research. The Faculty of Medicine, University of Manitoba, where Dr. Friesen has been active for over 30 years, is a proud supporter of the Award.

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