



Heart Institute Doctor to Lead Canada's Voice for Cardiovascular Physicians and Scientists

Dr. Lyall Higginson becomes new president of the Canadian Cardiovascular Society

VANCOUVER – October 24, 2006 – An outstanding cardiologist at the University of Ottawa Heart Institute (UOHI) has been appointed to lead the national voice for cardiovascular physicians and scientists. Dr. Lyall Higginson becomes the new president of the Canadian Cardiovascular Society (CCS) and is expected to lead the organization through significant change intended to increase the scope and influence of its activities.

The Canadian Cardiovascular Society (CCS) is the national voice for cardiovascular physicians and scientists. The CCS represents more than 1,500 professionals in the cardiovascular field. Its mission is to promote cardiovascular health and care through knowledge translation, including the dissemination of research and encouragement of best practices, and professional development and leadership in health policy.

"We are extremely pleased to welcome Dr. Higginson as our new president," said Anne Ferguson, CEO, CCS. "He is a well respected member of our community with excellent insight and sensitivity to the critical trends in cardiovascular care in Canada today. We are looking forward to the contributions he will make in advancing the practice and science of cardiovascular care in the country."

Dr. Higginson will oversee a new strategic plan that is expected to increase CCS' activities in health policy advocacy and boost knowledge translation, particularly relating to heart failure and the provision of services via distant learning tools.

"Cardiovascular care in the country will continue to be challenged by aging population, changing lifestyle and risk factors, availability of medical resources, and other factors," said Dr. Higginson. It is important that our membership take a leading role in shaping the provision of cardiovascular care and advancing our knowledge and understanding of cardiovascular disease so that patient outcomes can continue to be improved.

Dr. Higginson becomes the 32nd president of the society and the second distinguished representative from the Heart Institute to lead the CCS. The post was previously held by Dr. Wilbert Keon, the Institute's founder. Dr. Higginson has been part of the CCS since 1978 and previously served as secretary of the organization.

About UOHI

The University of Ottawa Heart Institute is Canada's largest and foremost cardiovascular health centre dedicated to understanding, treating and preventing heart disease. We deliver high-tech care with a personal touch, shape the way cardiovascular medicine is practiced, and revolutionize cardiac treatment and understanding. We build knowledge through research and translate discoveries into advanced care. We serve the local, national and international community, and are pioneering a new era in heart health. For more information, visit www.ottawaheart.ca.

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