



CSIH
SCSI

CANADIAN SOCIETY FOR
INTERNATIONAL HEALTH
LA SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE
DE SANTÉ INTERNATIONALE



2018

A YEAR IN REVIEW



FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



To keep it fresh and relevant, an organization must try new things, innovate, and stretch its reach. In 2018, CSIH did just that. We brought our

expertise to the global health community and to the world in new ways: CSIH was selected to participate in the World Health Assembly in Geneva, we compiled the first list of Canadian Women in Global Health, and we led the planning and execution of the Canada Pavilion at AIDS 2018 in Amsterdam for the first time.

At the same time, CSIH solidified its base by continuing to do what we do well: the Canadian Conference on Global Health was outstanding in both programming and participation; the MentorNet program teamed up 39 pairs; and, our international programs became models of collaboration.

2018 saw us developing greater expertise in familiar areas as well as applying our skills to new challenges. This was a year where we demonstrated Canada's visibility, representation, and leadership in global health.

We look forward to another year of innovation and growth as we serve our members and the Canadian global health community.

Eva Slawewski

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'E. Slawewski'.

FROM THE CO-CHAIRS

The global health imperative is increasingly affected by the tumultuous conditions of fragile contexts. As we explored at the Canadian Conference on Global Health in November, factors such as conflict, migration and climate change have a direct impact on health outcomes and the global health community must adapt in real time.

In early 2018, CSIH rose to the challenge by sharpening our focus and articulating our purpose through a strategic plan informed by our membership. As the co-chairs, we are honoured to be part of a dynamic team committed to enhancing the significant work of CSIH through evidence informed decision making, extensive collaboration and stakeholder engagement.

We defined our vision as a *vibrant global health community contributing to a healthier world*. The next step was developing a mission statement to describe how we would make that happen. Our mission is to *improve health and health equity in Canada and worldwide by strengthening and mobilizing the global health community*.

For CSIH, the key to improving health and health equity is you – our members, partners and supporters, and all the researchers, practitioners, academics, policy-makers, and students and young professionals who are the foundation of the global health community in Canada. We strive to create a healthier world and we know that a vibrant global health community will make this happen.

Geneviève Dubois-Flynn
Shawna O'Hearn

Two handwritten signatures in dark ink. The first signature appears to read 'J. Dubois-Flynn' and the second appears to read 'Shawna O'Hearn'.

CANADA PAVILION AT AIDS 2018

CSIH led the design, development, and coordination of the Canada Pavilion at the 22nd International AIDS Conference in Amsterdam, Netherlands. The theme of AIDS 2018 was Breaking Barriers, Building Bridges and the theme of the pavilion was "Canada: Building on our Diversity." More than 16,000 researchers, advocates, policy makers, funders and community leaders from 160 countries attended the conference.

The Pavilion featured a program of 22 activities that highlighted Canadian research, community programs and the lived experience of people with HIV in an engaging and interactive way. More than 450 people visited the pavilion, and the online platform was viewed more than 200 times per day. The evaluation forms included comments such as, "Excellent, interactive experience complemented

by wonderful staff," and "Great and innovative ways of engaging participants."

CSIH developed an online resource bank of Canadian research, programs, and policies to be highlighted at the conference.

This online resource bank will remain available until the next AIDS conference in 2020 at www.aidscanada.ca.

CSIH also produced a video that was featured at the Pavilion. **Positive Living: HIV stories from Canada** introduces us to a refugee who learns he is HIV positive when he arrives in Canada, a native man with a dual identity, a victim of rape, a young woman born with HIV, a housewife, a youth educator and more ordinary Canadians who learned one day that they were "positive."

Supported by the Public Health Agency of Canada and the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands



The Honourable Ginette Petitpas-Taylor, Minister of Health, opens the Pavilion with CSIH staff and volunteers

24TH CANADIAN CONFERENCE ON GLOBAL HEALTH

The Canadian Conference on Global Health – organized this year in collaboration with the Canadian Partnership for Women and Children's Health (CanWaCH) – brought together 550 participants to explore the theme "Fragile environments and Global Health: Examining drivers of change."

From November 19-21, practitioners, researchers, educators, students, policy makers and community mobilizers from 41 countries gathered in Toronto to share their knowledge and make connections to improve their work in the field of global health.

Topics included women and children's health and rights, the politics of global health, health and the SDGs, vulnerable populations, and indigenous populations.

LMIC DELEGATES

The conference was enriched by the participation of more than 95 low and middle income country (LMIC) delegates, including almost 70 presenters.



INSIGHTS FROM BOB RAE

Bob Rae, Special Envoy to Myanmar and expert on the Rohingya refugee crisis, reminded delegates that fragile environments have no borders. He spoke on the dangers of current political instabilities that build the narrative of “the other,” and the critical importance of embracing our common humanity.

