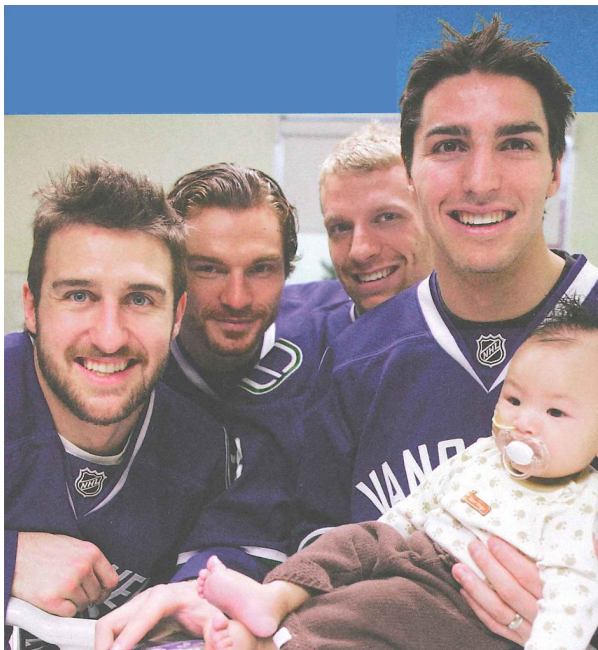


## WINTER 2012 UPDATE



*Canucks for Kids Fund made a generous \$5 million donation to the BC Children's Hospital Foundation and Diabetes Research Program. Photo credit: BCCHF Annual Report*

### Diabetes Research Program Winter 2012 Update

Happy new year to you all! As we bring in 2012, I would like to extend a warm welcome to our new faces and a welcome back to our familiar ones.

A very special thank you and acknowledgement is warranted to the Canucks for Kids Fund, the philanthropic arm of the Vancouver Canucks (CFKF). The CFKF provided a gift of \$5 million to the BC Children's Hospital Foundation. In addition to contributing to a new children's hospital, the CFKF directed \$2 million to support our Diabetes Research Program. This gift will be invested in pilot project grants and core operating support for the program. Thank you CFKF and "Go Canucks Go"!

As part of the CFKF contribution we will be launching the 2012 "Canucks Catalyst" grant competition in January. Open to all CFRI investigators, this competition funds seed grants of up to \$50,000 for innovative diabetes research proposals to investigate novel ideas and generate new collaborations.

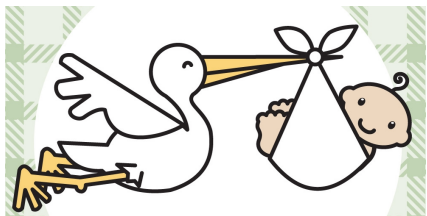
Our Diabetes Research Program laboratories on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor of the CFRI Translational Research Building reached full capacity when the Dr. Dan Luciani's laboratory was officially added in May 2011. We now have 14 wet laboratories performing translational type 1 and type 2 diabetes research on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor. We have a total of 19 investigators associated with the Diabetes Research Program working from the laboratory bench to the hospital clinic.

We have established a few useful tools to help connect everyone in our growing program. With the Immunity in Health and Disease (IHD) research cluster, we host a weekly **Research Seminar**, the **Diabetes, Infectious Diseases & Immunology (DIDI seminar series)**. Held on Wednesday mornings at 9 am, DIDI features two volunteer speakers from each lab or a special guest speaker. A weekly **Journal Club** is held on Tuesdays at 1 pm. This club meets to review recent publications of relevance to childhood diabetes research. A **Diabetes Research Listserve** has been set up to communicate with everyone associated with the program. Everyone is welcome to subscribe and once they have joined can post messages to program members. In November 2011 the program launched a new **website**: [www.cfri.ca/diabetes](http://www.cfri.ca/diabetes). The website publishes announcements and news stories, provides a list of Diabetes Research Program investigators with links to their laboratory web pages and advertises employment opportunities.

Thank you all for your continued contributions! We are looking forward to 2012 being an exciting year of discoveries and advancements in childhood diabetes research!

~Bruce

## BABY NEWS



Congratulations to Joel Montane and wife Merce Obach on welcoming their new son, Bernat, on December 25, 2011. The best Christmas gift ever!

Congratulations to Jan Ehses and wife Susanne on welcoming their new son, Milo Niklas, on October 15, 2011. A little brother for Tim!

## 2012 CANUCKS CATALYST GRANT COMPETITION

**Award Description:** Often the most novel ideas are the most difficult to get funded in their earliest stages because traditional funding agencies require extensive preliminary data to demonstrate feasibility. Funded by the Canucks for Kids Foundation, this pilot grant competition allows investigators to pursue a highly innovative new research projects aimed at curing diabetes.

**Eligibility:** The competition is open of all CFRI researchers:

- new investigators and researchers new to the field of diabetes are particularly encouraged to apply.
- established diabetes researchers with active funding should propose a project that is not currently funded and is divergent from current and past themes of investigation.
- new and multi-disciplinary collaborations are encouraged

**Award term:** Funding will be for one year and is non-renewable. Budget will be up to \$50,000.

**Application:** Details on the application format will be available on the CFRI Diabetes Research Program Web-site starting January 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Application Deadline:** March 31, 2012

Questions and applications can be directed to Meg Hughes, Diabetes Research Program Manager ([mhughes@cfri.ca](mailto:mhughes@cfri.ca)).

**Review:** An external peer review committee will review all applications in April. Awards announced in May 2012.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Diabetes, Infectious Diseases & Immunology (DIDI) Seminar Series

**Jan 4 DIDI Seminar**

*Lynn/Kollmann Labs*

**9:00-10:00 Room 2108**

**Jan 11 Special DIDI Seminar**

*Andre Veillette, Clinical Research Institute of Montreal*

**9:00-10:00 Room 2108**

**Jan 18 DIDI Seminar**

*Chris McIntosh*

**9:00-10:00 Room 2108**

**Jan 25 DIDI Seminar**

*Vallance/Sly Labs*

**9:00-10:00 Room 3113**

**Feb 2 Special Seminar**

*Raghu Mirmira, Indiana University School of Medicine*  
**2:00-4:00 Chan Centre for Family Health Education**

**Feb 8 DIDI Seminar**

*Lavoie/Verchere*

**9:00-10:00 Room 2108**

**Feb 15 DIDI Seminar**

*Levings/Turvey*

**9:00-10:00 Room 2108**

**Feb 22 DIDI Seminar**

*Tan/Luciani*

**9:00-10:00 Room 2108**

**Feb 29 DIDI Seminar**

*Kollmann/Ehses Lab*

**9:00-10:00 Room 2108**

### January 23<sup>rd</sup> Social Event

2012 marks the Year of the Dragon...everyone is welcome to join us a Chinese New Year potluck in Room A4-188 at 12 pm. A potluck sign-up sheet will be posted in the lunchroom.

## CORE LAB CONTACTS

**Histology Lab-** [Bao Ping Song](#) · tel. 604-875-2000 x 5699

**Imaging Lab-** [Jing Song Wang](#) · tel. 604-875-2000 x 7564

**Core Equipment-** [Meg Hughes](#) · tel. 604-875-2000 x 4905

**FACS Facility-** [Lisa Xu](#) · tel. 604-875-2000 x 5987

**Islet Isolation Lab –** [Galina Soukhatcheva](#) tel. 604-875-2000 x 6045



[www.cfri.ca](http://www.cfri.ca)