

Canadian Foundation for Dietetic Research

2019 Morgan Awards

2019 ANNUAL REPORT



The Morgan Awards were established in 2007 in honor and memory of Susan Morgan. Susan was a dietitian and the manager of the Canadian Foundation for Dietetic Research (CFDR); she was a strong supporter of practice-based research and of mentoring students. Since the establishment of the Morgan Awards, winners have been chosen from applications submitted by trainees from the Dietitians of Canada regions. From the regional Morgan Award winners, a national Morgan Medal winner is chosen and until 2019, all Morgan Award winners received a commemorative gift and the national winner was provided with travel and accommodation to the annual Dietitians of Canada conference; in 2019, the Morgan Medal winner received a cash prize.

2019 Morgan Awards at the Dietitians of Canada Conference Nathalie Savoie, Heather Bray, Heather-Ann Burrell, Rhea Lewandoski, Timothy Lau, Pierrette Buklis, Janis Randall Simpson

Since their inception in 2007, the Morgan Awards have been supported by the Canadian Foundation for Dietetic Research (CFDR), Susan's husband, Brian Steele, the Morgan family, and individual donors. To date, there have been fifty-seven regional winners and thirteen national Morgan Award winners. The 2019 awards were the last to be supported and awarded by CFDR. Dietitians of Canada will host the Morgan Awards program for 2020 using the same previously developed selection process.

At the 2019 Awards Ceremony at the Dietitians of Canada Conference in Ottawa, four of the five regional Morgan Award winners were present, including the 2019 Morgan Medal winner, Heather-Ann Burrell, from St. Francis Xavier University. Please see page 4 for more details of all the winners and their research.





Report of the Chair

Who knew, as 2019 burst on scene, that we were in for such a spotlight on nutrition? This could be known as the year of Canada's new Food Guide, crafted by experts including many dietitians, based on current evidence in nutrition and current knowledge translation approaches to make it relevant. But almost as soon as it was unveiled, there were questions about the integrity of the evidence underpinning the new Guide. And then, nutrition made an appearance in the federal election, as one party's leader proclaimed the advantages of chocolate milk! Further, this fall, the effects on human health of

meat consumption has been the talk of social media. Through all of this, the need for sound evidence that can be applied to the health of individuals and the policies that create our food environment has been at the front of popular conversation. I have never been more certain of the need for CFDR.

As I reflect on the past year for CFDR, I feel an overwhelming sense of gratitude. I am grateful for the unwavering support of the DC and CFDR Boards for the CFDR purpose as we navigate uncertain financial seas. I am grateful to the researchers who propose so many wonderful projects each year and to our Scientific Review Committee who consider each one carefully. I am grateful to Beth Armour (and her sweet canine companion, Archie), who inspired more of us than ever before to support the CFDR Fun Run at the DC National conference. I am grateful to the robust response to our call for new CFDR Director candidates, to receive the baton this year and carry CFDR forward on its path.

While the past couple of years have been a time of reckoning and re-evaluation for CFDR, this year has been about taking our future more firmly into our own hands. We are ready to chart a new course forward, with new tools and renewed enthusiasm for our mission: to cultivate and fund practice-based, dietetic research. And we will succeed with the ongoing support of our dietitian colleagues:

- To apply for our grants/promote our grant competitions to colleagues;
- To share, cite and apply the results of our research projects; and,
- To help us fund CFDR's ongoing mission through your donations.
 Thank you for your commitment and support!

Tunt Bils

Pierrette Buklis MHSc RD Chair, Board of Directors

Message from the ED

It has been another busy year for CFDR. CFDR funded four research grants for the 2018-2019 fiscal year (see page 6 (2019 CFDR Research Awards) for details). Four research grants were completed (see page 7 (CFDR Research Results) for details) and several more that were awarded in 2017 are near completion. We have had an excellent Scientific Review Committee that does a wonderful job of reviewing the Letters of Intent and the full proposals.

The Research Showcase at the Dietitians of Canada conference in Ottawa, ON in June 2019 was a success with some new initiatives taken to increase the visibility of research conducted by DC members across Canada (see page 5 (CFDR at the 2019 DC Conference) for details). CFDR is very grateful to the members of the abstract review committees for their commitment to showcasing dietetic research in Canada.

