2015 ANNUAL REPORT

CHANGING THE GAME: DRIVING GLOBAL IMPACT



Centre for Commercialization of **Regenerative** Medicine

CCRM is a Canadian, not-for-profit organization supporting the development of foundational technologies that accelerate the commercialization of stem cell- and biomaterials-based products and therapies. CCRM is supported by the Centres of Excellence for Commercialization and Research (CECR) program.

Regenerative medicine, which aims to harness the power of stem cells, biomaterials and molecules to repair, regenerate or replace diseased cells, tissues and organs, has the promise to treat, manage and perhaps cure some of the most devastating and costly diseases in the world today.

Many new and potentially life-changing regenerative medicine-based treatments never reach patients because they are not successfully moved from the laboratory to the clinic. In order to fulfill regenerative medicine's promise to treat the many diseases affecting our population, a world-renowned group of stem cell scientists and bioengineers have come together to form the Centre for Commercialization of Regenerative Medicine (CCRM).

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CENTRE FOR COMMERCIALIZATION OF REGENERATIVE MEDICINE (CCRM)

is a network that bridges the regenerative medicine commercialization gap by leveraging funding and infrastructure, and mobilizing business and scientific expertise to translate technologies into commercial products and therapies. CCRM's mission is to create and sustain a global nexus for company creation, technology and cell therapy development, and clinical trials in regenerative medicine.



OUR VISION



Preferred global destination for the best people, technologies, clinical trials, companies and investments in regenerative medicine



Premier global enabler of clinically-tested, revolutionary new medical therapies and foundational technologies

EXECUTIVE MESSAGE PRIMED FOR IMPACT

Peter Zandstra Chief Scientific Officer **Greg Bonfiglio** *Chair,* Board of Directors Michael May President and CEO



2015 was a monumental year for the Centre for Commercialization of Regenerative Medicine (CCRM). We were able to secure \$50 million in new funding, from several sources, to advance our mission and build a brand new facility for advanced manufacturing solutions in cell therapies.

We expect this new facility will revolutionize the cell therapy industry and it is being made possible due to the visionary support of the Government of Canada's Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario (FedDev Ontario) program and GE Healthcare, a founding member of CCRM's Industry Consortium. GE Healthcare is the anchor industry partner in our new Centre for Advanced Therapeutic Cell Technologies (CATCT) with an establishing \$20 million investment that FedDev Ontario is matching.

This \$40 million will be used to build a facility that Toronto, Ontario and Canada will be proud of, and the global cell therapy industry can benefit from. CCRM and GE will lead this initiative with the strong support of some of the world's leading tools, reagent and cell therapy companies. Together, we have committed to developing advanced cell manufacturing solutions to realize new cost-effective therapies for patients.

With this funding and extensive project in play, CCRM can operate without further funding from the Networks of Centres of Excellence (NCE) program. We are grateful to the NCE for its \$15 million in seed funding five years ago and its confidence in our ability to deliver on our strategic plans. Thank you to the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, as well as Industry Canada and Health Canada. Thank you also to our advisors at the NCE secretariat for their ongoing counsel and support.

In addition to the wonderful news that CATCT is underway, we are also very proud that the Ontario Institute for Regenerative Medicine (OIRM), which received \$3 million from the Government of Ontario in November 2014, received another \$25 million in June 2015 to continue its efforts to invest in translational research for degenerative diseases. OIRM is a network of Ontario-based stem cell and regenerative medicine programs operating in partnership with CCRM and Ontario's leading health and research institutions. OIRM will revolutionize the treatment of diseases through the development and commercialization of stem cell-based products and therapies.

CCRM also became the commercialization partner of Medicine by Design (MbD), a new initiative at the University of Toronto, spearheaded by CCRM's CSO Peter Zandstra. Thanks to \$114 million from the Canada First Research Excellence Fund, researchers working with MbD will focus on discovering new therapies based on the design and manufacture of molecules, cells, tissues and organs that can be used safely and effectively to treat degenerative diseases.

It's an exciting time at CCRM and in the regenerative medicine field. Please read this year's report for a complete picture of our activities.

U. May

Michael May President and CEO

Greg Bonfiglio Chair, Board of Directors

Peter Zandstra *Chief Scientific Officer*

THE FUTURE OF CCRM BUILDING A REGENERATIVE MEDICINE ZONE

101 COLLEGE ST. Toronto, ON

MaRS West Tower WE'RE MOVING ON UP!

CCRM will be occupying a much larger (and higher) footprint when it says goodbye to the University of Toronto's Banting Institute and moves across the street to the newest tower at the MaRS Centre in downtown Toronto.

