

# CFID Awards

## 2015



Canadian Foundation  
for Infectious Diseases  
Fondation canadienne  
des maladies infectieuses

The Canadian Foundation for Infectious Diseases (CFID) was created as a charitable organization in 1999 out of the proceeds of the 19th International Congress of Chemotherapy (ICC) held in Montreal in July, 1995. It was hosted by the Canadian Infectious Disease Society (CIDS) and chaired by Dr. Michel Bergeron (ICC President). The endowment created the Safe Drinking Water Fund, which was to be used for the purpose of ensuring safe drinking water in Canada and throughout the world; particularly in developing countries. The first funding competition that was held was an annual competition between 1999 and 2006 for summer studentships (\$4,000 per awardee) in areas of research that fulfilled the objectives of the Safe Drinking Water Fund. Beginning in 2012, the studentship competition was changed to a pilot grant competition (\$10,000), to be awarded every two years.

CFID has been active in raising money for and funding infectious diseases research in a number of different ways since 1999. In the mid-2000s, CFID partnered with the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) to support the “**Small Health Organizations Partnership Program**” (SHOPP) to engage in joint funding of two Fellowship Awards (3 years at \$45,000 per year), one Doctoral Research Award (3 years at \$22,000 per year), and one New Investigator Award (5 years at \$50,000 per year) on topics as diverse as the “Role of acute phase immune responses in determining the outcome of hepatitis C virus infection” (N.H. Shoukry), to the “Molecular epidemiology of *Giardia lamblia* in British Columbia’s water supplies” (N. Prystajeky).

CFID also partnered with CIHR in the “**Novel Alternatives to Antibiotics through Fellowship Awards**”, whereby we supported one fellowship for \$20,000 per year for 3 years on the “Innate DB: A Systems Biology Approach to Understanding the Pathogenomics of Innate Immunity” (J. Gardy) and a seed grant for \$30,000 per year for two years on the “Development of Phage Therapy and Phage-Derived Therapeutic Molecules to Treat *Clostridium difficile*- associated Diarrhea” (L-C Fortier).

Generous gifts from the Embil family support the **Juan A. Embil Award** (begun 2001) for excellence in infectious diseases research, and the **John M. Embil Award** (begun 2010) for mentorship in infectious diseases, both of which are conferred each year.

Beginning in 2012, CFID has sponsored four **Summer Student Research Awards** (\$4,000 each) per year, most of which have been won by students of AMMI Canada members. New to the summer student awards lineup in the spring of 2015 will be the AMMI Canada Summer Studentship Award. CFID will confer 12 such awards over the next few years.

CFID is hopeful, that with the proceeds from our new fundraising initiative involving AMMI Canada members and matching funds from corporate donors, we will be able to support many more such programs in the future. We plan to increase the scope of our awards to include more Summer Research Studentships, Fellowships, Innovation and Education Awards and Pilot Grants in diverse areas of microbiology and infectious diseases.

Please help us make this happen. CFID is the only charitable organization to support infectious diseases research in Canada. Visit our website at [www.researchid.com](http://www.researchid.com) and donate to help expand the programs that will further our mission and your needs as practitioners in the field.

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