



Our sixth awards competition is now closed. This year we had 251 applications for project grants, capacity grants and student awards. The **peer review committees** are now hard at work. To read more about our peer review process, please visit www.nshrf.ca/AbsPage.aspx?siteid=1&lang=1&id=1085/.

Our series of workshops to help build qualitative research capacity among Nova Scotia health researchers is now under way. More than 30 participants are enrolled in the program, entitled **Choosing, Learning and Using Qualitative Data Analysis Software**. To read more about these workshops, please drop by www.nshrf.ca/AbsPage.aspx?id=1185&siteid=1&lang=1/.

The second annual **Institute for Applied Health Research and Design** was co-hosted by Saint Mary's University in May. The Institute, which was held last year at Acadia University, involved 11 participants who intend to submit a project grant to an agency such as CIHR, SSHRC, or NSHRF. The workshop included lectures on grant writing, community-university collaboration in health research and knowledge mobilization. To read more, visit www.nshrf.ca/AbsPage.aspx?id=1106&siteid=1&lang=1/.

NSHRF is pleased to provide you with fact sheets on health research in Nova Scotia: **Health Research in Nova Scotia: The Landscape**; **Benefits of Health Research to Nova Scotians**; and **Destination: World-class Talent**.

Our newsletter *Research Advances* is being widely distributed to waiting rooms and reception areas throughout the province including physiotherapy clinics, dentists' offices and district health authority offices, doctors' offices, professional association offices, and occupational therapy centres among others. If you would like to receive copies of our newsletter for use in your waiting area, please contact info@nshrf.ca.

WELCOME ABOARD

We are pleased to welcome **Mike Hurley** as our first Chief Financial Officer. A Certified Management Accountant, Mike has a Bachelor of Commerce from Saint Mary's University and has just received his Master's of Business Administration from SMU. To learn more about our new CFO, an avid hockey player and native of North River, Newfoundland, please go to www.nshrf.ca/AbsPage.aspx?id=1002&siteid=1&lang=1/.



UPCOMING EVENT

The Canadian Health Services Research Foundation is hosting a conference called **Research Use Week in Atlantic Canada** in Moncton, from May 29th to the 31st at the Hotel Beausejour. The conference goals are to enhance evidence-informed decision-making in health system policy and management, specifically tailored to the interests of Atlantic Canadians. It is intended to bring policy-makers and researchers together to discuss common themes and research needs.



HATS OFF

Ingrid Sketris, a professor at Dalhousie's College of Pharmacy, is the first pharmacist and the first woman to receive the Anne and Neil McArthur Research Award, presented by the St. Joseph's Healthcare Foundation and McMaster University. The award is presented annually to an outstanding researcher in the health sciences and aims to encourage the brightest minds in Canada and throughout the world to pursue health research. To learn more about Dr. Sketris, please read www.dal.ca/news/2006/05/04/Sketris.html.

IN PROFILE: NOVA SCOTIA RESEARCH

Glaucoma is the second leading cause of blindness in Canadians over the age of 50. It is a group of eye diseases that damages the optic nerve and gradually causes blindness. Often there are no discernable symptoms. **Marcelo Nicolela** is investigating the role of vasospasm in glaucoma. Vasospasm is an unusual constriction in the blood vessels. You can find out more about Dr. Nicolela's work in the **Winter 2006** edition of *Research Advances*.

BEARING RESULTS

Distance from the hospital can have an impact on individuals with ischemic heart disease, a Nova Scotia researcher has found. In the study, conducted by **Ansar Hassan**, individuals living closer to the Queen Elizabeth II Health Sciences Centre were more likely to receive a particular heart procedure and to wait less time to have the procedure performed. To learn more about Dr. Hassan's research, please read the **Winter 2006** edition of *Research Advances*.

KEEP IN TOUCH

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