The University of Toronto shared the news in September when it announced that it would take over space at MaRS to expand its research facilities. CCRM, a close partner of the university, will manage 40,000 sq ft on one floor that will also house the Ontario Institute for Regenerative Medicine and Medicine by Design, along with two lab spaces. When people arrive at CCRM, they will see a hub of regenerative medicine activity.

"When people come to our floor in the MaRS building," says Michael May, President and CEO of CCRM, "they'll see highly qualified technicians gowned up to manufacture cells in one corner, academic researchers analyzing data in another, business professionals launching new companies and risk capital being divested. That's an impressive scene, and it will help us attract and retain the best researchers, companies and investors."

CATCT ADVANCED MANUFACTURING SOLUTIONS

With funding from the Government of Canada and our anchor partner, GE Healthcare, CCRM will build and operate the Centre for Advanced Therapeutic Cell Technologies (CATCT), with support from a unique industry consortium that is committed to seeing this initiative succeed.

This 10,000 sq ft process development facility will be dedicated to the development of technologies, and optimization of processes, that will enable industrial manufacturing of human cells for therapeutic purposes.

GMP Facility RIGOROUS STANDARDS

In partnership with the University Health Network and the province of Ontario, CCRM will build and operate a Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) facility where cells will be manufactured in a sterile environment that adheres to governmental best practices and standard operating procedures.

The GMP facility will enable cell manufacturing for local academic trials and small and medium size enterprises attracted to Canada for its regenerative medicine ecosystem and favourable regulatory environment.

Photo provided by GE Healthcare.

THE FIRST OF ITS KIND IN NORTH AMERICA

JANUARY TO DECEMBER 2015 A YEAR OF HIGHLIGHTS

JANUARY – CCRM and UHN, with funding from the Province of Ontario and the Canada Foundation for Innovation, began planning the design and launch of the Centre for Cell and Vector Production, a GMP facility to be located on CCRM's new floor at the MaRS Centre.





MARCH – The website re-design was meant to kick off the New Year, but at least it squeaked in within the first quarter. If you haven't visited ccrm.ca lately, please check out our new look.

MAY – Industry partnerships are key to CCRM's ability to identify and address bottlenecks in regenerative medicine product pipelines. These companies are also receptors for licensing opportunities and collaborators on development projects. CCRM's Industry Consortium accepted three new members in 2015, bringing the total to 46. The University of British Columbia joined CCRM as an Affiliate Institutional Member.





JUNE 15 – CCRM and IRICoR launched ExCellThera, a clinical stage biotechnology company that is focused on developing robust and cost effective ways of growing blood stem cells for therapeutic use. It is CCRM's first spin-off and based on the work of Drs. Peter Zandstra (University of Toronto) and Guy Sauvageau (Université de Montréal).

JUNE 19 – Reza Moridi, Minister of Research and Innovation in Ontario, committed \$25 million to OIRM and CCRM to invest in translational research for degenerative diseases that can be treated by stem cell-based products and therapies. Moridi says this funding "will reduce suffering and health care costs [and] bolster innovation capacity."





OCTOBER 5 – CCRM, with funding from the University of Toronto, brought the award-winning Super Cells: The Power of Stem Cells exhibit to MaRS Discovery District to introduce children (and adults!) to the wonders of stem cell biology. For six weeks, visitors experienced this free, trilingual (English, French and Spanish) science exhibit, created by the Stem Cell Network and Musée Nature Sciences Sherbrooke.

OCTOBER 8 – It's not the first time CCRM employees have been featured on television, but it's their first debut on Korean TV! The South Korean Educational Broadcasting System (EBS) featured the University of Toronto, The Hospital for Sick Children and CCRM in a report on regenerative medicine. Even Super Cells (above) was included. (Right: Dr. Howard Kim, CCRM)





OCTOBER 26-28 – After months of hard work and planning, input and assistance from the Stem Cell Network and OIRM, and support from partners and sponsors, the 2015 Till & McCulloch Meetings, held in Toronto, attracts a record number of attendees and favourable reviews. Namesake James Till even joins the fun.

DECEMBER – CCRM and industry partner Invetech hosted their first joint webinar on "4 key considerations for achieving commercial success for cell therapies" and ThermoFisher, also an Industry Consortium member, invites Dr. Emily Titus to present "Standardized generation of patient-specific iPSC lines and scalable production of PSC-derived cardiomyocytes," during 24 Hours of Stem cells.