The 2019 CFDR Fun Run was a big success with a record amount of pledges (see page 5 (Fun Run) for details).

The Tracking Nutrition Trends report that was commissioned by CFDR in August 2018 was released for purchase of reports and data. Some results of the TNT report were presented at the DC Conference in Ottawa.

Secretariat Services are provided by Dietitians of Canada and I extend special thanks to all staff who are actively involved in supporting the functions of CFDR. CFDR is dependent on volunteers for its review committees and my thanks are



extended to all committee members (see page 11 (Staff and Volunteer Committees).

Janis Randall Simpson

Janis Randall Simpson PhD, RD, FDC Executive Director

2019 Morgan Awards

Morgan Medal Winner

Heather-Ann Burrell



Heather-Ann Burrell, from the Ontario region, completed a dietetic internship at St. Michael's Hospital after having received a BSc in Human Nutrition from St. Francis Xavier University. Heather was chosen as the recipient of the 2019 Morgan Medal because of her excellent critical thinking skills, academic performance and her excellent research abilities. Her honours thesis project investigated the antihypertensive potential for Nova Scotian soldier bean peptides to inhibit Angiotensin-1 Converting Enzyme. The preliminary findings from the study suggest that these soldier beans are potential candidates for a dietary source of antihypertensive activity.

"I feel very fortunate and honoured to be recognized for my student research by the Canadian Foundation for Dietetic Research. By commemorating students for their passion toward research, the CFDR encourages young professionals like me to continue to take part in research that shapes the dietetic profession. As a lifelong learner, I am excited by the evergrowing body of dietetic research and potential to further explore the impact of food and nutrition on our health. I am humbled to receive the national Morgan Medal in memory of Susan Morgan, who has created a legacy

from her dedication to supporting education and research. I am inspired to mirror the attributes that Susan demonstrated throughout her career by following my own passion for research, in hopes to contribute to future dietetic practice. "

Regional Morgan Award Winners

Heather Bray

Heather Bray, currently an RD with Bridgeway Family Health Centre in Mississauga, Ontario, was selected as a Morgan Award recipient from the Atlantic region because of her passion for public health and clinical dietetics, and for her excellent research project. Heather's qualitative research, based on interviews with clinical dietitians, suggested that there is a gap between what is known about food insecurity and the application of food insecurity theoretical knowledge in dietetic practice and that there is a need for a standard practice in the assessment for food insecurity.

Timothy Lau

Timothy Lau, currently working as a clinical dietitian at the Vancouver General Hospital, was chosen from the British Columbia region for the Morgan Award because of his passion for the profession and for his leadership. Timothy worked collaboratively and professionally on his research project on food repurposing, a strategy to redistribute food that is no longer viable and might otherwise go to waste to the commercial sector. Understanding food repurposing practices helps guide policies to improve public health outcomes.

Rhea Lewandoski

Rhea Lewandoski, currently an RD working at BridgePoint Center for Eating Disorders in Saskatoon, was chosen as a Morgan Award winner for the **Manitoba and Saskatchewan** region for her enthusiasm and her leadership with data analysis in her team project. The project compared clinical markers of patients with new ileostomies prior to and post implementation of a pre-printed order (PPO) dedicated to improving post-surgical care. The PPO has potential to provide a more consistent approach to treating patients with a new ileostomy.

Chelsey Vastenhout

Chelsey Vastenhout completed an undergraduate degree that includes an integrated internship at the University of Alberta Hospital. Chelsey was chosen from the Alberta and the Territories region for a Morgan Award because of her enthusiasm and dedication for her research project on omega-3 fatty acid intake and breast cancer risk based on an analysis of data from a cohort of more than 250 women in the Alberta Tomorrow Project. Findings suggested that consuming higher amounts of eisoapentaenoic acid may lower the risk of breast cancer.

There were no applications for the Morgan Awards from the **Québec** region.

