

2020 ALS Research

In 2020, the ALS Society of BC raised \$202,904 to support ALS Research.

Source: 2020 ALS Canada Annual Report

National Research – In 2020, ALS Canada awarded \$2,184,000, including the \$1 Million CAPTURE ALS grant, which we partnered with Brain Canada on, in new grants. We accounted for the full financial commitment of these grants in the year, as is our accepted accounting practice, even though most grants will be paid out over multiple years. An additional \$532 Million was used to support the ALS Canada Research Program and the broader ALS research community in Canada.

Making donor dollars go further

At a time when health research investment in Canada was significantly challenged, ALS Canada's donors stepped up in an impressive way. Because of you, the \$2.184 million in donor dollars directed to grants and CAPTURE ALS was leveraged with our partner Brain Canada,* resulting in more than double the research investment.

* With the financial support of Health Canada, through the Canada Brain Research Fund, an innovative partnership between the Government of Canada (through Health Canada) and Brain Canada

Grants:	\$1.18 million	donor-funded
	+	
	\$498,475	matched by Brain Canada
	+	(Discovery grants)
CAPTURE ALS:	\$1 million	donor-funded
	+	
	\$1.43 million	grant awarded by Brain Canada
	+	
	\$250,000	matched by Alnylam Pharmaceuticals
	+	
	\$250,000	matched by REGENERON Science Medicine
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	\$4.61 million	

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RESEARCH FUNDED IN 2021



Funding research can be a complex process – there is more research to pursue than dollars available, and the investments made today will take years to yield results. Awarding research grants on an annual basis means that there is a steady pipeline of work underway, and engaging panels of scientific experts in reviewing and evaluating research proposals means there is rigour in assessing the quality and meaningful impact of the research we fund.

Thank you to our donors – including provincial ALS Societies that direct 40% of net proceeds from Walk to End ALS events – for your role in supporting **Canada’s only dedicated source of ALS research funding at a time when health research funding was extremely challenged due to the COVID-19 pandemic.**

ALS Canada Clinical Research Fellowship

Dr. Colin Luk, University of Alberta | \$188,000

Mitsubishi Tanabe Pharma Canada Fellowship

Dr. Gordon Jewett, University of Calgary | \$200,000



La Fondation Vincent Bourque – ALS Canada Career Transition Award

Can identification of new biological targets represent promising new antibody treatment strategies for ALS?

Dr. Silvia Pozzi, Université Laval CERVO Brain Research Centre | \$250,000



ALS Canada-Brain Canada Discovery Grants*



How do mutations in CHCHD10 cause ALS?

Dr. Gary Armstrong and Dr. Eric Shoubridge, The Neuro (Montreal Neurological Institute-Hospital) at McGill University | \$125,000

How does loss of normal function of DNAJC7 lead to ALS?

Dr. Martin Duennwald, Western University and Dr. Sali Farhan, The Neuro (Montreal Neurological Institute-Hospital) at McGill University | \$125,000

Enhancing a clinical trial of enoxacin in ALS through addition of biomarker analysis and better monitoring of safety.

Dr. Angela Genge, The Neuro (Montreal Neurological Institute-Hospital) at McGill University and Dr. Eran Hornstein, Weizmann Institute of Science | \$125,000

*Awarded in partnership with Brain Canada, with matched funds contributed, through the Canada Brain Research Fund, an innovative partnership between the Government of Canada (through Health Canada) and Brain Canada.

Can an interdisciplinary approach to mindfulness improve the quality of life for people with ALS and their primary caregivers?

Dr. Angela Genge, The Neuro (Montreal Neurological Institute-Hospital) at McGill University; Dr. Francesco Pagnini, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore; Lana Kim McGeary, Antonietta Vitale, Kendra Berry, Maura Fisher, Kalyna Franko, and Dr. Rami Massie, The Neuro (Montreal Neurological Institute-Hospital) at McGill University | \$121,950

Can a novel metabolic pathway serve as both a biomarker of disease progression and a pathway to treatment?

Dr. Jasna Kriz, CERVO Brain Research Centre at Université Laval; Dr. Nicolas Dupré, CHU de Québec-Université Laval; Dr. Angela Genge, The Neuro (Montreal Neurological Institute-Hospital) at McGill University | \$125,000

Is a novel neuroinflammatory pathway critical to motor neuron degeneration in SOD1?

Dr. Honglin Luo and Dr. Neil Cashman, University of British Columbia | \$125,000

Through what mechanism does a probiotic cause therapeutic effect in ALS animal models?

Dr. Alex Parker, CRCHUM, Université de Montreal and Dr. Matthieu Ruiz, Université de Montreal | \$125,000

Is it possible to use a drug to reduce the size of ALS-associated C9ORF72 repeat expansions and does that have potential to alter the disease?

Dr. Christopher Pearson, The Hospital for Sick Children (SickKids) and Dr. Ekaterina Rogaeva, University of Toronto | \$125,000



ALS CANADA RESEARCH PROGRAM

Thank you to provincial ALS Societies who collectively provided \$366,454 in funding support to the ALS Canada Research Program



“After my fellowship, I am hoping to secure a university position where I can continue my research and clinical practice, helping to strengthen the capacity for future ALS clinical trials in Canada. Adding research to my clinical training is not an obvious path and is truly the road less traveled. This award has been fundamental in providing me the opportunity to travel this path and to turn my passion into reality.”

Dr. Collin Luk
University of Alberta