

SCHIZOPHRENIA SOCIETY OF CANADA FOUNDATION
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
October 23, 2017
5:00 p.m. ADST
Teleconference
Minutes

1. Dr Phil Tibbo declared a quorum at 5:08 p.m. and called the meeting to order.
2. Motion by Dr. John Gray and seconded by Dr. Tina Montreuil approve the agenda.
CARRIED.
3. Motion by Florence Budden and seconded by Joan Baylis to approve the minutes of the October 28, 2016 AGM. **CARRIED.**
4. SSCF Chair's report:

The SSCF was established in 1994 when the late Dr. Michael Smith made a generous donation of half of his Nobel Prize Laureate monies to the SSC. The donation helped form an endowment fund to which others could contribute and support research, now the SSCF. We are forever grateful for Dr. Smith's generosity. His legacy is an inspiration to others to invest in research initiatives.

Research to better understand the biologic basis, psychosocial determinants, as well as pharmacological and non-pharmacological treatment options for schizophrenia is absolutely vital. The SSCF is committed to fostering and supporting research in all areas related to schizophrenia (e.g. biological, psychological, and social) to ensure that recovery is possible.

SSCF activities in the 2016/2017 year include, but are not limited to, the following endeavors.

- SSCF Chair maintains email contact with the SSCF Board and the SSC CEO on a regular basis on issues that arise.
- Following the dissolving of the SHOPP/CIHR program, the Chair has been exploring other partners to leverage research funds to continue to support psychosis research in Canada (the SSCF mandate). The Chair has been contacting and meeting with various organizations/foundations to pursue this further, and in fact this has been the main focus of the Chair's activities over the last 2 years.
- The Chair is pleased to report that in September 2016, the Canadian College of Neuropsychopharmacology (CCNP) became an active partner. During the year a significant amount of activity revolved on the development of a studentship application and guidelines, the formation of a review committee that consisted of members from

both SSCF and CCEIP, application review template development and review process, the call for applications, review and ranking of applications and then announcement of the supported studentships (MSc, PhD).

- The following announcement was made by both organizations:

SSCF/CCNP 2017 Graduate Studentship for Biomedical Research in Schizophrenia and Psychosis

The Schizophrenia Society of Canada Foundation (SSCF) and the Canadian College of Neuropsychopharmacology (CCNP) formed a partnership in 2017 to offer research support in the form of a stipend and travel award (to present research results at a future CCNP annual meeting) to a doctoral (PhD) and Masters (MSc) student pursuing biomedical research related to the cause of, and interventions for, schizophrenia and related psychosis.

All applicants were evaluated on a standardized grid including assessing academic dossier and background, research project, significance to objectives of this award, research environment and letters of support. Three reviewers reviewed each file and conflicts were identified to allow a transparent and non-biased evaluation.

We wish to thank the review committee who donated their time to review the applications. The review committee consisted of:

Dr Ridha Joobar (CCNP President)

Dr Philip Tibbo (SSCF Chair)

Dr Patricia Boksa

Dr Bill Honer

Dr Tina Montreuil

Dr Lena Palaniyappan

We are very pleased to announce the following graduate students who were successful in this award:

PhD (4 years support):

Franz Veru, McGill University, Montreal

“Adipose Tissue Dysregulation through Psychosocial Risk Factors in First-Episode Psychosis”

Supervisor(s): Dr. Ashok Malla and Dr. Srividya Iyer, McGill University

MSc (2 years support):

T-Jay Anderson, Mount Saint Vincent University, Halifax

“Non-invasive brain stimulation as treatment for auditory hallucinations in schizophrenia: Transcranial magnetic stimulation vs transcranial direct current stimulation”

Supervisor: Dr. Derek Fisher, Dalhousie University

Tara Delorme, McGill University, Montreal

“The Interaction Between Circadian Disruption and Genetic Risk Factors for Schizophrenia”

Supervisor: Dr. Nicolas Cermakian, McGill University

- Joan Baylis (Treasurer) has been working hard to ensure the financial integrity of the SSCF investments. To this end, she has been working in collaboration with Scotia Wealth Management to develop a strong Investment Policy Statement (IPS).
- The Chair wishes to thank the tireless work of Chris Summerville in his support of not only the SSC but as well, the SSCF.

(It was noted in the meeting that recognition ought to be given in future reports to the contributions of the governments of British Columbia and Manitoba to the Michael Smith Research Fund when it was established.)

5. Moved by Dr. Bill Honer and seconded by Gail MacLean that the SSCF 2017 Audit be approved. **CARRIED.**

Discussion occurred regarding the segmentation of the Michael Smith Funds into three types of accounts: capital, stabilization, and spending. This ensures that the capital is maintained and growing. Earned interest is put into the spending account with about 1% being added to the stabilization account. Any research spending is taken from the spending account.

6. Moved by Florence Budden and seconded by Donna Methot to appoint BDO as auditors for the fiscal year 2017-2018. **CARRIED.**
7. Election of persons to the board of directors (current slate of directors below; By-laws state 5 SSC board members and 4 non-SSC board members).
 - a. Dr Philip Tibbo (Chair) SSC
 - b. Joan Baylis (Treasurer) SSC
 - c. Florence Budden SSC
 - d. Donna Methot SSC
 - e. Dr. Lori Triano-Antidormi SSC
 - f. Marie Knutson
 - g. Dr Bill Honer
 - h. Dr John Gray
 - i. Dr Tina Montreuil

Moved by Gail Mclean and seconded by Florence Budden that the slate of officers be accepted. **CARRIED.**

8. Adjournment. Moved by Florence Budden that the meeting be adjourned (at 5:45 a.m.)
CARRIED.