2015 BY THE NUMBERS:

85 IPSC LINES COMPLETED

1 BILLION CARDIOMYOCYTES MANUFACTURED IN 1 L STR 5 PROVISIONAL PATENT APPLICATIONS FILED 21 ENTRIES FOR CELLS I SEE ART CONTEST



31,600 REACHED THROUGH CELLS I SEE FACEBOOK GALLERY

ENABLE HELPING TURN THE CCRM VISION INTO REALITY

Sickid

Janet Rossant, PhD, FRS, FRSC Senior Scientist, SickKids Research Institute



While individuals benefit from mentors, organizations gain from having champions. CCRM is fortunate to have one such person in Janet Rossant.

Dr. Rossant is recognized as a world leader in developmental biology and she has more than a dozen significant awards to her name, including being a Companion of the Order of Canada and the Canada Gairdner Wightman winner for 2015.

In 2010, in her role as Deputy Scientific Director of the Stem Cell Network, Dr. Rossant was one of the people behind the conception and launch of CCRM when CCRM applied to be a Centre of Excellence with the federal government.

Today, Dr. Rossant is co-chair of CCRM's Strategic Advisory Board and she is a member of CCRM's Founders Advisory Board. CCRM also works closely with Dr. Rossant as she leads the Ontario Institute for Regenerative Medicine (OIRM), which was launched in November 2014 to advance regenerative medicine and cell therapy in the province. CCRM has a key role in this vision as OIRM's commercialization partner. When asked why she is so keen to see CCRM succeed, Dr. Rossant doesn't hesitate. "There is a huge need and an opportunity to continue to invest in discovery research and stem cell science because that will provide the pipelines of discovery that will be translated into the clinic," she explains. "[I'm] excited about that possibility and want to catalyze and accelerate that translation."

On the relationship between CCRM and OIRM, Dr. Rossant says: "CCRM fills an important niche for those scientists and researchers whose research has translational potential. CCRM understands market pull and can provide informed advice to researchers going forward."

She also feels that having a built-in commercialization partner has been "extraordinarily helpful for making a seamless transition from the lab to industry partners." Having been closely involved with CCRM since the start, Dr. Rossant says it has been a pleasure for her to see CCRM's progress and evolution. She is also looking forward to watching CCRM create a cell manufacturing hub in Toronto that will enable the joint vision of CCRM and OIRM to create a vibrant regenerative medicine industry in Ontario.



Dr. Rossant was one of the people behind the conception and launch of CCRM when CCRM applied to be a Centre of Excellence with the federal government.

INTEGRATE STRATEGIC ADVISORY BOARD PIONEERS IN THE FIELD





From top left:

George Daley Jeffrey Hubbell Gordon Keller Douglas Lauffenburger Chris Mason Kathrin Plath Janet Rossant Michael Sefton Toshio Suda (not pictured) Jakub Tolar Fiona Watt Peter Zandstra



They are an international group of world-leading experts who meets annually to contribute their guidance and expertise to CCRM. When this extremely accomplished ensemble gets together, their collective wisdom and advice is a tremendous asset to CCRM as it carries out its strategic goals.

CCRM's Strategic Advisory Board (SAB) is co-chaired by Drs. Janet Rossant and Peter Zandstra of Toronto. Its members are pioneers in regenerative medicine and we're fortunate to have Shinya Yamanaka, known for his discovery of induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSCs), as an honourary member of the SAB. These are the rock stars of regenerative medicine; unfortunately, we only have space to briefly profile a few of them.

GEORGE DALEY has twice been cited in *Science* magazine's "Breakthrough of the Year" issue for his laboratory's research on the differentiation of germ cells from embryonic stem cells and the generation of disease-specific pluripotent stem cells by direct reprogramming of human fibroblasts.

KATHRIN PLATH serves on the editorial board of high impact journals *Cell*, *Cell Stem Cell* and *Elife*. Among her many contributions to the field, Dr. Plath was one of the first scientists to reprogram mouse and human adult cells into iPSCs. Since discovering the niche for hematopoietic stem cells, **TOSHIO SUDO'S** work now focuses on further understanding the relationship between stem cells and their niches in order to develop novel therapeutics approaches. In 2014, Dr. Sudo was awarded the Donald Metcalf Award from the International Society for Experimental Hematology in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the field. **CHRIS MASON'S** work is focused on the clinical translation and commercialization of cell and gene therapies. Beginning his career as a surgeon and later transitioning into translational research, Dr. Mason's expertise lies in discovery, clinical medicine, bioprocessing, regulation, healthcare economics, reimbursement and business. Acting as a connector, Dr. Mason sits on many international committees and boards across industry and academia.

Please visit ccrm.ca to view everyone's bios.



International group of world-leading experts who meets annually to contribute their guidance and experience to CCRM.

