



Institut de recherche
sur le cerveau

Brain and Mind
Research Institute

CONNECT.EXCITE.HEAL.



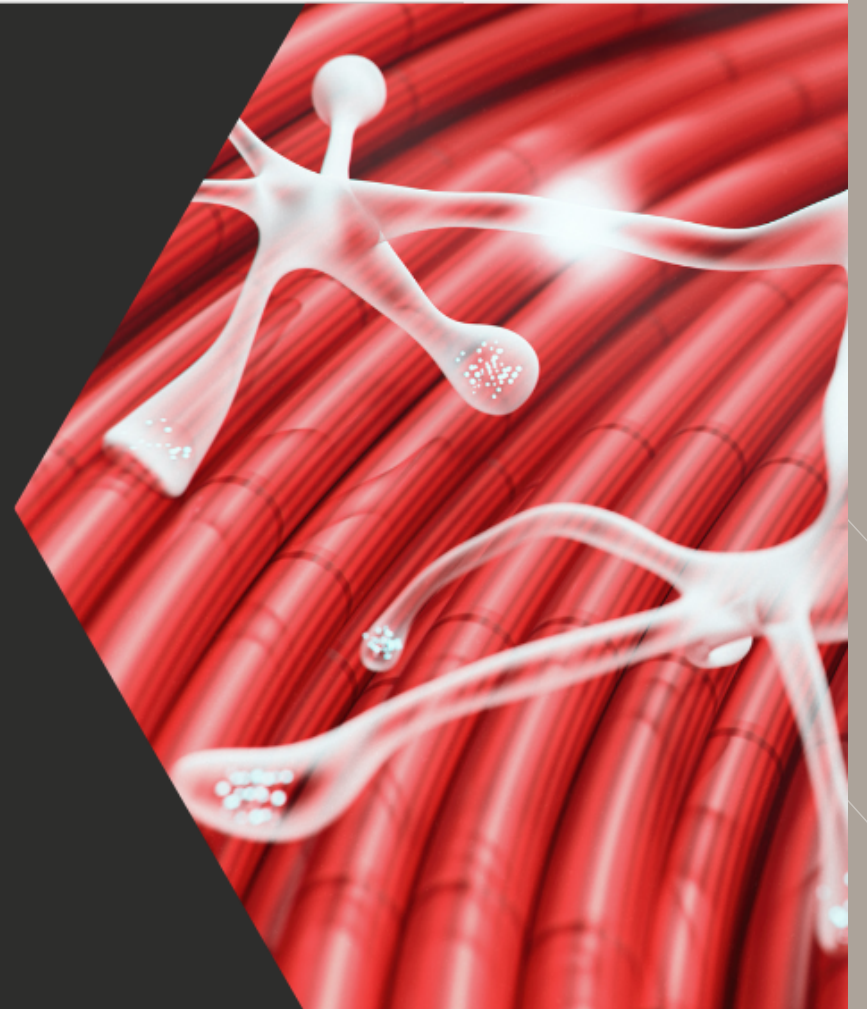
June Edition

Igniting Innovation in Neuromuscular Health

The University of Ottawa Brain and Mind Research Institute

Éric Poulin Centre for Neuromuscular Disease (CNMD)

The mission of the CNMD is to advance understanding of neuromuscular and related disorders and enhance human health through the development and implementation of novel therapies for neuromuscular diseases.



For day 1 of the Connect.Excite.Heal. June edition, we would like to introduce you to the Dr. Éric Poulin Centre for Neuromuscular Disease (CNMD), which is an integral part of the uOBMRI.

The CNMD is a multidisciplinary research and training centre that unites over 60 clinicians and scientists with the common goal of understanding and treating neuromuscular diseases.

CNMD also offers an innovative academic program in neuromuscular disease, currently providing quality training to over 150 medical students, residents, and postdoctoral and clinical fellows.

Visit this [link](#) the CNMD website to learn more about their exciting work.

Dr. Éric Poulin Centre for Neuromuscular Disease **Scholarships in Translational Research**

In partnership with the uOBMRI, the Dr. Éric Poulin Centre for Neuromuscular Disease annually awards Scholarships in Translational Research, or

STaR Awards

These merit-based scholarships encourage excellence in graduate studies at the master's, doctoral and postdoctoral levels, and support the next generation of change-makers in neuromuscular health.

For day two of the June Connect.Excite.Heal. edition, we would like to introduce you to the 2023 STaR Awardees. In partnership with the uOBMRI, the Éric Poulin Centre for Neuromuscular Disease awards annual Scholarships in Translational Research (STaR Awards) to meritorious graduate students researching neuromuscular disease. Each year, STaR Awardees participate in a seminar with a local community support group in an effort to enhance dialogue between researchers and individuals affected by neuromuscular disease.

STaR Awards

Dr. Éric Poulin Centre for Neuromuscular Disease
Scholarships in Translational Research

"The Dr. Éric Poulin Centre for Neuromuscular Disease through the STaR award has supported me since the beginning of my graduate studies allowing me to pursue new ideas to better understand the underlying molecular mechanisms causing ALS and related neurodegenerative diseases. With their continued support, we will be able to continue expanding our studies and open new doors which may one day be translated into novel therapeutic targets or biomarkers for these diseases."



Terry Suk

2023 STaR Awardee

**Supervised by
Dr. Maxime Rousseaux**

"The critical gap in cancer survivorship lies in the absence of effective therapies against treatment-induced muscle pathology. By identifying cellular sources and molecular mechanisms, we can implement innovative strategies and bridge this gap to prevent or delay long-term muscle defects improving cancer survivors' quality of life."



Nicolas Collao

2023 STaR Awardee

**Supervised by
Dr. Mike De Lisio**

STaR Awards

Dr. Éric Poulin Centre for Neuromuscular Disease
Scholarships in Translational Research

**Kaela
O'Connor**

Supervised by
Dr. Hanns Lochmuller

**Angelica
Tristani**

Supervised by
Dr. Derrick Gibbings

**David
Datzkiw**

Supervised by
Dr. Michael Rudnicki

Learn more about scholarships offered through the uOBMRI
by visiting our [website here](#).

Today we would like to share the story of Dr. Éric Poulin and his wife, Madame Margo Brousseau. Dr. Poulin was the chief of surgery at The Ottawa Hospital from 2003 to 2013, as well as a cherished mentor and faculty member at the University of Ottawa.

Dr. Éric Poulin & Madame Margo Brousseau

Igniting the future of ALS research

- Partnering with ALS patients to build the bridge
- Making promising breakthroughs in ALS research
- Expanding research partnerships and infrastructure
- Shaping the next generation of leading ALS researchers



**Madame Margo Brousseau (left)
and Dr. Éric Poulin (right)**

Image credit: uOttawa Faculty of Medicine



Dr. Poulin was diagnosed with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) in 2011, a neuromuscular disease with no known cure or cause. After his passing in 2019, Madame Brousseau was motivated to make a difference in neuromuscular disease.

Her inspiring \$1 million donation to the Centre for Neuromuscular Disease has enabled the Centre to partner with ALS patients to build a bridge between research and clinical practice, make promising breakthroughs in ALS research expand research partnerships and infrastructure, and shape the next generation of leading ALS researchers. Dr. Éric Poulin's passion for medical research and clinical education now lives on through the Centre which bears his name.

Read more about Madame Brousseau's inspiring donation and Dr. Éric Poulin's legacy in the Faculty of Medicine article [here](#), and learn more about the Éric Poulin Centre for Neuromuscular Disease [here](#).