

Keeping In Touch



Fall 2007

Corporate Community Tees Off in Support of Nutrition Research – \$65,000 Raised

CFDR's 6th annual Corporate Golf Challenge, held on September 17, was a tremendous success on all fronts, thanks to the remarkable contributions of our corporate partners and supporters. This SOLD OUT event raised a net total of over \$65,000 which will be used to advance our mandate to fund nutrition and dietetic research.

The tournament was held at the Royal Ontario Golf Club near Milton, ON. The course was beautiful, the banquet was enjoyable, and the sun shone. Most importantly, though, 56 companies took part, provided sponsorship, or donated prizes and other items.



The winning foursome in the 2007 CFDR Corporate Golf Challenge was the team representing OSL Marketing. Pictured here are the winning golfers: (left to right): Glen French, Chris Whitaker, Jeff O'Neill, Ken Blakeley. Congratulations to OSL's team, and to all of the winners of our skills competitions.

Special thanks to our main event sponsors: lead sponsor **McCain Foods (Canada)**, lunch host **ACNielsen**, dinner host **Nestlé Nutrition Healthcare** and secondary give-away sponsor **MarketLink Solutions**.

Thanks, too, to the planning committee: John van der Ven (Chair), Jeff O'Neill, Beth Armour, Glen Nelson, Martha Blake, Lisa Beausoleil, Doryne Peace, Maria D'Agostino, Barb Ledermann and Georgette Harris.

Mark your calendar for the 7th Annual Corporate Golf Challenge: September 15, 2008.

CFDR Looks to the Future

By Barb Anderson Pdt, MAEd,
FDC
CFDR President

The Board of Directors of the Canadian Foundation for Dietetic Research has spent the last year envisioning the future: what can CFDR achieve in the next three years? How can we make a positive impact on nutritional research, on the research capacity of the dietetic profession and ultimately on the health of Canadians? How can we continue to be relevant to our corporate partners, dietitians and individual donors? What supports need to be in place to help us to reach our goals?

Our new strategic plan is the culmination of the past year's work and provides us with a roadmap for our activities for the next three years. It's the end product of countless Board planning sessions, a scan of the external environment and consultation with key constituents.

Included are new vision and mission statements, both of which we believe most accurately reflect what CFDR is, does and aspires to achieve. We have also added another value to those previously developed to guide our work, and we believe it's an important one; it deals with our commitment to remaining relevant to those who support the Foundation. See the box on page 2 for our newly-articulated vision, mission and values.

We have identified five cornerstone strategic directions on which we plan to focus over the next year:

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1. **Increasing our investment in research:** we want to provide more research grants to dietitians, and we want to investigate and implement more collaborative research projects with our corporate partners
2. **Disseminating information on CFDR research:** we want to share more of the results of the research projects we fund, demonstrating the significance of our research program on dietetic practice and on the health of Canadians
3. **Developing collaborative relationships with other organizations:** CFDR is a small Foundation; we're eager to work with others in the same field to maximize our impact
4. **Increasing awareness:** we want dietitians, corporate partners, and others to learn more about CFDR and the work that we're doing
5. **Enhancing our fundraising capabilities:** of course, growth in other areas is dependent on a strong funding base. We are committed to finding ways to increase our fundraising potential.

We believe that our new strategic plan is ambitious and exciting, and positions CFDR firmly as a respected funder and promoter of evidence-based dietetic and nutrition research. Thanks to those corporate partners, dietitians, researchers and other constituents who

Vision: *Enhancing the health of Canadians by contributing new knowledge about food and nutrition.*

Mission: *The Canadian Foundation for Dietetic Research is the catalyst for dietetic and applied nutrition research by funding research and disseminating new knowledge in support of evidence-based decisions.*

Values: *The Canadian Foundation for Dietetic Research demonstrates the following values:*

