



**INSTITUT DE  
CARDIOLOGIE  
DE MONTRÉAL**

**AFFILIÉ À**  
Université   
de Montréal

**PRESS RELEASE**  
**For immediate distribution**

**The Montreal Heart Institute obtains \$ 53 million from  
the Canada Foundation for Innovation and Government of Quebec**

**Montreal, June 25, 2009** – The Montreal Heart Institute (MHI) has distinguished itself by securing \$53 million from the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) and the Government of Quebec; with the support of the Université de Montréal and its network, three projects were submitted to the CFI competition, and on June 18, 2009, all were accepted.

“We’re delighted with this collective achievement – this will allow the MHI and all of its collaborators to become worldwide leaders in cardiology research and in the diagnosis and treatment of these diseases,” said Dr. Jean-Claude Tardif, director of the MHI Research Centre and professor in the faculty of medicine at UdeM.

***Overview of the three MHI research projects***

**Establishment of a Canadian communications and medical imaging infrastructure for patients with heart and vascular diseases**

Under the direction of Dr. Jean-Claude Tardif, this project is aimed at setting up an infrastructure that will make possible to use the most advanced imaging techniques, notably in the area of coronary and carotid atherosclerosis. In addition to the Montreal Heart Institute, a network of ten Canadian universities and more than 40 hospital institutions throughout Canada are taking part in the project, including the University of Ottawa Heart Institute, the Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre, the Robarts Research Institute and the University of Calgary. The MHI will act as the coordinating centre for multicentre clinical studies as well as act as the national data warehousing centre.

**Discovery, development and validation of biomarkers**

Under the direction of Dr. Jean-Claude Tardif, this research project is aimed at setting up a completely integrated infrastructure for discovering and validating new markers for cardiovascular disease, while putting the patient at the centre of this infrastructure. It will thus be possible, based on blood data or sophisticated medical imaging, to extract results that will lead to discoveries aimed at improving diagnosis, assessing the severity of the disease and applying the appropriate treatment.

## **Regional Centre for Arrhythmias in Adult Congenital Heart Disease**

Under the direction of Dr. Paul Khairy, this project will lead to the creation of a centre for research and the treatment of arrhythmias in patients with congenital heart disease as well as ensure that these patients benefit from a care continuum between CHU Ste-Justine and the MHI. As well as serve as a prestigious training and referral facility in the field, this centre – the only one of its kind in the world – will have the potential to considerably reduce the risks of death among patients aged 40 and over with arrhythmia.

### **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.

On the Web: [www.icm-mhi.org](http://www.icm-mhi.org).

### **About the Université de Montréal**

Deeply rooted in Montreal and dedicated to its international mission, the Université de Montréal is one of the top universities in the French-speaking world. Founded in 1878, the Université de Montréal counts 13 faculties and, along with its two affiliated schools, HEC Montreal and l'École Polytechnique, is Quebec's largest institution of higher learning, second in Canada, and among the most active in North America. With a faculty of 2,500 professors and researchers, the university has a student population of more than 55,000, offers more than 650 undergraduate and graduate programs and awards some 3,000 Master's and PhD degrees each year. On the Web: [www.umontreal.ca](http://www.umontreal.ca).

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