The Morgan Awards and Medal for 2019 were supported by the Canadian Foundation for Dietetic Research, the Morgan family, and individual donors. Dietitians of Canada will host the Morgan Awards program for 2020 using the same previously developed selection process. For more information check out: https:// www.dietitians.ca/About-Us/ Awards-and-Recognition/Awardsand-Recognition-Overview.aspx

CFDR at the 2019 Dietitians of Canada Conference in Ottawa, ON

Research Showcase

The CFDR Research Showcase at the 2019 Dietitians of Canada conference in Ottawa ON built on the initiatives of 2018. New for 2019 was the inclusion of 11 of the **Early Bird Abstracts** into the regularly-scheduled sessions as 'Research Lightning Rounds'. These Lightning Rounds were a hit with the research presenters and received very positive reviews from attendees.



Taylor Hartwig, University of Guelph

Twenty-four **Early Bird Abstracts** were presented as Oral ePoster sessions in dedicated rooms with a fixed schedule.

All presented **Early Bird Abstracts** were published in the Fall issue of the Canadian Journal of Dietetic Practice and Research. All Early Bird abstracts are posted on the CFDR website.

Late Breaking Abstract submissions were for ePoster presentations only. Forty-one abstracts were submitted with 31 presented at the conference. The ePosters were on display throughout the conference and were 'presented' in the foyer outside of the Exhibitors Showcase. All **Late Breaking Abstracts** are posted on the CFDR website.

Thanks also to session moderators: Jane Bellman (Dietitians of Canada); Susan Caswell (University of Waterloo); Jessica Lieffers (University of Saskatchewan); Dawna Royall (Dietitians of Canada); Lee Rysdale (Northern Ontario School of Medicine).

The DC Conference Committee and CFDR continue to pursue strategies to increase attendance at the CFDR Research Showcase and to improve the ePoster experience for the 2020 DC conference in Saskatoon, SK.

FUN RUN



The 2019 Fun Run was held along the Rideau Canal in Ottawa with approximately 150 people participating. Pledges exceeded \$23,000, the highest amount in the 15-year history of the Run Run. This was in large part due to our mascot, Beth Armour's dog Archie (shown in the photo) who played a big role in this year's success. He created such a wonderful 'buzz', helped raise the profile of the CFDR Fun Run, and raised over \$5,000 in pledges. Nathalie Savoie, Dietitians of Canada CEO, gave Archie some stiff competition along the way and raised an admirable \$3,260. Other top fundraisers were Maria D'Agostino (\$1240), Hélène Charlebois (\$1040), Julie Paquette (\$900) and Lois Barney (\$520). Thank you to everyone who solicited and contributed to the \$23,000 in record-breaking pledges collected this year.

Congratulations to the fastest runners: Timothy Lau for the Men's 10K (for the 3rd year in a row!), Ilan Wright winner of the Men's 5K, Melissa LeBlanc for the Women's 10K, and Melanie Thuss, winner of the Women's 5K.

A very special thank you to Catherine Pouliot, our Lead Volunteer in Ottawa, as well as the volunteer route marshals on the day of the event. Your support played a significant role in our success! Thanks also to the CFDR Board working group: Pauline Darling, Colinda Hunter, Lisa Mina and Hélène Charlebois.

CFDR also recognizes the generous contributions of our sponsors totaling almost \$10,000: (Silver) PepsiCo: (Bronze) Almond Board of California, Canadian Sugar Institute, Manitoba Harvest, siggis, Sun-Rype Products Ltd, Three Farmers Foods Inc. and Maple Leaf Foods. Thanks to Janis Randall Simpson, GoodLife Fitness, and myDNA for their prize donations.

The proceeds of the 2019 Fun Run will support CFDR's mandate to fund practice-based dietetic research in Canada.

2019 CFDR Research Awards

The Canadian Foundation for Dietetic Research (CFDR) approved funding of \$77,000 for four projects under its 2019 Annual Grants Competition. These grants were announced at the Dietitians of Canada conference in Ottawa, ON in June 2019.



Chantal Bémeur PhD RD Université de Montréal



The Nutrition in Cirrhosis Guide: Does it Really Make a Difference?

