



CANADIAN
ARTHRITIS
NETWORK | LE RÉSEAU
CANADIEN
DE L'ARTHRITE

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY

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The Canadian Arthritis Network (CAN) is a national, not-for-profit organization that supports integrated, trans-disciplinary and multi-institutional research and development. It brings together arthritis stakeholders to create and translate knowledge and innovations to improve the quality of life for those living with arthritis, decrease the societal burden associated with the disease and promote the growth of the Canadian economy through research and development activities.

CAN achieves its goals through the strength of its partnerships with consumers (informed patients), academics, clinicians, The Arthritis Society, government, and pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies. Its unique approach to research, training and patient involvement is becoming a model for disease networks around the world.

CAN was launched in 1998 through the federal Networks of Centres of Excellence (NCE) program – Canada's flagship science and technology program.

The Network acts as a single point of contact that links leading arthritis researchers, graduate and undergraduate students with funding, and facilitates the commercialization of new scientific discoveries by providing access to product development, technology transfer and evaluation, as well as pre-clinical and clinical research services.

CAN has over 300 members. Of those, one third has been involved in CAN activities since the beginning and still contributes to the Network today. CAN is currently working towards establishing its legacy after federal funding ceases in 2012.



(continued on reverse)

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CAN By The Numbers:

- CAN has awarded nearly \$20 million for research in its first ten years of operations.
- Between 1999 and 2008, CAN has awarded over \$3.5 million to fund the development of Canada's next generation of arthritis researchers. With matching funds from partners, the total funding exceeds \$7 million.
- From 1999 to 2008, CAN has funded "trainees" as follows:
 - 64 Graduate Students
 - 52 Postdoctoral Fellowship Students
 - 12 Network Scholars
- In addition to the training program (above), CAN has funded more than 1,500 students in CAN-funded laboratories and through special arthritis initiatives.

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