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## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Banff/CST Joint Scientific Meeting – Vancouver, BC**

October 5-10, 2015  
View their website [here](#).

**PROBE Investigators Meeting—at CST**

October 6, 2015  
4:00-5:30 pm PST  
Galiano Room, Sheraton Wall Centre

**CNTRP POSITIVE & POSITIVE-Adherence Study Team Meeting**

October 6, 2015  
1:00-5:00 pm PST  
Granville Room, Sheraton Wall Centre

**CST Pediatric Group Symposium and Business Meeting**

October 6, 2015  
6:00-8:00 PST  
Finback Room, Sheraton Wall Centre

**American Transplant Congress 2016—Boston, Mass.**

June 11-15, 2016  
View their website [here](#).

**International Pediatric Transplant Association 2017 Congress—Barcelona, Spain**

May 27-30, 2017  
Sign up to receive more details [here](#).

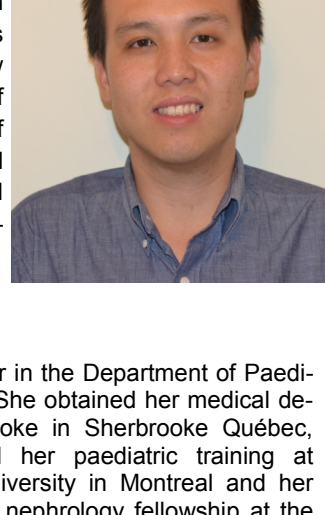
**Dr. Diane Hébert is also the recipient of the CST Clinician Recognition Award. Congratulations!**

## TRAINEE ABSTRACT AWARD

Each year the CST Pediatric Group bestows a “Best Abstract Award” for the best clinical and basic science research abstracts submitted to the annual CST meeting. This year’s clinical research abstract award winner was Dr. Chia Wei Teoh. Please read more about Dr. Teoh’s work and his mentor, Dr. Diane Hébert .

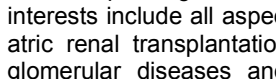
### Dr. Chia Wei Teoh

Dr. Teoh is currently the Chief Paediatric Nephrology Fellow in the Division of Nephrology at the Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto (SickKids). He completed his primary medical training and specialist training in Paediatrics in Ireland. He then completed a year as Paediatric Nephrology Fellow at British Columbia’s Children’s Hospital, Vancouver, British Columbia and is currently in his second year in SickKids. He is now undertaking a MSc at the Institute of Medical Sciences-University of Toronto. He is interested in global health as well as translational research in the role of complement-mediated injury in transplantation.



### Dr. Diane Hébert

Dr. Hébert is an Associate Professor in the Department of Paediatrics at the University of Toronto. She obtained her medical degree at the Université de Sherbrooke in Sherbrooke Québec, completed her paediatric training at McGill University in Montreal and her paediatric nephrology fellowship at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis. She also spent one year of training at Necker-Enfants Malades in Paris. After her fellowship, she joined the Division of Nephrology at The Hospital for Sick Children where she has been the Director of the Renal Transplant program since joining the division. From 1998-2007, she was the Clinical Director of the Paediatric Academic Multi Organ Transplant Program at The Hospital for Sick Children and the Director of the



Fellowship Program. Her clinical interests include all aspects of paediatric renal transplantation, and also glomerular diseases and other immune renal diseases such as lupus and vasculitis. Her clinical research interests have included PTLD, pharmacokinetics of immune drugs, adherence, and long term outcomes in renal transplantation. She has been an active co-investigator in national and international research projects funded by CIHR and NIH and others. She also has been active in many aspects of transplant education.



## YOUTH AND TRANSPLANT

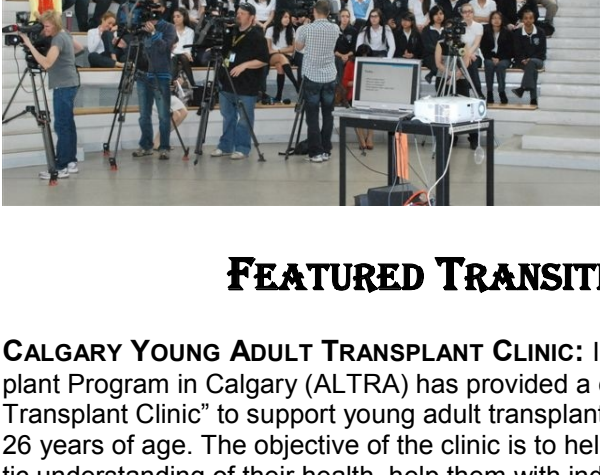
### THE POWER OF YOUTH: A HIGH SCHOOL OUTREACH INITIATIVE EDUCATING YOUTH ABOUT ORGAN AND TISSUE DONATION AND TRANSPLANTATION