- *Innovation:* fosters creativity and support for the emergence of new knowledge in an environment that embraces both freedom of inquiry and unrestricted dissemination of research results
- *Integrity:* functions with honesty, fairness, transparency and objectivity
- *Respect:* operates inclusively and collaboratively, leveraging the wisdom and diverse perspectives of board members, corporate partners and individual donors to achieve results
- *Accountability:* manages resources responsibly by operating with the highest level of ethical conduct in decision making and supporting desired outcomes
- *Excellence:* promotes high standards in research
- *Relevance:* CFDR demonstrates value to Foundation supporters in its applicability and significance to dietetic practice and corporate priorities in relation to the nutritional health of Canadians.

participated in our consultation process this spring. We'll be looking for more volunteers to work on committees to increase funds, raise our profile, and ensure that we fund top quality research projects. We look forward to working with all of you to ensure CFDR's success in the next three years.

DC Members Support the Foundation

In an effort to provide an additional opportunity for Dietitians of Canada members to support their research foundation, CFDR launched a mail appeal this Fall. The mail program is one of the new activities introduced in our 2007-2010 strategic plan.

In a spring 2007 survey of DC members, we asked what might entice members to make a donation to the



Foundation or to increase their support. We received lots of responses but two very important points were made repeatedly: CFDR should ask for funds at a different time of year than DC membership renewal time; and we should illustrate the impact that CFDR-

funded research is making on dietetic practice and on the health of Canadians.

Our Fall mail campaign was developed with these two important points in mind: the mailing was carried out six months in advance of DC membership renewal time, and the package included a document, which details some important CFDR research projects, written by CFDR Board member **Beth Armour**. This document clearly highlights the impact CFDR-funded research projects have had, and continue to have, on the dietetic profession and on the health of Canadians.

It's still early in the campaign as this article is being written, but so far, response has been positive. CFDR is most appreciative of the support of dietitians across Canada through their financial donations and their participation in CFDR events.

2008 Grants Competition: Record Number of Applicants

By Sharon Wong PhD, RD
Chair, CFDR Scientific Review Committee

The 2008 research grants competition is off to a tremendous start, with 40 letters of intent (LOIs) received.

The LOI is the first stage of a two stage process for the annual grants competition. Applicants send in their letters of intent by the end of September, outlining the research projects they hope to pursue. Each letter is reviewed by two members of the Scientific Review Committee and all projects are ranked. The committee then meets in mid-November to decide which applicants will be invited to submit a full proposal in the spring. It is from these full proposals that the SRC then ranks the applications and reports its results to the CFDR Board for funding decisions.

After a preliminary look at the LOIs, the Scientific Review Committee is excited about the variety of topics presented. From issues relevant to public health to those relevant to chronic health conditions; from nutrition questions related to children to those affecting seniors; and from nutrition intervention to disease prevention, there are projects representing a vast array of areas having an impact on the nutritional health of Canadians. There are applicants looking at dietetic practice, and some focusing on consumer issues. There are projects which are relevant to dietitians working in the field, and others relevant to industry. It truly is amazing to see the many different types of nutrition and dietetic research questions that spark the interest of dietitians across Canada.

The Scientific Review Committee looks forward to reviewing the LOIs in depth and to the next steps in the granting process. Final grant announcements will be made in June 2008.

Did you know ... that since the first grant was awarded in 1993, CFDR has funded \$910,000 to 78 dietitians and their research teams through the annual grants competition? See some highlights of our research awards on the CFDR website at http://www.dietitians.ca/news/highlights_CFDR.asp.

2007-8 Scientific Review Committee

Sharon Wong, PhD, RD (Chair)
Assistant Professor
School of Nutrition
Faculty of Community Services
Ryerson University

Michi Furuya Chang, MHSc, RD
Senior Manager, Scientific & Regulatory Affairs
Kraft Canada Inc.

