



Call for Nominations - Louise and Frank Nieboer Stroke Lecture

Canadian Stroke Collaboration

Background:

The Nieboer Lecture was established in 2021 to acknowledge and honor outstanding members of our community who have directly experienced or been impacted by stroke, and who have selflessly turned their personal experiences into a mission to help others travelling a similar journey.

This lecture is named in honor of Louise and Frank Nieboer. Louise was an incredible role model who experienced a stroke at the age of 32. She spent her life providing hope, light, and inspiration to others. Her husband, Frank, was a continual source of strength, generosity, and encouragement to her and to so many others. Together they established several stroke support organizations in Alberta and provided peer-support to people experiencing stroke both in hospital and in the community. They provided countless hours of volunteer leadership on the Canadian Stroke Network Board of Directors, the Canadian Stroke Strategy and Heart & Stroke in Alberta and nationally. They advocated passionately for improved systems of care, services and support that help people living with stroke to pursue meaningful, engaged lives.

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.

Nieboer Lecturer Award:

The Nieboer Lecture is awarded to an individual, couple or family who has made a significant, sustained, and positive impact on stroke recovery, stroke systems of care and/or support for people with lived experience of stroke in Canada.

- The Nieboer lecturer is awarded an opportunity to present a short talk at a feature plenary session at a national, provincial, or regional stroke meeting in the year of the award.
- The Nieboer 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. The option to present the lecture virtually would be considered if appropriate. In person attendance preferred.*

Eligibility and Selection Criteria:

- Nominations are invited on behalf of any individuals, couples or families who are dedicated to fostering hope in others throughout their stroke journeys and have made significant and

demonstrated contributions to the field of support for people with stroke, over at least two years, without expectations of rewards and remuneration.

- Nominations are encouraged from health professionals, system leaders, or other members of the community. Self-nominations will not be accepted.
- Nominees should be people with lived experience of stroke, or a family member, caregiver or community member. Nominees must be residing in Canada.
- Nominees have demonstrated that they have had a positive impact on the lives of many people living with stroke through any of the following activities:
 - o direct support, guidance and instilling hope in people with stroke.
 - o increasing awareness of the signs of stroke.
 - o advocacy for improved stroke care, services and resources.
 - o promoting a more integrated and accessible system of care for stroke in Canada.
 - o acting as spokesperson and public speaker.
 - o engaging with local, regional and national organizations in support of brain health and support for people experiencing stroke.
 - o developing tools and resources to support people living with stroke.
- Special consideration may be given to those who have provided support or assistance to underserved or marginalized communities.
- Nominees must be available to present their lecture at the Canadian Stroke Congress, being held in Banff, Alberta on May 23-26, 2026. While in-person attendance is preferred, the option to present the lecture virtually would be considered, if appropriate.

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 to clinical or research excellence is available [here](#)