



Call for Nominations - Hnatyshyn Stroke Lecture

Canadian Stroke Collaboration

Background:

The Hnatyshyn Lecture was established in 2003 in memory of Canada's twenty-fourth Governor General, Ramon J. Hnatyshyn, a founding board member of the Canadian Stroke Network (CSN). Mr. Hnatyshyn, who died in 2002, was a strong advocate and supporter of stroke research.

The Hnatyshyn Lecture is the most prestigious stroke lecture awarded in Canada and is administered by the Heart & Stroke in collaboration with the Canadian Stroke Consortium, Canadian Neurological Sciences Federation and the CanStroke Recovery Trials Platform.

For 2026, this lecture will take place during the Canadian Stroke Congress, being held in Banff, Alberta on May 23-26, 2026. This Congress is hosted jointly by CanStroke Recovery Trials Platform and the StrokeCog Clinical Trials Training Platform.

Hnatyshyn Lecturer Award:

The Hnatyshyn Lecture is awarded to a healthcare professional who has made a significant and positive impact on brain health through his/her contribution to research, clinical care in any discipline, systems change and/or support for people with lived experience in the field of stroke and vascular cognitive impairment in Canada. Their contributions accumulate over a period of time or may be based on a significant innovation to clinical care, systems, technologies, products, programs, or policies which have a demonstrated impact.

- The Hnatyshyn lecturer is awarded an opportunity to present an oral talk at a feature plenary session at a provincial, regional or national stroke meeting or conference or as a stand-alone event in the year of the award.
- The Hnatyshyn lecturer receives a letter of acknowledgement and congratulations signed by the Heart & Stroke, the Canadian Stroke Consortium, Canadian Neurological Sciences Federation, and the CanStroke Recovery Trials Platform.
- There is no monetary award for this lectureship. *All travel and accommodation expenses for the selected lecturer will be provided by the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada.*

Eligibility and Selection Criteria:

- Nominations are invited on behalf of any member of the health professional community whose primary area of work and contributions to healthcare is in the field of stroke and or vascular cognitive impairment.
- This award represents recognition by peers in the field of stroke and vascular cognitive impairment. Self-nominations will not be accepted.

- Nominees should be involved in stroke research in any of the themes of research, prevention, care, rehabilitation, recovery, systems, and/or involved in a stroke or vascular cognitive impairment-related clinical field.
- Nominees should be individuals who have made significant and demonstrated contributions to their field of stroke and or vascular cognitive impairment within Canada and for the benefit of people within Canada. Note, nominees may be people who work and/or reside outside of Canada, provided their actions and contributions directly benefit stroke care and/or people at risk within Canada.
- Nominee's contributions extend beyond their research and clinical excellence by being champions for stroke and vascular cognitive impairment, working to raise awareness, educate future leaders, and support improvements in care and outcomes.
- Nominee's personal attributes and accomplishments should exemplify a drive to improve care and outcomes for people who experience a stroke and or vascular cognitive impairment.
- Nominee must be available to present their lecture in person at the Canadian Stroke Congress, being held in Banff, Alberta on May 23-26, 2026.

Submission Process:

- All nominations should be submitted in writing to Laurie Charest, Coordinator, Health Systems at the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada (laurie.charest@heartandstroke.ca).
- All nominations must include the following:
 - o Name of nominating individual or group
 - o Name of nominee, location, email contact information, professional designation of nominee (if applicable), current role and affiliations
 - o Up to a 500-word statement of the attributes and accomplishments of the nominee that would demonstrate their eligibility and worthiness for this award
 - o Additional letters of support from peers of the nominee will be accepted but are not required for consideration. All letters of support should also be under 500 words and focus on significant contributions and reasons why the nominee is deserving of this recognition.

Timelines:

- **Due date for submission of nominations and all supporting materials is Monday, December 15th, 2025, by end of business day.**
- The successful Lecturer will be notified at the end of January 2026.

Information about the lectureship recognizing significant contributions by people with lived experience is available [here](#)