The High School Outreach Initiative (HSOI) is a joint partnership that was developed in 2012 by health care providers in the Toronto Transplant Institute (University Health Network, St. Michael’s Hospital and SickKids) and the provincial organ donation agency (Trillium Gift of Life Network-TGLN). Early mentorship for this collaborative initiative was provided by colleagues from the London Health Sciences Centre who spear-headed the One Life Many Gifts school curriculum in 2000.

The Toronto Transplant Institute’s HSOI aims to increase knowledge and enhance awareness about organ donation and transplantation in the Greater Toronto area through presentations in classrooms and assemblies at secondary schools, with an overarching goal of positively impacting organ donation rates.

An engaging presentation was created which includes personal, teen focused stories about life pre/post transplantation along with content information on organ failure, transplantation and donation. Presentations are delivered by a trio of a health care provider (transplant surgeon, physician, nurse, or multi-disciplinary team member), a solid organ transplant recipient or donor family member, and a TGLN representative.

Following a very successful HSOI pilot in 2012 with 55 assemblies/classroom presentations in 4 months, this program has continued yearly since that time. Over 20,000 grade 9-12 students at 118 high schools in the Greater Toronto Area have heard our important messages from one of 100 trained transplant team members, representing all organ groups and health care provider roles.



Before the presentation, fewer than 25% of students indicated knowledge about organ donation and transplantation, whereas after a HSOI presentation, over 80% of students said they were very likely to register on [www.beadonor.ca](http://www.beadonor.ca) their intent to donate. The HSOI project has also been profiled by Global News, CBC, and CTV.

## FEATURED TRANSITION CLINICS

**CALGARY YOUNG ADULT TRANSPLANT CLINIC:** In 2011, the Southern Alberta Transplant Program in Calgary (ALTRA) has provided a dedicated “Young Adult Kidney Transplant Clinic” to support young adult transplant patients between the ages of 18 to 26 years of age. The objective of the clinic is to help young adult patients gain a realistic understanding of their health, help them with independent management of their health and other daily challenges of living with a chronic illness. We have placed special efforts into improving medication compliance and independent coping skills. The clinic is held 8 - 10 times a year at the Foothills Medical Center and involves a multidisciplinary team that includes: adult and pediatric nephrologist, social workers, pharmacists, dieticians and transplant nurses. Each patient is seen at least on a quarterly basis. To date, the clinic has helped manage 26 kidney transplant patients. Good patient satisfaction has been achieved. Our transplant team continuously works to encourage health promotion and opportunities for self-advocacy training that will support these young adult transplant patients toward a successful and healthy future.



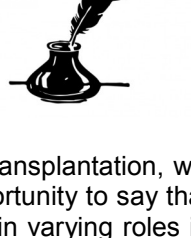
**LA CLINIQUE DES JEUNES – CHU-STE. JUSTINE:** We created the transition clinic at CHU-Ste-Justine/CHUM in 2006 and have transitioned most of our patients (25) from the Montreal region to this dedicated clinic. The same devoted adult transplant nephrologist, Catherine Girardin, and one pediatric nephrologist, Marie-José Clermont or Veronique Phan, conduct the clinic once a month at the CHUM. There is also a CHUM nurse assigned to this population who helps in the transition. The experience has been very positive. We have performed a couple of research projects under the leadership of Marie Achille, a psychologist, to determine the impact of transition and the factors influencing a successful transition. No unexpected graft failures have happened in the first years of transition. The patients and their families appreciated this clinic very much. As physicians, we learned about the challenges a young adult faces in the adult world and this makes us better prepared to address those issues when we are preparing our patients to transition. This clinic has been a great collaboration between the two centres and having engagement from the adult physicians has been vitally important.