This research will assess the impact of the Nutrition in Cirrhosis Guide, an evidencebased document that translates nutritional practice guidelines into practical and user- friendly information, within chronic liver disease (cirrhosis) communities. Specifically, the project aims to evaluate nutritional status, nutrition knowledge, health-related quality of life and liver function following the implementation of the Guide, developed by cirrhotic patients, caregivers and a national team of medical experts, including dietitians specialized in hepatology.

Christina Lengyel PhD RD

University of Manitoba



Navigating the Nutrition Information Landscape for Long Term Care Residents and their Decision Makers at the End of Life

As health of older adults in long term care homes declines, health care providers look to families/caregivers for direction on how to best meet the wishes at the end of life when the goals of nutrition change. The purpose of this research is to identify and understand the nutrition and end of life perspectives of older adults, their caregivers and health care providers to develop suitable and appropriate materials for end of life conversations in long term care.

Dana Lee Olstad PhD RD and Stéphanie Caron-Roy BSc RD University of Calgary



Exploring Experiences of Accessing Nutritious Foods and Perceived Outcomes Among Lowincome Adults Participating in the British Columbia Farmers' Market Nutrition Coupon Program

Many Canadian children and adults do not have access to enough food for proper growth or to maintain a healthy lifestyle. The British Columbia Farmers' Market Nutrition Coupon Program provides 16 weeks' worth of coupons valued at \$21/week to low-income residents to purchase healthy foods at local farmers' markets. This qualitative study will explore participants' experiences of accessing nutritious foods, perceived program outcomes and whether these outcomes are sustained once the program ends.

Sylvia Santosa PhD RD and Thea Demmers RD MSc

Concordia University





The Role of Nutrition in Muscle Function of Bariatric Surgery Patients

Many Canadians undergo weight loss (bariatric) surgery and the numbers are only growing. Many of these patients do not receive adequate nutritional support, and all are particularly vulnerable to nutritional deficiencies that can cause long-term harm. This study aims to answer how the changes in nutrient intake (especially protein) affect muscle and its function, weight lost, and risk factors of disease. Results will contribute to evidence-based nutrition guidelines for the inclusion of postsurgical nutritional follow-up in these patients.

2019 CFDR Research Results

CFDR congratulates investigators for completion of several projects in the 2018-2019 fiscal year.

Highlights of several completed projects are presented. Full abstracts for all completed CFDR-funded projects can be found in CFDR's Research Room at: http://researchroom.cfdr.ca/about.asp

Misty Rossiter PhD RD

University of Prince Edward Island



Advancing Healthy Development in Early Years Centres on PEI: Evaluation of Healthy Eating Guidelines

Background: Early Years Centres (EYCs) across Prince Edward Island (PEI) were created to offer an accessible and sustainable system that provides high quality early learning opportunities for young children. As part of this initiative, the Healthy Eating Guidelines for EYCs on PEI were collaboratively developed with the goal of creating the healthiest environment possible for young children. Very little data exists in a setting that has a strong potential to positively influence early childhood development and behaviours. EYCs provide a unique research opportunity to examine the impact of the support structure offered to centres. The purpose of this research was to assess the level of implementation and determine the impact of the support structure for the Healthy Eating Guidelines for EYCs of PEI.

Methods: A mixture of one-on-one interview and focus groups were conducted with 27 participants exploring the barriers and supports for the Healthy Eating Guidelines in EYCs on PEI.

Results: Participants included a total of 13 EYC directors, 4 early childhood educators, 3 cooks and 7 parents. Inductive thematic analysis of transcripts and field notes revealed barriers affecting adherence to the Healthy Eating Guidelines including: the high cost of healthy food options, food preferences, lack of support, lack of communication, attitudes and beliefs, and lack of skills. The supports identified for the Healthy Eating Guidelines were governmental assistance, centre buyin, parental and community support, training, the guidelines themselves, and food education tools.

Conclusions: Knowledge gained from this inquiry will be used to inform and enhance the comprehensive approach to support healthy eating among young children on PEI.

Laura Vresk MSc RD Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto



Online Education for Gluten-Free Diet Teaching

Background: Celiac Disease (CD) is an autoimmune disorder and the most common genetically-based food intolerance. Treatment involves lifelong adherence to a strict gluten-free diet (GFD). This study compared the utility of e-learning with one-to-one counseling with a registered dietitian (RD) for educating pediatric patients and their caregivers with regards to CD and the GFD.

