

## A message from CCSA President, Dr. Martin Gardner

I am privileged to assume the role of President of the Canadian Cardiovascular Society Academy for the next two years, succeeding the leadership of Dr. Nisar Huq.

It gives me great pleasure to present to you the remarkable achievements of another successful year for the CCSA, a testament to your commitment to shaping a resilient future for the cardiovascular community.

In 2023 our Academy once again supported:

- The Have a Heart Bursary program, providing bright young minds with an opportunity to attend the Canadian Cardiovascular Congress to interact with leaders in the cardiovascular community and to discuss their career aspirations;
- Trainee Review Programs, letting trainees test their knowledge and sharpen their exam skills in preparation to write their critical Royal College exam.
- Opportunities for trainees to gain valuable experience as active participants on CCS Standing Committees.
- Recognition for deserving recipients via the Dr. Charles Kerr Award, presented annually to three trainees who strive to embody Dr. Kerr's legacy through encouraging and advocating for those in need of assistance or support.
- The Trainee Program at the Canadian Cardiovascular Congress, offering integrated programming with interactive workshops, hands-on skills labs, networking opportunities and the popular networking luncheon.

Our Board of Directors is engaged and proud of our successes. We look forward to 2024, when we will continue to provide top-tier programming while focusing on the goals of the Academy.

Thank you for your ongoing support. Your generosity allows us to continue to offer these beneficial programs.

Martin Gardner, MD, FRCPC, FCCS  
CCSA President



## CCSA Board of Directors

**Dr. Martin Gardner**  
President

**Dr. Nisar Huq**  
Past President

**Dr. Brian Potter**  
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# CCSA Year in Review



Canadian  
Cardiovascular  
Society Academy

## 2023

The Canadian Cardiovascular Society Academy (CCSA) is a charitable organization created in 2000 to deliver unique programs and services to cardiovascular trainees from the moment they begin specialized training through to their first years of employment. The CCSA provides support for medical students, prospective cardiovascular specialists, scientists in training and current cardiovascular trainees as a means of encouraging the continuation of a strong cardiovascular sector in the future.

Donations from individuals and organizations provide the necessary funding to expand existing and develop new CCSA programs.

thank you

Donations from supporters like you make our valued CCSA programs possible.

[See our donors](#) on the CCS website.



## TRAINEE REVIEW PROGRAMS (TRPs)

TRPs help trainees prepare for the rigorous RCPSC exams. The **Cardiac Surgery TRP** was held in Winnipeg in February 2023, followed by the **Adult Cardiology TRP** in Toronto in April. Due to an exam scheduling change, a second **Adult Cardiology TRP** took place in Toronto in November 2023, alongside the **2023 Pediatric Cardiology TRP**.



1,583 trainees  
since 2006



163 trainees & 53 faculty  
participated this year

## HAVE A HEART BURSARY PROGRAM

This travel bursary sends promising Canadian medical students, graduates, post-graduate trainees and basic scientists-in-training to the [Canadian Cardiovascular Congress](#).



Now in its  
22nd year



10 recipients attended  
CCC / Vascular 2023



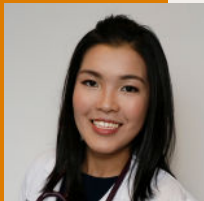
[Watch video testimonials](#)



2023 Have a Heart Bursary recipients with CCSA Secretary/Treasurer Dr. Brian Potter (right)

Support the next generation of cardiovascular clinicians and scientists

[» Donate today.](#)



2023 recipients (clockwise from top left): George Slim, Karen Ho and Derrick Tam

## DR. CHARLES KERR AWARD

This award is presented annually to up to three residents who embody Dr. Kerr's legacy as a humanitarian, encouraging and advocating for those in need.



Now in its 7th year



3 awardees in 2023



[Watch video testimonials](#)

## TRAINEE PROGRAM AT CCC & NETWORKING LUNCHEON

The cardiovascular trainee program at CCC offers hands-on skill labs as well as educational sessions in research, cardiac surgery, cardiology, and personal/career development.



2.5 days of programming



300 student / trainee attendees



Thank you to our 50+ mentors



Learn more about CCSA programming

Supported by:



CIHR IRSC

Institute of Circulatory and Respiratory Health  
Institut de la santé circulatoire et respiratoire

## FUTURE LEADERS PROGRAM

This leadership program is designed to meet the needs of early-career members. It includes workshops, self-assessments, and one-on-one mentoring to support participants' development as they transition to practice and beyond. A new cohort of Future Leaders will begin their program in 2024.