



Prepared by: Dr. Michael Shevell, Chairman  
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## INTRODUCTION

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The calendar year 2016 represented our first full year on the new Glen site. Not only did we experience a cycle of seasons, we also experienced the entire academic cycle. It was thus a year of numerous ‘firsts’ however defined and relentless novelty. It was also a year of adaptations and adjustments to a new geography. As we are first and foremost a ‘clinical’ Department, the remarkable new physical plant of the new Montreal Children’s Hospital, with its focus on the patient and family and cutting-edge technical platforms, has enabled us to break through to a new level of innovation and quality in the care we provide to complexly ill and vulnerable children. This enablement of innovation in care will no doubt, as it takes root in all sectors of the Department, drive forward our inextricably intertwined educational and research efforts.

The past year was not only one of moving forward but also one of pause and reflection. The Department underwent its University-mandated Cyclical Review that involved detailed external review. Concrete suggestions for improvement were offered, many of which have already been implemented ([Response to 2015-2016 Cyclical Academic Unit Review of the Department of Pediatrics : Cyclical Academic Unit Review - Actions Scorecard](#)). In addition, the Department mandated a Strategic Planning Initiative (SPI) that will put forward priority areas for the targeted investment of human and financial resources. The SPI will frame the major efforts to be undertaken in the next five years that will be predicated on increasing Faculty engagement in all sectors of the academic mission. While the SPI is scheduled to be released to the Departmental membership in June 2017, it can be anticipated that it will focus on enabling innovation by releasing the full value of the Departmental membership skill sets.

This Annual Report contains the highlights and accomplishments for 2016. It is but a précis and snapshot. Though I have been Chair for 5 years now, I continue to be amazed by what my Department does. Every day in every moment and in every action, they always make a difference in child health through care, teaching, research and advocacy efforts.

## SECTION I: RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS

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### RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

Our research efforts continue to garner significant external funding success despite a persistently challenging funding environment. This is particularly true for external peer-reviewed salary awards.

New external funding in the Department includes:

- **Braverman, Nancy** (Principal Applicant)  
2016-2019 - Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) - **\$333,000 CAD**  
“Translating Peroxisome Biogenesis Disorders: Identifying Pharmacological Therapies and Clinical Trial Endpoints”
- **Brouillette, Robert T.** (Co-Investigator)  
2016-2018 - Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) - **\$100,000**  
“Sustained Improvement of Youth's Health and Learning Capacity by Rapid Translation and Dissemination of Sleep Research through School-Board Partnership”  
PI: Dr. Reut Gruber