Methods: A prospective randomized controlled trial was conducted. Pediatric patients over the age of eight with newly diagnosed CD and their caregivers were recruited and randomized to either the control group (standard 60-minute educational session on the GFD and CD provided by an RD) were collected at baseline, immediately after their education and six months later. The primary outcome was gluten-free diet adherence six months post-education as measured by the Celiac Dietary Adherence Test (CDAT). Secondary outcomes included: ratings of satisfaction with and enjoyment of the educational experience; gluten-free diet knowledge; gastrointestinal symptoms; and, quality of life.

Results: Fifteen patients completed dietitian teaching and 17 completed e-learning. Adherence to the glutenfree diet (CDAT scores) improved significantly from pre-education to six months post-education for both groups with no significant differences between groups at either time point. Patients and caregivers rated the e-learning and RD education similarly about satisfaction and enjoyment with no significant differences in gluten-free diet knowledge, gastrointestinal symptoms or quality of life.

Conclusions: This interactive e-learning module is an effective alternative for educating pediatric patients and their caregivers with regards to CD and the GFD. This inexpensive and evidencebased resource, designed specifically for pediatric patients, resulted in improved dietary compliance six months posteducation at levels comparable to traditional individualized education with a dietitian. Integration of online educational modules into patient care is advantageous as it is cost-effective, permits asynchronous learning and facilitates education of additional caregivers.

Russell de Souza PhD RD and Sonia Anand MD



Validity and Reproducibility of a Semi-quantitative Food Frequency Questionnaire Designed to Measure the Nutrient Intakes of Canadian South Asian Infants at 12 Months of Age

Background: Reliable and valid methods to assess infant dietary intake in prospective cohort studies are sparse. No tools have been validated for use with South Asian infants. The purpose of this study was to design and assess the validity of a semi quantitative foodfrequency questionnaire (FFQ) designed to capture diet in 12-month old South Asian infants living in Canada.

Methods: An 80-item semi quantitative FFQ was developed to assess nutrient intakes of infants over the previous 4 weeks. To assess validity, participants completed the FFQ, followed by at least 2, and up to 3 twenty-four-hour recalls. A second administration of the FFQ took place 1 month after the first to assess reproducibility. Ferritin was measured in a subset of infants, to cross-validate reported iron intake. Seventy-six caregivers representing 76 12-month old infants, participating in the South Asian Birth Cohort Study (Peel Region, Ontario), provided at least 2 FFQs and 2 diet recalls. The main outcomes were the intakes of nutrients averaged across FFQs and diet recalls. The validity of the FFQ, compared with the diet recalls

and biomarker, was characterized using Spearman's correlation coefficient. Reproducibility of both the FFQ and diet recalls was evaluated using the intraclass correlation coefficient.

Results: The energy-adjusted, deattenuated correlation for nutrients between the FFOs and 24-hour recalls ranged from -0.29 (monounsaturated fat) through 1.00 (cholesterol). The FFQ overestimated energy intake by 128%. Iron intake by 24-hour recall correlated significantly with plasma ferritin, but iron intake by FFQ did not. The average reproducibility coefficient of the foodfrequency questionnaires was 0.34 for macronutrients, 0.35 for vitamins, and 0.39 for minerals; the same values for the diet records were 0.46 for macronutrients, 0.61 for vitamins, and 0.65 for minerals.

Conclusions: Among South Asian infants living in Canada, at least 2 days of diet recall completed with the primary caregiver yields more valid and reproducible estimates of nutrient intakes than a semi-quantitative FFQ.

Stephanie Ramage MSc RD and Catherine Field PhD RD

University of Alberta



Dietitian Insights on Taste and Smell Alterations Among Hemodialysis Patients; The First Step to Modification of an Assessment Tool

Introduction: Chronic kidney disease (CKD) patients requiring hemodialysis (HD) are at risk of malnutrition. Many HD patients also report taste and smell alterations (TSAs) which can negatively impact dietary intake and overall health. No tool exists to assess TSAs in CKD. The objective was to adapt the "Taste and Smell Survey" (TSS) for Cancer Patients for HD Patients.