Pearl Ho-Tai, PhD, RD
Nutrition Consultant –and–
Sessional Instructor
University of Guelph

Kerry Grady-Vincent, MHSC, RD
Registered Dietitian
Dairy Farmers of Canada

Julia MW Wong, (Hons)BSc, RD
PhD Candidate
Department of Nutritional Sciences
Faculty of Medicine
University of Toronto

Helen Van deMark, RD, CNSD
Senior Clinical Dietitian
Nutrition Services
St. Joseph's Healthcare

Lesia Kicak, BAsc, MSc, RD
Chief of Dietetics
Hamilton Health Sciences

Call for Abstracts

The Canadian Foundation for Dietetic Research will present its annual Dietetic Research Event at the DC national conference (Winnipeg, June 12 – 14, 2008). We invite DC members to present their research through both poster and oral presentations.

The research presentations were very popular at the DC Conference held in Vancouver in June 2007. What a fantastic way to showcase dietetic and nutrition research! Following are the deadlines for abstract submission:

Professional Abstracts: February 29, 2008

Dietetic Intern Abstracts: April 30, 2008

Application forms are available to download at http://www.dietitians.ca/cfdr/call_for_abstracts.asp.

CFDR Invites Morgan Medal Applications



Susan Morgan

Last year, we initiated a new annual program to recognize students and interns for their work in nutrition and dietetic research. The program was very well received; we presented four regional awards

and the national Morgan Medal was awarded at the DC conference in Vancouver in June 2007. Applications for the 2008 program are requested by January 15, 2008.

The Morgan Awards Program is a series of awards that are a memorial tribute to **Susan Morgan**. Susan was a DC Member and CFDR manager who had a genuine love for and dedication to the dietetic profession. She had a passion for the areas of education and practice-based research and actively promoted dietitians' acquisition of knowledge.

The Morgan awards commend and encourage dietetic interns and practicum students for their research projects. Regional awards are presented in each of the six regions of Dietitians of Canada; and a national Morgan Medal recipient is selected from amongst the regional recipients. The recipient of the national Morgan Medal will receive all expenses to attend the Dietitians of Canada Conference in Winnipeg in June 2008.

Susan Morgan was admired and respected for her admirable personal qualities. These attributes included: a sense of humour; positive outlook; enthusiasm for new ideas; the ability to rise to challenges; strength and determination, even in the face of adversity; leadership and devotion to her work, her friends and her family. These are the attributes that our judging panel will look for in the winning applications for the Morgan Awards Program.

If you know a deserving student or intern who demonstrates the above attributes, encourage them to apply to the Morgan Awards program. More information can be found at http://www.dietitians.ca/cfdr/morgan_medal.asp.

Anyone wishing to make a donation to the Morgan Awards Program can do so using the form at http://www.dietitians.ca/cfdr/pdf/CFDR_Morgan_Donation_Form.pdf.

Coming up ...

November 29, 2007 – CFDR's **Research Breakfast and Annual General Meeting** will be held on November 29, 2007 at the Toronto Airport Hilton Hotel. The keynote presentation is entitled "Nutrition and Genes: More Questions than Answers." **Dr. Ellen Vogel** and **Dr. Milly Ryan-Harshman** will present preliminary findings from their CFDR-funded research project on nutritional genomics. You won't want to miss this presentation on this recently-emerging field. As well, hear about CFDR's achievements at our Annual General Meeting. For more information, contact Isla Horvath at ihorvath_cfdr@dietitians.ca.

June 13, 2008 – The fourth annual **Fun Run/Walk** will be held on Friday, June 13 at the Dietitians of Canada Conference in Winnipeg, MB. A volunteer committee is scouting out locations for the 5 km walk/run, and the 10 km run. Sponsorship opportunities for this very popular event, which usually attracts more than 200 dietitians, are available. Watch for more details coming out shortly.



The warm up at the June 2007 Fun Run/Walk, held in Vancouver, was just the start of a terrific day. Start training now for the 2008 CFDR Fun Run/Walk!

Comments? Questions?

We're committed to establishing stronger relationships with those who support the Foundation's work. If you have any comments or questions about material in this newsletter, or about CFDR, we want to hear from you. See page 1 for our contact information or send an Email to Isla Horvath, CFDR's Executive Director, at ihorvath_cfdr@dietitians.ca.