A CONVERSATION WITH HELEN CLARK

A highlight of the CCGH was an interview with former New Zealand Prime Minister Helen Clark by CTV News Anchor Lisa LaFlamme. Clark and LaFlamme discussed women in leadership positions, the humanitarian crisis in Yemen, the US presidency and what Clark considers to be the best way of supporting civil societies around the globe.



LAUNCH OF CANADIAN WOMEN IN GLOBAL HEALTH

The Canadian Society for International Health, in close collaboration with representatives from The Lancet and the Government of Canada, launched the Canadian Women in Global Health List at the Canadian Conference on Global Health in November 2018. CWIGH is inspired by a broader global movement to recognize the achievements and expertise of women in global health. Given Canada's international reputation for advancing health and gender equality, it is important that the diversity of its women leaders be recognized and amplified.

The CWIGH List highlights Canadian women leaders, working at home or abroad as practitioners, researchers, educators, policy-makers, and/or community advocates, in a range of disciplines and sectors – such as academia, civil society and government – to advance global health.



LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

CSIH continues to pursue its focus on developing the next generation of global health researchers and practitioners through a variety of means.

In 2018, CSIH MentorNet guided 39 pairs of mentors and mentees through the series of modules designed to stimulate discussion and exchange. CSIH also provided support for students and young professionals (SYPs) by sponsoring the GHSYP conference on the margins of the CCGH and supporting the participation of CSIH MentorNet SYPs at the Pegasus, CPHA and CCGH conferences.

Students and interns who worked at CSIH to support our programming in 2018 came to us through co-op and practicum programs from Carleton University and Memorial University.



CSIH intern Hannah Lane came to us from Memorial University in Newfoundland.

CIHR HEALTH SYSTEM IMPACT FELLOWSHIP

In 2017, CSIH partnered with the University of Ottawa to bring in Dr. Sameera Hussain to actively engage with CSIH's members and partners around the links between global health policy and the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) agenda. Dr. Hussain came through the CIHR Health System Impact Fellowship, which provides post-doctoral fellows the opportunity to apply their research and develop new skills and networks while gaining professional experience.

SDGs FOR HEALTH COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE (CoP)

To champion the SDGs and intersectoral action for health, CSIH has established a community of practice (CoP): a platform for dialogue and knowledge exchange among researchers, practitioners, and policy makers. CoP activities include webinars, workshops, social media engagement, mentoring, presentations, and a blog series.

SPECIAL JOURNAL ISSUE

Along with the World Health Organization's Alliance for Health Policy and Systems Research, CSIH is supporting Dr. Hussain's article collection showcasing multisectoral approaches to achieving the health and well-being related goals in the UN Agenda for Sustainable Development. The collection will be published for dissemination in BMC's Globalization and Health in October 2019.

WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

In May 2018, on behalf of CSIH, Dr. Hussain (2nd row, left) served as the civil society representative on the Canadian delegation to the World Health Assembly in Geneva. Headed by the Canadian Minister of Health, Ginette Petitpas-Taylor (1st row right), the delegation also included officials and policymakers from Global Affairs Canada, Health Canada, and the Public Health Agency of Canada.



Sameera Hussain (2nd row, left) attended the World Health Assembly with Minister Petitpas-Taylor (front, right).

INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

CSIH continues its operations in Tanzania, partnering on two projects towards improving the health of mothers and their children in three regions. Using a health systems approach, CSIH trains health managers and staff in governance and use of data in reproductive, maternal, and child health. CSIH's workshops use a participatory, learning-by-doing approach because when trainings focus on practical, on-the-job learning opportunities, there are better chances for sustainability.

ENHANCING NUTRITION SERVICES TO IMPROVE MATERNAL, NEWBORN AND CHILD HEALTH IN AFRICA AND ASIA (ENRICH)

Emmanuel Reuben, Regional Laboratory Technician in Shinyanga Region, says that as a manager, he has become better at providing supportive supervision thanks to the workshops CSIH has provided.

"If you compare activities before the training and after, there has been a big difference because we learned coaching and mentoring skills."

"With regards to data issues, I was not able to generate reports. I can now train the CHMTs and health facilities on getting information through data analysis."

The ENRICH Project is being implemented in Singida and Shinyanga regions, Tanzania, led by World Vision Canada, in partnership with Nutrition International, HarvestPlus, University of Toronto, and CSIH.