- **Eppert, Kolja** (Principal Investigator)  
2016-2021 – Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada - **\$125,000**  
“Homeostatic regulation of hematopoietic stem cells”
- **Fontela, Patricia** (Principal Investigator) and **Li, Patricia** (Co-Investigator)  
2016 - Canadian Institutes of Health Research – Institute of Human Development, Child, and Youth Health (CIHR – IHDCYH) - **\$299,961**  
“Evolution of infection markers in children with severe bacterial infections”
- **Foster, Bethany** (Principal Investigator)  
2016-2021 - U.S. National Institutes of Health - **\$2,800,000**  
TAKE-IT TOO: Teen Adherence in Kidney Transplant Improving Tracking To Optimize Outcomes
- **Friedman, Deborah** (Co-Principal Investigator)  
2016-2019 - Canadian Institutes of Health Research - **\$400,000**  
“Implementation and evaluation of a WIKI involving patients and multiple other stakeholders to promote best practices in trauma: the WikiTrauma pilot cluster randomized controlled trial”  
Co-PI: Archambault PM, Clément J.
- **Gupta, Indra** (Principal Investigator)  
2016-2021 – Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) - **\$155,000**  
“Paradigms in Branching Morphogenesis “
- **Jabado, Nada** (Co-Principal Investigator)  
2016-2020 – National Institutes of Health – **20 % of \$1,248,306 USD**  
“Mechanisms of histone H3 mutants-mediated oncogenesis in pediatric cancers”  
Co-PI: D. Allis, P. Lewis, T. Muir, B. Garcia, T. Pastinen, J. Majewski
- **Majnemer, Annette** (Principal Investigator)  
Canadian Institutes of Health Research - **\$25,000,000** (5 years)  
“CHILD BRIGHT SPOR (Strategies for Patient Oriented Research)”
- **Platt, Robert** (Principal Investigator)  
2016-2021 – Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) – **\$17,500,000**  
““Canadian Network for Observational Drug Effect Studies”  
NPI: Samy Suissa; PI: David Henry, Colin Dormuth, Ingrid Sketris  
Co-PI: Adrian Levy, Brenda Hemmelgarn, Dan Chateau, Gary Teare, Jacques LeLorier, Michael Paterson, Patricia Caetano, Pierre Ernst, Kristian Filion
- **Polychronakos, Constantin**  
2016-2017 – Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation – **\$110,000 USD**  
“Clonal Genomics in Type 1 Diabetes”
- **Rak, Janusz** (Co-Principal Investigator)  
2016-2018 – Genome Canada - **\$250,000**  
“Single Exosome Multi-Omic Analysis”  
PI: David Juncker
- **Ryan, Aimée** (Mentor)  
2016-2018 – RI-MUHC & Merck Shark and Dohme Corp. - **\$166.055**  
“Airway Branch Patterns and Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease.”  
PI: Dr. Benjamin McDonald Smith; Co-PI : Dr. Carolyn Baglolle both in
- **Trasler, Jaquetta** (Principal Investigator)  
2016-2023 – Canadian Institutes of Health Research Foundation - **\$2,449,464**  
“Sex-specific Susceptibility for Fetal Origins of Adult Disease and Transgenerational Effects.”

#### External Salary Awards (CIHR, FRSQ, CCHCSP)

- Dr. Moshe Ben-Shoshan FRQ-S Chercheur - clinicien Junior I
- Dr. Geneviève Bernard, CIHR New Investigator Award
- Dr. Kolja Eppert, Canada Research Chair (Tier II)

- Dr. Patricia Fontela, CCHCSP Career Development, FRSQ Chercheur - clinicien Junior I
- Dr. Bethany Foster, FRQ-S Chercheur - clinicien Senior
- Dr. Isabelle Gagnon, FRQ-S Chercheur - clinicien Senior
- Dr. Nada Jabado, FRQ-S Chercheur - Chaire de recherche
- Dr. Patricia Li, FRQ-S Chercheur - clinicien Junior I
- Dr. Mary Ellen MacDonald, FRQ-S Chercheur - boursier Junior I
- Dr. Meranda Nakhla, FRQ-S Chercheur - clinicien Junior I
- Dr. Maryam Oskoui, FRQ-S Chercheur - clinicien Junior I
- Dr. Jesse Papenburg, FRQ-S Chercheur - clinicien Junior I
- Dr. Janet Rennick, FRQ-S Chercheur - clinicien Junior II
- Dr. Ernest Seidman, Canada Research Chair (Tier I)
- Dr. Myriam Srour, FRQ-S Chercheur - clinicien Junior I
- Dr. Pia Wintermark, FRQ-S Chercheur - clinicien Junior II
- Dr. Michele Zappitelli, FRQ-S Chercheur - clinicien Senior

