

Dear Delegates,

On behalf of the Annual Scientific Meeting Organizing Committee, it is our distinct pleasure to welcome you to Banff, AB for the second annual Canadian Transplantation Summit, a joint Scientific Meeting of the Canadian Society of Transplantation, Canadian Blood Services and Canadian Dation Transplant Research Program. This is a unique opportunity to bring together, in a single place, at a single time, the scientists, patients and stakeholders of all interests in transplantation across Canada.

We hope that you will share our enthusiasm for this exciting Summit. The Scientific Committee has been working to put together a program that will speak to all the groups involved. During this week, we hope to spark discussions about where we are and where you want to go in crucial subjects in transplantation. Can we effectively expand the donor pool using innovative organ allocation strategies? How can we best use HCV positive organ donors and what is the latest on post-transplant CMV? What novel therapies are on the horizon for ischemia-reperfusion injury? Do we know what the optimal dose of tacrolimus should be and in whom? What is the latest on the Banff schema? Is it time to develop a national reimbursement strategy for living donation? We are very excited to have Nobel Laureate, Dr. Alvin Roth, give the opening plenary to discuss "Kidney exchange: an opportunity for collaboration in North America" as well as the family of Logan Boulet to provide us with their perspectives on organ donation.

We are grateful to many partner organizations who have joined us to make this week a great event: American Society of Transplantation with their annual AST at CST session, the Canadian Blood Services with their lunch symposium on optimizing patient and systems outcomes using high risk donors, and the Canadian Standards Association. Finally, we are thankful to all the international and local speakers for accepting our invitation to present at the summit, and to many sponsors who have seen in this meeting an opportunity to work with us, reflecting on the successes of the past 20 years. Their support is key to the success of this event.

To trainees, patients and colleagues from across Canada and around the world, to our partners in industry and government, welcome to Banff for an exciting meeting!

Sincerely,

Julie Ho, Lakshman Gunaratnam

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Co-Chairs, CST ASM Committee

Michael Mengel President, CST