

CIMVHR Newsletter

Date: February 6, 2014

The Canadian Institute for Military and Veteran Health Research (CIMVHR) had a very successful 2013. We received a \$400,000 scholarship from Wounded Warriors Canada; Duncan Shields from the University of British Columbia was selected as the first recipient of this scholarship; we completed our second Webinar course on Issues in the Health of Military Personnel, Veterans and their Families; started a local fundraiser with The Kingston Brewing Company to help raise money to enhance, through research, the health and well-being of military personnel, Veterans and their families; and co-hosted, with the University of Alberta, an incredibly successful 4th Annual Military and Veteran Health Research Forum which was held in Edmonton.

MVHR Forum 2013 Highlights

This past November, CIMVHR together with the University of Alberta, hosted the 4th Annual Military and Veteran Health Research (MVHR) Forum in Edmonton. This was the first year CIMVHR took the annual forum on the road and the results were highly successful. We had over 400 participants including 150 military personnel, 250 academics and 30 corporations who all joined together to help benefit military personnel, Veterans and their families.

Forum 2013 began with a warm welcome to all attendees followed by an encouraging message from the Chief of Defence Staff, General Tom Lawson, who praised Canadian researchers for their efforts with respect to the research that will enhance the lives of military personnel, Veterans, their families and the Canadian population as a whole.

"The Military and Veteran Health Research Forum assures me that the needs of Canada's servicemen and women are being considered, researched, and discussed by some of the finest minds in Canada," said General Lawson. *"This collaboration supports not only the efforts of medical personnel looking after our serving and retired members and their families, but all Canadians."*

General Tom Lawson, CDS – Video message to the delegation at MVHR Forum 2013

Later on that evening the scientific poster session commenced with esteemed keynote speakers including The Honourable Donald S. Ethell, OC, OMM, AOE, MSC, CD, LLD Lieutenant Governor of Alberta.

Throughout the event participants were able to choose from 89 different research presentations in 24 breakout sessions that focused on

Issue # 7

Throughout this issue we will provide you with highlights from MVHR Forum 2013, we will introduce the three new members of the CIMVHR Board of Directors, highlight the 2013 winner of the Major Sir Frederick Banting Award, and provide you with information on the Masters scholarship donated to CIMVHR from The Royal Canadian Legion. Thank you all for your continuous support and we look forward to working with all of you in 2014.

Alice B. Aiken, CD, PhD, Director and
Stéphanie A.H. Bélanger, PhD, Associate Director

the research areas of mental health, physical health, social health and well-being, novel health technologies, transition from military to civilian life, evolving treatment programs and clinical practices, and occupational health and gender differences. Participants heard from 13 keynote speakers, including the forum gala dinner presenter Captain Simon Mailloux who spoke about his experience with losing a limb in Afghanistan, how he was able to rehabilitate and eventually return to combat. His story was truly inspirational to all who attend the Forum. Furthermore, participants had the opportunity to network with many researchers from across Canada and around the world.

CIMVHR would like to recognize all of the MVHR Forum 2013 sponsors, without their support the Forum would not have been the success that it was. A special thank you goes out to; Queen's University, Royal Military College of Canada, the University of Alberta, Veterans Affairs Canada, Canadian Forces Health Services Group, The War Amps, Calian Health, True Patriot Love, GE Healthcare, Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists, Bellwood Health Services, Sunshine Coast Health Center, NeuroSolutions, University of Manitoba, Lundbeck, Reckitt Benckiser Pharmaceuticals Inc., The Royal Canadian Legion, Concordia University Perform Centre, Laval University, University of Regina, BHC Medical, OrthoCanada, Urban Poling, Motek Medical, University of Ottawa, Canadian Physiotherapy Association, and Canadian Medical Association. Thanks to your generous donations and support, CIMVHR was able to host another successful MVHR Forum.



CIMVHR
Canadian Institute for Military
and Veteran Health Research

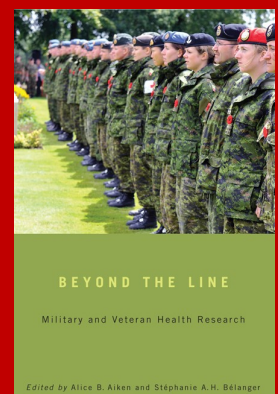
ICRSMV
L'Institut canadien de recherche sur
la santé des militaires et des vétérans

Did you know...

CIMVHR is now on Facebook and Twitter! Click on the icons below to like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter.



Beyond the Line: Military and Veteran Health Research is now available to be ordered online. Click on the book below to order your copy



Forum 2014 will be held in **Toronto, ON** on **November 24th - 26th**. Follow us on Twitter and Facebook for updates.