## CST PEDS GROUP UPDATES

*From the Chair’s desk*

Dear CST Pediatric Group Members:



We are drawing close to the CST Annual General Meeting in Vancouver. At this time, we are electing new officers to the CST Board of Directors and also for the CST Pediatric Executive Group. Dr. Aviva Goldberg, an international expert in bioethics and transplantation, will be the new Chair of the CST Pediatric Group. I want to take this opportunity to say that it has been a tremendous pleasure to serve you for the past 6 years in varying roles in this Group. I want to thank all the current committee members for their dedication and for our work together to provide quality educational symposia, create a national working group on pre/post transplant immunizations, provide support to multi-centre research collaborations, adjudicate trainee abstracts and also to create this beautiful newsletter highlighting our members’ accomplishments. I look forward to serving as the Past Chair over the next 2 years and to support this group in the journey forward.

As a community of pediatric transplant clinicians, we look after a most fragile and vulnerable group of patients with organ failure. Our group is over 100 members strong, with representation from all medical and allied health disciplines across Canada. Members are actively engaged in clinical service, education, research, administration and advocacy roles within the field of transplantation nationally and internationally.

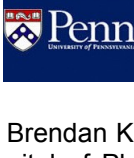
We are in need of new pediatric group committee members to serve as Member-at-Large, please consider standing for election. If you are interested, please contact Dr. Aviva Goldberg at [agoldberg@exchange.hsc.mb.ca](mailto:agoldberg@exchange.hsc.mb.ca). Let’s work together to make our patients’ lives better and brighter!

Sincerely,

*Susan Samuel*

### CST PEDIATRIC WORKING GROUP ON PRE/POST TRANSPLANT IMMUNIZATIONS

A survey was sent out during the winter to assess the feasibility and interest in developing consensus recommendations for immunizations pre and post transplantation. A total of 13 representatives from British Columbia, Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario and Quebec answered the survey. Ninety two percent of the respondents have consensus recommendations or guidelines at their center but only 20% have them at the provincial level. The majority of respondents think it would be helpful to have CST pediatric group recommendations on pre and post transplant immunizations. A working group will be put together. If you are interested please contact Valerie Langlois via [email](mailto:valerie.langlois@hsc.mb.ca).



### FEATURED SPEAKER FOR CST PEDIATRIC GROUP ANNUAL MEETING

**TOPIC: Discovering Genomic Underpinnings of Rejection and Complications in Transplantation**

Dr. Brendan Keating is the keynote speaker at the CST Pediatric Group Symposium & Business meeting on October 6, 2015 at 6pm in Vancouver.

Brendan Keating is a Faculty member of the Division of Genetics at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, and in the Departments of Surgery (Division of Transplantation) and Pediatrics at The University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Keating previously held biotech research positions at Cambridge Neuroscience, Cambridge, MA, and Geniaissance, New Haven, CT. He received his D.Phil. (Ph.D.) in molecular genetics from Christ Church College and the Department of Clinical Medicine at University of Oxford, with lab-work completed in the Wellcome Trust Center for Human Genetics.

Dr. Keating designed and developed large-scale SNP panels for cardiovascular related studies which have resulted in over a hundred metabolic and CVD related genetic discoveries. He is involved in a number of large-scale genomic association meta-analyses projects across a spectrum of cardiovascular and metabolic related traits through a number of US and European consortia. Dr. Keating’s main current research interests focus on large-scale genome-wide association studies in transplantation, and the analysis of miRNA, mRNA and polymorphisms of donor and recipient genomes in heart, liver, lung and kidney transplantation. These the aim to deliver individualized treatment of immunosuppression therapies post-transplant, and can be used for the prediction of genetic signals that may underpin graft rejection and complications of rejection. Dr. Keating is a member of the Pharmacogenomics and return of results (RoR) working groups of the NHGRI electronic medical record and genomics (eMERGE) network. Dr. Keating is Principal Investigator of genome-wide association studies in all donor-recipient solid-organ transplant samples within CHOP.

Questions, comments, or to submit anything for future publications, please contact Susan at [s.samuel@albertahealthservices.ca](mailto:s.samuel@albertahealthservices.ca)

To remove your name from our mailing list, please [click here](#)