



# CanHaem

The Canadian Haemoglobinopathy Association

## CanHaem Board and Executive update

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We wanted to keep the membership apprised of changes happening at the level of the CanHaem Board and Executive committee.

- Dr. Aisha Bruce has stepped down as Chair of CanHaem. With much gratitude, we want to thank her for her many years of service to the organization. She will be staying on as chair of the Governance and Peer Review committees
- Dr. Catherine Corriveau-Bourque has taken over as Chair.
- Dr. Don Houston has joined the executive committee as interim vice-chair

## Subcommittee Updates

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### Governance and Nominating Committee

- **Board Member nominations**
  - A call for Board Member nominations (including self nominations) for the upcoming Sept 2024 Annual General Meeting. There are multiple positions to fill!  
Representatives from all provinces are welcome. We are urgently seeking health professionals dedicated to hemoglobinopathies from all disciplines. Board members must be CanHaem members. An election is held at the AGM to finalize next year's board members.
  - The board position is a 3-year term with the ability to seek re-election. Commitment is minimal with a requirement to attend at least 50% of board meetings. These are held approximately every 2 months for one hour. Quorum is

considered 6 board members at the meeting. Each board member is a voting member of the board.

- Board members make decisions about the CanHaem budget (input on where to allocate funds), provide ideas for fundraising efforts, provide guidance as requested by committees (committees are self-governed but can request funding and guidance from the board), contribute to activities required by the organization that do not fall under the purview of a committee and other organizational management tasks.
- If you are interested or wish to nominate a colleague, please email: [info@canhaem.org](mailto:info@canhaem.org)

- **The governance and nominating committee is also seeking new members.** The committee governs the organization, provides oversight, and ensures adherence to the bylaws. The GNC recruits potential board members (for election), reviews and approves membership applications for presentation at the AGM and suggests executive directors to the board based on governance guidance documents, bylaws, and board member terms.
  - Commitment: 2 meetings annually for less than one hour. Term: one year with the ability to renew.

## Nursing Subcommittee

- The CanHaem Nursing Sub-committee has welcomed two new co-chairs. Erin Burrell is a Registered Nurse in the hemoglobinopathy lifespan clinic in Hamilton, ON and Lana Tacey is a Clinical Nurse Specialist with the Hematology/Oncology/Transplant program at Alberta Children's Hospital.
- They hold meetings virtually three times a year in addition to in person at the annual CanHaem Conference and have recently expanded to include allied health colleagues more formally on their invitations. The nursing sub-committee grown to include many new health care providers this year from across our provinces and we are delighted to see so many folks joining in hemoglobinopathy care.
- Colleagues are encouraged to share the word with nursing and allied health team members who may not already take part in our discussion forums by becoming a member <https://www.canhaem.org/become-a-member/> and emailing Lana and Erin at [burrell@hpsc.ca](mailto:burrell@hpsc.ca); [Lana.Tacey@albertahealthservices.ca](mailto:Lana.Tacey@albertahealthservices.ca). The community connections between us are so meaningful and we all grateful to all our collaborators

## Education Subcommittee

- Are you interested in joining the CanHaem Education subcommittee? If so, please contact:

Dr. Natalia Rydz: [natalia.rydz@albertahealthservices.ca](mailto:natalia.rydz@albertahealthservices.ca)

- The education subcommittee is looking for input for future webinar topics and speakers!

Please use this [link](#) to send suggestions

- Stay tuned! The first set of chapters for the updated **Consensus Statement on Sickle Cell Disease** is coming soon.

## Registry Subcommittee

- We have applied for 2 grants. We are working closely in partnership with SCDAC.

## Peer Review Subcommittee

- The peer review committee is building momentum- more to come at the AGM in Halifax!

## In other news

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- Have you read the [First International PK Deficiency Guidelines Manuscript published in The Lancet Haematology?](#)

- In March, several CanHaem members as well as transplant physicians attended a Gene Therapy meeting hosted by CBS. CBS is generating a “What we heard” document summarizing the meeting. Gene therapy is likely to be licensed in Canada in the relatively near future. Much work is still needed on the logistics of delivering this treatment in Canada. The CanHaem Gene Therapy subcommittee is diligently working on this topic and Dr. Kevin Kuo will be moderating a discussion about gene modifying therapies at the upcoming CanHaem conference in September.

- Website updates

- A reminder that the **CanHaem website forum** is active again. Please use <https://www.canhaem.org/forums/> to post comments.

- Save the date!



- Conference registration and call for abstracts coming soon
- The official hotel and venue for the 2024 CanHaem Annual Meeting is The Westin Nova Scotian, 1181 Hollis Street, Halifax, NS B3H 2P6.
  - CanHaem group rate: The Westin Nova Scotian for 279 CAD – 329 CAD per night
  - The booking deadline is **Tuesday, August 20, 2024.**
  - **\*\*IMPORTANT\*\*** If your booking will include extra nights on either end of the conference block, please first click “check availability”, then click “Edit Stay Details”, click the dates you want, click done, click “update stay details” and select your room type.
  - Follow the link: [Book your group rate for 2024 CanHaem Annual Meeting](#)
  - You may also call the hotel reservations department directly at 1-866-761-3513.