For comments on this issue or for suggestions for future issues please contact Lauren Hanlon at lauren.hanlon@queensu.ca

Royal Canadian Legion Announces \$30,000 Scholarship Donation to CIMVHR

During Forum 2013, The Royal Canadian Legion's Mr. Gordon Moore, Dominion President, announced that The Royal Canadian Legion will be donating \$30,000 to CIMVHR for a Masters scholarship opportunity in Military and Veteran Health Research. The purpose of The Royal Canadian Legion Masters Scholarship in Veteran Health Research is to address the needs over the life course of those who have served our nation, and their families. "Since our founding in 1926, the Legion has recognized there are unique issues facing Veterans and their families and the only way to truly understand these issues is through thorough and systematic research," said Moore. "Being able to develop the knowledge to handle existing needs while also making connections to emerging health care requirements will be a fundamental skill set and the Legion takes great pride in the small role it is playing to make this happen," added Moore. CIMVHR and The Royal Canadian Legion have

made a commitment to this Canadian scholarship that will ensure a lasting legacy for Veteran Health Research in Canada by training a future generation of researchers. "Building the future generation of researchers in Veterans health is critical to ensuring this important topic stays current. We are grateful to the Legion for the support and recognition of the importance of research in the health of Veterans and their families", said Dr. Aiken, Director of CIMVHR. Creating links between the future generation of researchers and CIMVHR's University Members and Government Stakeholders will also ensure that high impact research can be translated into practice, policies and programs that affect the lives of those who have served and their families.

For more information on The Royal Canadian Legion Masters Scholarship in Veteran Health please see the application guidelines available at <http://www.cimvhr.ca/content/cimvhr-funding-opportunities>.

Dr. Mark Zamorski – Winner of the 2013 Major Sir Frederick Banting MC, RCAMC Award for Military Health Research

The Major Sir Frederick Banting MC, RCAMC Award for Military Health Research is an award presented annually at the MVHR Forum. Sponsored by the True Patriot Love Foundation and adjudicated by the Surgeon General of the Canadian forces, the award honours Major Sir Frederick Banting, a world renowned physician, researcher, Nobel Prize winner and the discoverer of insulin. Honouring Sir Banting's decorated career as a Medical Officer in the Canadian Army, the goal of this award is to recognize and encourage high quality research that addresses military health issues.

The award is presented to the Canadian (civilian or military) whose research presentation is deemed to be of the greatest

CIMVHR Board of Directors

CIMVHR would like to welcome three new members to our Board of Directors, Dr. Vianne Timmons – President and Vice-Chancellor at the University of Regina, Dr. Elizabeth Taylor – Associate Dean and Professor at the University of Alberta, and Dr. Joseph Buckley – Vice Principal Research at

overall value to military health. An expert committee chaired by the Surgeon General takes factors such as scientific quality, military relevance and impact on the health of Canadian Forces members into account.

The winner of the 2013 Major Sir Frederick Banting Award is Dr. Mark Zamorski, of the DND Directorate of Mental Health, for his research titled *Sitting on a Gold Mine: The 2013 Canadian Armed Forces Cross-sectional Mental Health Survey Dataset*. To learn more about Dr. Zamorski's research visit: <http://www.cimvhr.ca/documents/pdf/2013-MVHR-Forum-Abstracts.pdf>. Dr. Zamorski will be a keynote speaker at Forum 2014.

the Royal Military College of Canada. We would also like to thank Dr. Jean Fugère for his commitment and dedication to CIMVHR. Dr. Fugère has recently stepped down as the RMCC representative on the Board of Directors.



Photos on this page are from MVHR Forum 2013. The first and fifth pictures were taken by Richard Siemens from the University of Alberta. The second, third and fourth pictures were taken by John Ulan, Epic Photography Inc.

1) The Honourable Donald S. Ethell, OC, OMM, AOE, MSC, CD, LLD Lieutenant Governor of Alberta. 2) Dr. Elizabeth Taylor-UofA, BGen Bernier - Surgeon General, Dr. Alice Aiken - Director CIMVHR, Capt. Simon Mailloux - MVHR Forum 2013 gala dinner keynote speaker, and Dr. Stéphanie Bélanger - Associate Director CIMVHR. 3) Capt. Simon Mailloux and The Honourable Minister Fantino, Minister of Veterans Affairs Canada. 4) Mr. Gordon Moore - Dominion President The Royal Canadian Legion. 5) Mr. Michael Burns - co-founder and Vice-Chair True Patriot Love Foundation, Dr. Mark Zamorski - DND Directorate of Mental Health and the 2013 Banting Award winner, and BGen Bernier.