

Message from the New Editor-in-Chief

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It is with great privilege and honor that I assume the position of the Editor-in-Chief of the Canadian Journal of Neurological Sciences (CJNS). The CJNS has an illustrious history and is the only Canadian journal dedicated to clinical and basic neuroscience. It began in 1974 with Robert Ross as the founding Editor, followed by Robert Lee, James Sharpe, Douglas Zochodne, and most recently Bryan Young as Editors-in-Chief. These distinguished editors have firmly established the CJNS as a prominent journal in neuroscience and I feel humbled to follow in their footsteps.

I would like to thank Bryan Young for his hard work and dedication to the Journal, and for the many features he has implemented during his tenure as Editor-in-Chief that greatly improved the Journal. Anyone who has read the recent issues of the Journal will agree that it is well produced with important new information in clinical neuroscience. I am privileged to be working with our Associate Editors, Section Editors, Editorial Board and the Editorial Review Board, who are a group of distinguished neuroscientists and clinicians. I look forward to their assistance and advice. I will also be working with the Canadian Neurological Sciences Federation (CNSF) staff, particularly Cindy Leschyshyn and Maggie McCallion, who have worked tirelessly to put together each issue of the Journal, and our Chief Executive Officer, Dan Morin. I am most impressed by their professionalism, and their dedication and commitment to the Journal.

We are now in an era of rapid changes in medical publishing, with many opportunities as well as challenges for the Journal. We face increasing competition for good papers from many new, open access, "online only" journals as well as an increasing number of subsidiary journals founded by established journals. Rapid changes in technology mean that many readers are viewing papers not only online but also with tablet devices, e-readers and smart phones. Many journals are active in social media. Research funding agencies now frequently require that publications from funded research have open access within a certain time frame, typically six months to one year from the time of publication. The financial aspects of journal operation is also significantly impacted by issues such as the traditional viewer or subscriber pay model versus the author pay model adopted by open access journals, print versus online only publications and changes in advertising revenue.

Together with our Associate Editors and Editorial Board Members, our Journal will undergo a critical review of all aspects of journal operation. In addition to addressing the issues mentioned above, we will decrease the time from submission to editorial decision, and the time from acceptance to publication. We will make better use of resources on the Journal website such as accompanying videos for published papers. We also need to strengthen the coverage of basic science in our Journal and foster closer links with the basic neuroscience community in Canada. However, we will not forget that the Journal is also a forum for publications from students, residents, fellows and junior faculty

members. Accomplishing these goals will require innovative solutions. For example, we may have a new section of the Journal featuring residents and new authors.

We are committed to produce a high quality, multidiscipline journal that covers both clinical and basic neuroscience, with emphasis on translational neuroscience. The Journal will focus on new clinical and scientific information that advances our knowledge on the cause and treatment of neurological disorders, and strive to improve our stature among other journals. We will be responsive to the input of readers, authors and members of the CNSF. For the Journal to be successful, we need your support and we want you to submit your best clinical and scientific work. Our plan for the Journal is evolving and I welcome your comments and suggestions to improve our publication.

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