Funded by Global Affairs Canada

ENRICH NUMBERS

101 regional and district health authorities trained on health systems governance

125 health centre and dispensary managers trained in planning and budgeting for health facilities

60 health facility incharges trained in Health Management Information Systems



Health officers receive training through ENRICH project

TABORA MATERNAL AND NEWBORN HEALTH INITIATIVE (TAMANI)



Asimwe Tesha Kitingo

Asimwe Tesha Kitingo, District Nursing Officer in Nzega, says that the skills she and her colleagues have acquired during CSIH's Health Systems Governance Workshop will "produce better outcomes through improved ways of providing treatment and care." She says, "the benefit goes to our patients when we practice continuous quality improvement."

"I am very happy for this training."



Dr. George Mglega

Dr. George Mglega, acting Deputy Medical Officer for the district Council Health Management Team says that CSIH's workshops have provided a much-needed boost to his team's morale and commitment to the work ahead of them. He says health care administrators have busy jobs – it is easy to fall into the trap of doing things the way they have always been done, even if they aren't the most effective. "After the training, my team can see a window of change. It has given people some concrete tools to develop new ways of doing things that can be adapted to the working environment in health facilities. Change that leads to improvement is possible!"

TAMANI is led by CARE Canada, in collaboration with Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada, the Association of Gynaecologists and Obstetricians of Tanzania, McGill Institute for Health and Social Policy, and CSIH.

Funded by Global Affairs Canada

TAMANI NUMBERS

9 workshops led by CSIH on coaching, communication, data use, and planning and budgeting for health services

45 regional and district health authorities took part in CSIH's trainings on leadership and management and coaching and mentoring skills.

48 health facility incharges and staff mentored and trained in the development of their health facility plans and budgets.

FIFTH HEALTH SECTOR DEVELOPMENT PROJECT (FIHSDP), MONGOLIA

This was CSIH's fifth year working in Mongolia to improve blood safety and infection prevention and control in hospitals nationwide. Progress on the project culminated this year in approval of several key national guidelines and training of clinicians on these guidelines.

CSIH advised on the installation of medical equipment in hospitals and medical institutes to support blood services, laboratory services, and medical waste management.

Funded by the Asian Development Bank



CSIH consultant Lewis Tomalty (centre) delivers training to healthcare workers in Mongolia.

FIHSDP NUMBERS

- 3 National Guidelines for blood banks and transfusions
- 2,700 + healthcare workers trained on use of blood products
- 2 National Guidelines on infection control
- 27 SOPs for sterilization of surgical instruments

CSIH LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Every year, CSIH presents a Lifetime Achievement Award to one of its exceptional members. The 2018 award was presented to Dr. Duncan Saunders, whose outstanding leadership in global health spanned a 40-year career (1976-2016) that began in South Africa and continued in Canada.

His contribution to public policies and knowledge transfer through numerous publications also made him an example in the academic world. The students and young professionals who Dr. Saunders mentored throughout his career will carry on his legacy of professionalism, dedication, and commitment to a healthier world.



CSIH board director Kate Dickson presents the Lifetime Achievement Award to Dr. Duncan Saunders

KNOWLEDGE TO ACTION

In 2018, a number of important initiatives were organized through the HIV and HCV Knowledge to Action (K2A) program, with the goal of improving the health and well-being of people affected by HIV, HCV and STBBI in communities across Canada.

The program relies on the direct participation of HIV and HCV service organizations and persons living with HIV and HCV. The K2A Alliance is a joint effort of the Canadian Society for International Health (CSIH) and the **Canadian Association for HIV Research** (CAHR). Activities were implemented in collaboration with the Ottawa Hospital, the University Without Walls and St. Michaels Hospital.

Supported by the Public Health Agency of Canada

ACTIVITIES

- 2 program science sessions
- 2 program science videos
- 3 science cafés
- 4 advanced program science workshops
- 4 new online learning modules

PARTICIPANTS

- 60 people living with HIV
- 160 researchers and/or academics
- 60 NGO staff and volunteers
- 90 public health and/or health care professionals

OUTCOMES

- 85% of participants reported increase in knowledge on designing, implementing and evaluating evidenced-based interventions
- 60% of participants applied the program science framework in related projects, community-based interventions or grant applications

WORLD HEPATITIS DAY ART CONTEST IN CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS

Again in 2018, CSIH organized the World Hepatitis Day Art Contest for federal inmates across Canada in partnership with **Correctional Service Canada** (CSC). CSIH received 60 posters: 14 from women and 46 from men. A total of 12 prizes were awarded, with winners in each category receiving \$250. The prevalence of the virus among prisoners can be attributed to many incarcerated people having a history of injection drug use. The objectives of the contest were to raise awareness about hepatitis and encourage inmates to get tested. This activity contributed to an increase in diagnoses, resulting in more people receiving treatment in federal correctional institutions. All the winning posters can be viewed online at www.csih.org/en/world-hepatitis-day-art-contest



Rodney B. from the William Head Institution won first prize in the men's category for this poster



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