



CANM
ACMN

The Canadian Association
of Nuclear Medicine

Association canadienne
de médecine nucléaire

NEWSLETTER/
INFOLETTRE

The President's Corner



*From left to right,
Bill Casey, Chair,
Standing
Committee on
Health, The
Honourable Jane
Philpott, Minister
of Health, Dr.
Andrew Ross,
CANM President*

**CANM efforts
regarding the
availability of
medical isotopes**

Dr. Ross met in early November with the Minister of Health and the Parliamentary Secretary for Natural resources Canada to present the position of the CANM regarding the availability of medical isotopes in Canada and the current challenges around this. They discussed the concept the CANM has been lobbying for to have the Federal Government create a Medical ISotope Transition Fund. This would see a direct transfer to the provinces to be used to offset the increasing costs. The money would be recognition for savings from the subsidies once paid to NRU for Moly production. Additionally, discussions were initiated around reform of radiopharmaceuticals regulations which are having a negative effect on price and availability.

Efforts have also been made at the provincial level to present the CANM position paper:

Manitoba: Dr. Levin met with Robert Shaffer, Executive Director, Provincial Cancer & Diagnostic Services

Mission of the CANM

The Canadian Association of Nuclear Medicine strives for excellence in the practice of diagnostic and therapeutic nuclear medicine by promoting the continued professional competence of nuclear medicine specialists, establishing guidelines of clinical practice, and encouraging biomedical research.

In This Issue

The President's Corner

[The 2017 CANM annual meeting](#)

Alberta: Dr. Ross will send more information to Dr. Chris Molnar to move the issue through the Ministry of Health

British Columbia.: Dr. Cohen met with Jane Crichtmore, Executive Director, Laboratory, Diagnostic and Blood Services Branch, Ministry of Health

Nova Scotia: Dr. Ross met with Deputy Minister of Health, Peter Vaughan.

CANM-CARS Working Group with Health Canada on radiopharmaceutical regulation

In addition to the political lobbying, work with the federal bureaucrats who oversee the regulations continue. The 4th joint workshop was held in Ottawa. These can be viewed as somewhat tedious as the Nuclear Medicine community outlines the difficulties with how regulations designed for drug manufacturing and use are applied to minute quantities of radioactive substances used in diagnosis and the regulators how the regulations must be applied. That said, this was the most positive meeting to date with several directed take aways to try and help the Community. An example would be access to DMSA (and hopefully other tracers when there are access issues) currently only available through an arduous SAP application. The regulators undertook to assess this and hopefully aim to streamline the process for more efficient patient access. This will continue a slow process but regulatory reform is crucial to allow the specialty to deliver care. That was the message being delivered.



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Toronto 2017

Photo credit: Toronto Tourism

CANM 2017 Annual Scientific Meeting
Réunion scientifique annuelle de l'ACMN 2017
April 20-23, 2017 / du 20 au 23 avril 2017
Westin Harbor Castle
Toronto, Ontario

2017 CANM Annual Conference

April 20-23, 2017

Westin Harbour Castle - Toronto

The CANM Annual Conference 2017 will take place at the Westin Harbour Castle in Toronto, **April 20-23, 2017**. Some information is already available on the CANM Website (www.canm-acmn.ca) and more is to come this fall.

We invite you to submit **abstracts** and to make plans to attend the conference in Toronto.

New this year: A one-day PET Symposium that will take place all day on Thursday, April 20, preceding the official conference opening.

[Preliminary Program / Programme préliminaire](#)

[Call for abstracts / Demande de résumés](#)

[Eric Lepp Clinical Vignettes / Vignettes Clinique Eric Lepp](#)

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For more information, please do not hesitate to contact the CANM office at 613-882-5097 or canm@canm-acmn.ca

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