

BrainsCAN International Scientific and Outreach Advisory Board

Terms of Reference

1. Introduction

1.1 BrainsCAN is a multidisciplinary and cross-sectoral program supported at Western University by the Government of Canada's Canada First Research Excellence Fund (CFREF). The CFREF program aims to help Canadian postsecondary institutions excel globally in research areas that create long-term economic advantages for Canada. BrainsCAN was competitively selected for funding through this program for seven (7) years starting in September 2016.

1.2 In September 2016, BrainsCAN received the largest research grant in Western University's history – a 7-year, \$66 million investment from the Government of Canada through the Canada First Research Excellence Fund (CFREF). Through this grant, BrainsCAN is enabling Western researchers, along with national and international academic and commercial partners, to develop and deliver evidence-based assessments and interventions for the diagnosis and treatment of brain disorders. BrainsCAN research is currently underway for neurodegenerative conditions including Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, Autism Spectrum Disorder, concussions, stroke and more. BrainsCAN's goal is to reduce the burden of brain disorders, which affect nearly 3.6 million Canadians, diminishing quality of life and creating an enormous burden on society and on our healthcare system. Through BrainsCAN, researchers across many disciplines of brain health work together to radically transform our understanding of the brain.

2. Mandate

2.1 The BrainsCAN International Scientific and Outreach Advisory Board (ISOAB) is an advisory board that provides advice and guidance to the BrainsCAN Executive Committee on all matters related to the strategic mission of BrainsCAN. The remit and work program of the ISOAB incorporates:

- Provide advice and guidance on the scope of BrainsCAN's scientific objectives
- Provide advice and guidance on the sustainability of BrainsCAN
- Evaluation of BrainsCAN's scientific outputs
- Benchmarking against international excellence and best practice
- Identify scientific, clinical and commercial partnership opportunities
- Assessment of BrainsCAN's contribution to the scientific community in Canada and internationally

3. Membership

3.1 The Chair of the ISOAB will have the responsibility for the timetable, agenda and conduct of meetings; for maintaining a record of proceedings and for producing reports of meetings for the BrainsCAN Board as required.

3.2 The ISOAB will comprise of a minimum of four (4) and a maximum of eight (8) members. Members of the ISOAB will be global leaders in neuroscience with demonstrated experience in leading large scale academic or non-academic research initiatives.

3.3 The BrainsCAN Co-Scientific Directors, or their delegate, will attend the ISAOB meetings as non-voting members

3.4 The BrainsCAN Executive Committee will be responsible for proposing ISAOB members to the Chair of the BrainsCAN Board. The recruitment and replacing of members as required will be completed by the VPR Office. Membership is detailed below.

International Scientific Advisory and Outreach Board Membership	
Andrew Holmes	Chief, Laboratory of Behavioral and Genomic Neuroscience, National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism
Heidi Johansen-Berg	Director of the Wellcome Centre For Integrative Neuroimaging
Earl Miller	Picower Professor of Neuroscience, Picower Institute, MIT
Lynn Raymond	Director, Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health
Mike Salter	Professor, Neuroscience Platform, University of Toronto

3.3 All Members, including the Chair, will declare any relevant personal, academic, professional, or business interests on an ongoing basis and will declare any such interest prior to the consideration by ISOAB of an item to which such interest relates. The Chair shall be responsible for the proper management of conflicts of interest. Members may be excluded from the consideration of specific items in which they have an interest where this is necessary to avoid unmanageable conflict or the appearance of it.

3.4 A quorum exists where at least 50% of the members are present

3.5 Members are appointed for 2 year terms, renewable once. Such members are invited as individuals on the basis of their knowledge, expertise and experience in specific areas and are not attending as formal representatives of their employing organizations. Members are expected to fully understand and enact the recognized duties and responsibilities of their role

4. Meetings

4.1 The ISOAB meets at least annually in person with additional meetings set as required using video and telephone conference. The Chair of the ISOAB is responsible for chairing the meetings.

4.2 Minutes of all meetings will be taken and provided to all members.

5. Minutes and Reporting

5.1 Papers for the meeting will be sent out electronically no less than one week prior to the meeting date.

5.2 The minutes of the meetings will be circulated to all ISOAB members

6. Constitution

6.1 These terms of reference were endorsed by the Executive Committee on 09/10/2021