<b>2016 MCGILL GRANT DATA</b>			
<b>Sponsor</b>	<b>Grant Description/ Project Title</b>	<b>PI</b>	<b>2016</b>
NSERC	Molecular mechanism of placental development: The role of TMED2, a vesicular transport protein during syncytiotrophoblast formation.	Loydie Majewska	30,000
NSERC	Semaphorin 4C; a novel homing molecule in memory B cell and plasma cell development	Bruce Mazer	30,000
NSERC	The Role of Claudins in Embryonic Patterning and Morphogenesis	Aimee Ryan	26,000
<b>Total NSERC</b>			<b>86,000</b>
CIHR	Muscle-bone interactions in Canadians: a national, population-based study	Frank Rauch	135,030
CIHR	Primary care for children: a research program aimed at improving quality of care	Patricia Li	29,333
<b>Total CIHR</b>			
Genome Canada/ RI MUHC	Biomarkers for Pediatrics Glioblastoma through Genome and Epigenomics	Nada Jabado	239,356
<b>Total SICI</b>			<b>239,356</b>
NIH	Teen adherence in Kidney transplant effectiveness of intervention trail.	Bethany Foster	924,012
<b>Total NIH</b>			<b>924,012</b>
FRSQ	Developpement de methodes statistiques specifiques a des problemes de recherche en pediatrie et pharmacoepidemiologie.	Robert William Platt	30,000
FRSQ	Caracterisation clinique et genetique de maladies neurodegenerative de l'enfant avec focus sur les leucodystrophies et maladies hereditaires de la matiere blanchee cerebrale.	Genevieve Bernard	33,708
FRSQ	Troubles du sommeil chez les enfants: Les effets du traitement sur les resultats de sante.	Evelyn Constantin	35,393
FRSQ	Accessibilite aux soins de sante, utilisation des ressources et leur impact sur la sante des enfants et adolescents atteints de diabete au Quebec.	Meranda Nakhla	35,393
FRSQ	Causes et traitements de l'osteopores hereditaire chez l'enfant et l'adolescent.	Frank Rauch	20,416
FRSQ	Comment identifier precocement les nouveau-nes a resque de developper des lesions cerebrales malgre le traitement par hypothermie.	Pia Wintermark	33,708

FRSQ	Prevalence et utilisation des soins de sante chez les enfants atteints de paralysie cerebrale au Quebec.	Maryam Oskoui	36,159
FRSQ	Anaphylaxie induite par l'alimentation: taux, les causes et la gestion.	Moshe Ben-Shoshan	38,227
FRSQ	Optimiser l'obseance aux medicaments chez les jeunes receveurs d'une greffe.	Bethany Joy Foster	29,533
FRSQ	Prevention des infections: a l'hospital et dans la communaute.	Caroline Quach-Thanh	29,130
FRSQ	Creation et validation d'un outil d'aide a la decision pour optimiser l'usage des antimicrobiens aux soins intensifs pediatriques.	Patricia Fontela	35,000
FRSQ	Genese et progression des tumeurs cerebrales de haut-grade chez l'enfant (salary allocation)	Nada Jabado	30,000
FRSQ	FRQ-S CB CLINICIEN Jr # 30953	Myriam Srour	34,627
FRSQ	FRQ-S CB CLINICIEN Sr # 30898	Michele Zappitelli	35,393
<b>Total FRSQ</b>			<b>456,687</b>
CRC	Immune Mediated Gastrointestinal Disorders	Ernest Seidman	50,000
CRC	CIHR - Cancer Stem Cell Biology	Kolja Eppert	25,000
<b>Total CRC</b>			<b>75,000</b>

## PUBLICATIONS

A list of 2016 publications for the Department is available at:

<https://www.mcgill.ca/peds/mission/publications>

## SECTION II: TEACHING AND LEARNING (Undergraduate and Graduate)

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### PEDIATRIC RESIDENCY TRAINING PROGRAM

With the move to the new hospital well behind us and residents and attending staff acclimatized to the Glen site, the Pediatrics residency program was able to move forward on several other projects in 2016, including:

- The transition to two new program directors, Dr. Gary Pেকেles and Dr. Olivia Tse, who joined Catherine Henin as Co-Director and Assistant Director, respectively.
- The transfer of two residents from another residency program in addition to the welcoming of ten new R1s on June 1, 2016.
- The preparation for the February 2017 McGill Internal Review of the program (i.e. revision of the rotation objectives and ITERs for all 40 rotations offered by the program).
- The piloting of competency-based evaluation tools on several clinical teaching units to begin the transition to Competency-Based Medical Education.
- An overhaul of the academic half-day curriculum to better align with Royal College objectives and ensure all CanMEDs roles are addressed.
- The development of a resident research curriculum that is now integrated into the academic half-day curriculum.
- The development of several new rotations (i.e. Psychiatry, Community Newborn at Lasalle Hospital).