Methods: Participants were registered dietitians (RDs) in Alberta with experience in HD. The 14 question TSS for Cancer Patients determines perception of TSAs. To assess the value of adapting the TSS for HD patients, RDs were surveyed with an online questionnaire (Phase 1) followed by qualitative one-on-one interviews (Phase 2). Questions in both phases explored: 1) experiences of presence/ severity of TSAs in HD patients; and, 2) recommendations for adapting the TSS to meet the needs of HD patients.

Results: Seventeen RDs completed Phase 1 and ten participated in Phase 2. Phase 1: 59% identified that TSAs were present "Very Often" and 41% indicated "Sometimes" in HD patients. The following proportions of respondents chose "Strongly Agree" or "Agree" that each section of the TSS would be useful in the HD setting: screening questions for TSA (94%), persistent taste (94%), drugs interfere with taste or smell (53%), changes to basic tastes and smell (65%), significance of TSAs in the last 3 months (100%), and how TSAs affect quality of life (100%). Phase 2: RDs recommended adapting the tool by adding questions around specific foods, increasing plain language, and guiding timing of questionnaire administration. They also confirmed a lack of current guidelines to support practice in this area.

Conclusions: RDs in Alberta confirmed that TSAs are present among HD patients and that a tool would be useful to identify patients with or (at risk for) malnutrition. The online questionnaire and individual interview results are guiding adaptation of the TSS into a practice tool for use with HD patients.

Summarized Balance Sheet

As of Aug 31, 2019

ASSETS	2019	2018
Cash	78,846	91,746
Investments	2,158,267	2,364,909
Sundry receivables	103,875	42,889
	2,340,988	2,499,544
CAPITAL ASSETS	-	3,834
	2,340,988	2,503,378
LIABILITIES		
Current	57,891	227,230
NET ASSETS		
Restricted	1,931,199	1,969,656
Unrestricted	351,898	306,492
	2,283,097	2,276,148
	2,340,988	2,503,378

Summarized Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Fund Balances

Year Ended Aug 31, 2019

REVENUES	2019	2018
Donations - Corporate	51,053	46,740
Donations - Individuals	48,142	63,056
Revenues from Fundraising Events	32,606	33,028
Directed Research	2,700	-
Investment Income	69,276	109,037
Unrealized gain on investments	37,270	-
	241,047	251,861
EXPENSES		
Research Program	74,218	56,189
Open Grant Competition Expenses	18,720	19,647
Administration	28,440	33,636
Governance	39,935	40,900
Research Communications	30,889	34,746
Directed Research	20,337	15,331
Expenses on Fundraising events	21,559	31,038
Unrealized losses on investments	-	74,982
	234,098	306,469
Deficiency of Revenue over Expenses for the Year	6,949	(54,608)
Net Assets - Beginning of Year	2,276,148	2,330,756
Net Assets - End of Year	2,283,097	2,276,148

CFDR Legacy Leaders 2018-19

CFDR is grateful to our corporate partners who believe in the value of dietetic and nutrition research in building a healthy Canada. Our partners contribute funds and human resources to support the work of the Foundation.

CFDR is proud to have worked with the following donors for 2019 at all levels of financial support.

FOUNDER \$25,000 ANNUALLY

Dietitians of Canada

BENEFACTOR	\$15,000 ANNUALLY
Nestlé Health So	cience
PATRON	\$5,000 ANNUALLY
PepsiCo Canada	3

Note: a complete set of audited financial statements is available from CFDR on request. http://www.cfdr.ca/Publications/AnnualReports.aspx

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CFDR relies on the dedicated volunteers who help ensure the success of our programs. Thanks to all of those who donated their time and expertise this year.

DC Conference Abstracts Review Committee

Early Bird Abstracts

Chair: Christina Lengyel (University of Manitoba) Committee: Susan Campisi (University of Toronto); Elaine Cawadias (Ottawa); Andrea Glenn (University of Toronto); Brenda Hartman (Brescia College); Mahsa Jessri (University of Ottawa); Jessica Lieffers (University of Saskatchewan).

Late Breaking Abstracts

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Canadian Foundation for Dietetic Research

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