



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Ottawa's Dr. Marc Ruel becomes new President of the Canadian Cardiovascular Society

Dr. Ruel succeeds Dr. Andrew D. Krahn at Society's annual meeting held in conjunction with Canadian Cardiovascular Congress

OTTAWA, Ontario - October 21 5:30 p.m., 2020 - Dr. Marc Ruel, MD, MPH, FRCSC, FCCS, FAHA, the head of cardiac surgery at the University of Ottawa Heart Institute, has been named President of the Canadian Cardiovascular Society (CCS) for the next two years.

He succeeds Dr. Andrew D. Krahn, an expert in the management of heart rhythm disorders from Vancouver General Hospital/UBC. The transition of roles took place at the annual business meeting of the CCS which was held as part of the annual Canadian Cardiovascular Congress, being held virtually, from October 21-24.

"As a cardiac surgeon trained in public health, I come to this presidency with three main goals," Dr. Ruel said. "First, the CCS will continue to guide and bring best cardiovascular science and practice to Canadians and to the teams that care for them, something that is all the more important in this era of competing data sources, not all of which are valid. Secondly, the CCS will focus on enhancing its societal role with policy makers, to make sure that Canadians can get the very best cardiac care, including addressing national disparities in care delivery. Thirdly, we will strive to enhance the membership value for our constituents, from trainees to academics to community physicians, so our reach extends to all who provide cardiovascular care."

Dr. Marc Ruel is the Michael Pitfield professor and chairman, head, and endowed chair of research in the Division of Cardiac Surgery at the University of Ottawa Heart Institute. He is also a professor in the Division of Cardiac Surgery and in the Department of Cellular and Molecular Medicine at the University of Ottawa, where from 2010-12 he was assistant dean of clinical and translational research in the Faculty of Medicine.

Dr. Ruel is a global leader and expert in minimally invasive cardiac surgeries, heart transplants and ventricular assist device implantations. He co-pioneered minimally

invasive coronary bypass surgery worldwide and has delivered numerous international courses on the technique, which he also teaches on-site in Ottawa to surgeons from numerous countries. Dr. Ruel has authored nearly 400 peer-reviewed scientific publications and book chapters.

Along with his involvement with CCS, Dr. Ruel is the past chair of the American Heart Association's Council on Cardiovascular Surgery and Anesthesia, and he currently serves as cardiovascular surgery editor for the prestigious journal *Circulation*. He is also the Canadian director of the Society of Thoracic Surgeons and one of the directors of the International Society for Minimally Invasive Cardiothoracic Surgery.

About the Canadian Cardiovascular Society

The CCS is the national voice for cardiovascular clinicians and scientists, representing almost 2,000 cardiologists, cardiac surgeons and other heart health specialists across Canada. We advance heart health for all by setting standards for excellence in heart health and care, building the knowledge and expertise of the heart team, and influencing policy and advocating for the heart health of all Canadians.

For further information on the CCS visit: <https://www.ccs.ca/en/>.

About the Canadian Cardiovascular Congress

Hosted by the Canadian Cardiovascular Society and Heart and Stroke, the Canadian Cardiovascular Congress (CCC) is the largest annual gathering of cardiovascular and allied health professionals in Canada. This year, organizers are expecting more than 2000 cardiologists, cardiovascular surgeons, researchers, nurses and other cardiovascular specialists from across Canada and around the globe to gather for the first virtual event. Delegates will connect with other members of the cardiovascular team to discover how to incorporate the latest science into their practice and to attend cutting-edge, accredited education sessions.

For further information visit [cardiocongress.org](https://www.ccs.ca/en/congress).

For further information:

Danielle Côté,
Acting Director of Communications
Canadian Cardiovascular Society
Tel: (613) 799-9057 / Email: cote@ccs.ca