



Canadian Liver Foundation
Fondation canadienne du foie

*Bringing liver research to life
Donner vie à la recherche sur le foie*

February 1st, 2021

Subject: Important notice regarding the 2021 Research Grant Program

Dear Researcher,

The Canadian Liver Foundation (CLF) is proud of the role we have been able to play in advancing liver research in Canada and in the exciting discoveries that have led to a greater understanding of liver disease – and in some cases, new treatments. The CLF has funded nearly \$38 million in liver research across Canada.

We are committed to continuing to support the work of Canadian researchers in the field of hepatology through our grant program in the coming years.

2020 however, marked the onset of a global pandemic which has impacted the public health system, individuals, corporations and charities alike. Unfortunately, the CLF, like many other charities in Canada, faced the financial consequences of the pandemic. Many donations were put on hold because of the economic uncertainty the crisis created, and the safety measures implemented by public health authorities limited our ability to engage with supporters through community-based events. We have therefore made the very difficult decision to not make a call for submissions for the 2021 research grant competition.

While this decision was a difficult one, we will continue to fund the research proposals accepted in prior years that are still in progress. Additionally, the CLF will also continue to fund the activities of our many research partners which have been previously agreed to (and funded) in support of our mission to combat liver disease. The total research funding committed for these projects is approximately \$2 million.

In addition to doing what we can to help stop the spread of COVID-19, our current priorities are to maintain our critical support services for Canadians impacted by liver disease, to shift our in-person community-based education and fundraising events to a safe online platform and to honour our commitment to continue funding ongoing CLF research grants.

The CLF will continue to seek out innovative ways to fund liver research in Canada. We appreciate your support of our research grant program and we hope to be able to resume our research grant competition in 2022.

If you have any questions regarding our research grant program, please contact our research grants administration office via phone at 1-800-563-5483 ext. 4932 or email researchgrants@liver.ca

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elliott Jacobson".

Elliott M. Jacobson, MBA, FCPA, FCA, ICD.D
Chairman, National Board of Directors
Canadian Liver Foundation