Highlights of the year included the second annual Pediatrics resident and fellow graduation that was an even bigger success than the previous year, and the 6th annual joint “McGill University/Université de Montréal Pediatrics Resident and Fellow Research Day” that had a larger number of participants than in the past, demonstrating the increased interest in research among our residents.

The biggest challenge of the past year was the maintenance of adequate on-call coverage of all clinical units in the face of decreasing resident numbers. The Departmental leadership has been very involved in trying to find solutions to this issue, although manpower shortages have only been exacerbated by recent governmental restrictions on the hiring of clinical assistants and other “external” physicians. This problem is therefore an ongoing one that will likely only worsen as resident numbers continue to decrease. (There will be only 9 new R1s in July 2017). Another significant challenge facing our residents is the continued severe limitations on pediatric fellowship opportunities within Quebec, although all our residents who applied for subspecialty training outside of Quebec were successful in obtaining positions.

There are several initiatives already being planned for the next academic year, including a new resident wellness curriculum, new summer “Boot Camp” teaching sessions to better prepare incoming trainees for the transition to residency, and a new rotation in Pediatric Ophthalmology for senior residents. Dr. Robert Sternszus will be replacing Dr. Catherine Henin as Director of the Pediatrics residency program in June 2017 and Dr. Olivia Tse will become Associate Director of the program. Their complementary interests and experience in medical education and resident wellness will ensure a well-balanced and dynamic leadership of the program for the next year and beyond.

#### **FELLOWSHIP TRAINING PROGRAMS**

The Department’s continued international and local commitment to the training of first-rate academic candidates is supported by the Alan Ross Academic Bursary Award and the Clinical Bursary Award in Pediatrics. These bursary awards are available each year to candidates who wish to pursue postgraduate training (research or clinical) in a pediatric specialty. In 2016, the Department funded seven international medical graduates. The Alan Ross Academic Bursary Award funded three candidates in the Divisions of Endocrinology, Respiratory Medicine, and Immunology and Allergy. The Clinical Bursary Award in Pediatrics funded four candidates in the Divisions of Hematology-Oncology, Emergency Medicine, Pediatric Critical Care and Rheumatology.

#### **PEDIATRIC MEDICAL GRAND ROUNDS**

The Pediatric Medical Grand Rounds is an accredited group learning activity as defined by the Maintenance of Certification program of The Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. Grand Rounds take place Wednesday mornings from September to June, for physician staff, residents and rotating medical students, who are requested to attend.

In 2016 the Department held 14 special lectureships, including the 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Alton Goldbloom Lecture, 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Charles R. Scriver Lectureship, 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Alan Ross Lecture, 29<sup>th</sup> Saul Usher Lectureship, and the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Kenny Vineberg Pediatric Lectureship in Hematology-Oncology. The year’s roster included 18 visiting speakers, and 24 local speakers.

A list of Pediatric Medical Grand Rounds may be viewed on the following link: <http://www.mcgill.ca/peds/grandrounds>.

#### **SECTION III: INVOLVEMENT IN THE GLOBAL COMMUNITY**

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The Global Child Health Program was established within the McGill Department of Pediatrics and is coordinated by a multi-disciplinary committee wishing to broaden the Montreal Children's Hospital's (MCH) involvement in global health activities. This program builds on the long-standing engagement and expertise in global health of members of the MCH and the Department of Pediatrics. The 2015-2016 year-end report for the Global Child Health Program is available on: [http://www.mcgill.ca/peds/files/peds/gchp\\_year-end\\_report\\_-\\_august\\_7\\_2016.pdf](http://www.mcgill.ca/peds/files/peds/gchp_year-end_report_-_august_7_2016.pdf)

## SECTION IV: MILESTONES

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### NEW HIRES

The following individuals were appointed as Assistant Professors in 2016 for an initial term:

