



**INSTITUT DE
CARDIOLOGIE
DE MONTRÉAL**

APPILIÉE
Université 
de Montréal

**PRESS RELEASE
For immediate release**

**Dr. Jean-Claude Tardif of the Montreal Heart Institute
is chosen *La Presse / Radio Canada* 2008 Personality of the Year in
Social Science, Pure Science and Technology**

Montreal, January 19, 2009 – Dr. Jean-Claude Tardif, cardiologist and director of the MHI Research Centre, professor in the faculty of medicine of the Université de Montréal, and holder of the Pfizer-Canadian Institutes of Health Research Chair in atherosclerosis, has been chosen the *La Presse / Radio-Canada* 2008 Personality of the Year in the Social Science, Pure Science and Technology category.

“We are extremely proud of this prestigious distinction presented to Dr. Jean-Claude Tardif,” said Mr. Robert Busilacchi, executive director of the Montreal Heart Institute, upon hearing of his selection. “Dr. Tardif is a visionary, a man of passion, and a true leader in science, who knows how to mobilize the strengths in each of his colleagues. An internationally renowned leader in cardiovascular health, Dr. Tardif is also an experienced researcher and a great clinician who, day after day, spares no effort in creating tomorrow’s medicine today and, in the process, developing a personalized medicine for treating patients suffering from cardiovascular and metabolic disease. He is a great asset to the Montreal Heart Institute, the Université de Montréal, Québec and Canada,” Mr. Busilacchi concluded.

An Exceptional Career Path

Dr. Jean-Claude Tardif directs a research team of 45 people working in the area of atherosclerosis, the leading cause of death in the world. His approach is three-fold: he works on pharmacological approaches to raise the level and activity of high-density lipoproteins (HDL and good cholesterol) and to reduce inflammation in the artery wall, on pioneering approaches to imaging to precisely assess atherosclerotic plaque, and on biomarkers, among them, the functionality and composition of HDL to evaluate cardiovascular risk and responses to treatment for atherosclerosis. Pharmacogenomics complements Dr. Tardif’s work. He spearheaded the creation of the first GLP-grade (good laboratory practice) pharmacogenomics centre in Canada, as well as the MHI Centre for Excellence in Personalized Medicine aimed at identifying the genomic determinants of drug reactions for a more personalized approach to medicine.

A sought-after guest speaker in Canada and abroad, Dr. Tardif has authored and co-authored more than 500 articles and abstracts published in prestigious scientific journals such as the *New England Journal of Medicine*, *Circulation*, and *The Lancet*. Over the years, he has also been the recipient of many awards. In 2002, the Canadian edition of *Time* magazine presented him as one of the most promising researchers of the new generation. More recently, he was elected a member of the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences. In October 2008, he received the Research Achievement Award from the Canadian Cardiovascular Society for his research work on atherosclerosis. For this



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work, aimed at saving lives, *La Presse / Radio-Canada* named him Personality of the Week for the week of November 23, 2008.

About the Montreal Heart Institute

Founded in 1954 by Dr. Paul David, the Montreal Heart Institute constantly aims for the highest standards of excellence in the cardiovascular field through its leadership in prevention, ultra-specialized care, training of professionals, clinical and fundamental research, and assessment of new technologies. It is affiliated with the Université de Montréal and its clinical outcomes are among the best in the world. To learn more about the Institute, please visit our website at www.icm-mhi.org.

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