- **Marie-Astrid Lefebvre**, Division of Infectious Diseases
- **Julia Von Oettingen**, Division of Endocrinology
- **François Olivier**, Division of Neonatology
- **Jade Séguin**, Division of Emergency Medicine
- **Elisabeth Simard-Tremblay**, Division of Pediatric Neurology

### APPOINTMENTS

- **Alexandre Barbier** assumed the role of co-Program Director for the Perinatal-Neonatal Fellowship Program.
- **Delphine Collin-Vézina** was appointed as the inaugural holder of the Nicolas Steinmetz and Gilles Julien Chair in Social Pediatrics in the community in the Department of Pediatrics.
- **Julius Erdstein** was appointed Division Director of Adolescent Medicine in October 2016.
- **Debbie Freidman** was appointed as Assistant Dean, Student Affairs (Schools), Faculty of Medicine.
- **Preetha Krishnamoorthy** was reappointed as Program Director of UGME in the Department of Pediatrics.
- **Annette Majnemer** was appointed as Vice-Dean (Education) in the Faculty of Medicine.
- **Saleem Razack** was appointed Director of the Office of Social Accountability and Community Engagement, Faculty of Medicine.
- **Ana Maria Sant'Anna** was appointed as Assistant Dean, MDCM Admissions, Faculty of Medicine.
- **Michael Shevell** was re-appointed as Chair of Pediatrics, Faculty of Medicine for a second five year mandate commencing November 1, 2016.

New membership of Executive Committee commencing on November 1, 2016:

- **Emmett Francoeur**, Vice Chair (Community Relations)
- **Mylene Dandavino**, Associate Chair (Clinical Operations)
- **Laurie Plotnick**, Associate Chair (Education)
- **Mitch Shiller**, Associate Chair (Finance-MSSA)
- **Aurore Cote**, Associate Chair (Outreach)
- **Maryam Oskoui**, Associate Chair (Research)

### PROMOTIONS

- **Reza Alizadehfar** was promoted to the rank of Associate Professor.
- **Farhan Bhanji** was promoted to the rank of Full Professor.
- **Gaëlle Chedeville** was promoted to the rank of Associate Professor.
- **Laurie Plotnick** was promoted to the rank of Associate Professor.
- **Chantal Poulin** was promoted to the rank of Associate Professor.
- **Pia Wintermark** was promoted to the rank of Associate Professor.

### RETIREMENTS

- **Patricia Forbes**, Associate Professor, retired in February 2016.

## SECTION V: HONOURS, AWARDS, AND PRIZES

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Faculty members in the Department of Pediatrics received a number of awards and honours throughout 2016, including:

- **Farhan Bhanji**, Pediatric Chairs of Canada 2016 Clinician Educator Award
- **Preetha Krishnamoorthy**, 2016 Canadian Association for Medical Education (CAME) Certificate of Merit Award
- **Robert Platt**, 2016 Montreal Children's Hospital Foundation Award of Excellence (Research)
- **Chantal Poulin**, 2016 Montreal Children's Hospital Foundation Award of Excellence (Clinical)
- **Stephen Liben**, 2016-2017 Faculty of Medicine Honor List for Educational Excellence
- **Pramod Puligandla**, 2015-2016 Faculty of Medicine Honor List for Educational Excellence
- **Kent Saylor**, 2016 Haile T. DeBas Award, Faculty of Medicine

Awards and honours for Faculty members are listed on the Department of Pediatrics website: [www.mcgill.ca/peds/mission/awards](http://www.mcgill.ca/peds/mission/awards)

## **SECTION VI: CYCLICAL ACADEMIC UNIT REVIEW**

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The Department of Pediatrics underwent a Cyclical Academic Unit Review in 2015-2016. Following the recommendations from the Academic Unit Review Committee a set of concrete actions, with an associated timeline and desired outputs, was created to assure future progress. The Cyclical Review Actions Scorecard is available at: <http://www.mcgill.ca/peds/about/cyclicalreviews>