ENGAGE CCRM AND TORONTO HAVE ALL THE RIGHT STUFF

Phil Vanek General Manager, Cell Therapy Technologies GE Healthcare



Phil Vanek might be relatively new to GE Healthcare, but he's spent much of his career in the cell therapy and regenerative medicine field. His enthusiasm for the sector doesn't appear to be waning. Rather, he uses words like "fortunate," "opportunity" and "meaningful" to describe his thoughts about the industry and the work he is embarking upon with CCRM.

In July, Dr. Vanek joined CCRM's Board of Directors and he will closely manage GE Healthcare's partnership in the Centre for Advanced Therapeutic Cell Technologies (CATCT) in Toronto. With \$40 million in combined funding from both GE and FedDev Ontario, the CATCT will serve as an advanced manufacturing solutions facility that will look to solve tough challenges in cell therapy production.

So why CCRM and why Toronto when GE Healthcare could have chosen anywhere in the world for this facility?

"CCRM was well ahead [of other potential partners] and alignment of scope and goals were on target," Dr. Vanek says. On Toronto, he explains that there are few locations in the world with all the right components in place for this type of facility to succeed – a clinical setting, investment community, technology base and distribution networks. GE Healthcare was also looking to leverage a partner who would share the early risk. When you include the match and federal investment from FedDev Ontario, "it was a no-brainer to set up in Toronto and with CCRM."

What are Dr. Vanek's future expectations from CCRM and from GE Healthcare's role in the industry consortium (IC), of which GE Healthcare is a founding member?

Dr. Vanek values the collaborative nature of the IC and the opportunity to solve huge cell therapy and regenerative medicine problems together, hence the establishment of the CATCT. "Going forward," he says, "I'll be looking for more engagement and more dialogue, looking at manufacturing challenges from a diversity of perspectives rather than working towards these as one-off problems to fix. CCRM gives us a laboratory to try new things out within a new business model – and the industry input needed to develop valuable, realistic solutions. Cell therapy and regenerative medicine will be an interesting place to be in the next five years and beyond."



GE Healthcare, as the anchor partner, is contributing \$20 million.



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Stacey Johnson Director, Communications Kim Warren Chief Technology Officer

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Krishna Panchalingam Development Engineer, Product and Process Development





A DISCERNING MIND

Mark Curtis MSc - Analyst, Business Development

As a member of CCRM's Business Development team, Mark evaluates the commercial potential of stem cell therapies, cell-based immunotherapies, and gene therapies. He also works on the development and marketing of CCRM portfolio companies, and downstream aspects of commercialization, including clinical translation and reimbursement. Mark is a regular contributor to *Signals* blog and provides two commercialization-oriented "columns" where he captures developments in the cell therapy industry.

AN EXPERIENCED LEADER Kim Warren PhD - Chief Technology Officer

The newest member of our executive team, Kim brings with her significant scientific, entrepreneurial and business management experience from pharma/biotec and Poietic Technologies, a company she founded and led. Over 10 years at Lonza, Kim developed a services business to support GMP manufacturing of cellular therapeutics and this experience will be instrumental as CCRM embarks upon the building and running of a facility for advanced manufacturing solutions.

A WAY WITH WORDS

Stacey Johnson MSc - Director, Communications

Stacey leads communications and marketing at CCRM where she is the driving force behind CCRM's efforts to connect with the media and our industry, government, academic and international partners. Stacey is the editor of *Signals* blog and the voice of CCRM's social media presence. Before CCRM, Stacey worked for a national news network, but left to complete a Master's in Public Relations. She has provided strategic communications counsel to government, corporate, technology and health organizations.

A DRIVEN PERFORMER

Krishna Panchalingam PhD - Development Engineer, Product and Process Development

Krishna came to CCRM, in 2014, from his position as a Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Calgary. He brings nine years of experience in stem cell bioengineering, process development and optimization, cell manufacturing and project management. In his role at CCRM, his focus is on the development, scale-up and clinical translation of cellular therapies and he's a key member of the team as we begin CATCT operations.

PORTFOLIO COMPANIES DELIVERING ON OUR MISSION

In June, CCRM had the pleasure of launching its first company creation: ExCellThera. This is a significant achievement that demonstrates our ability to identify promising discoveries and advance technologies to the market to meet the needs of patients. Substantial investments in two Canadian companies round out CCRM's 2015 roster of portfolio companies.







Actium is a Toronto-based, cancer stem cell company that has spun-out of the lab of Dr. Mick Bhatia (McMaster University, Hamilton). The company is developing a leukemic stem cell screening platform that it will deploy to uncover pathways that cause differentiation of cancer stem cells. This insight will allow Actium to develop biologics that eliminate minimal residual disease in blood cancers and provide longterm cures to patients. CCRM has invested in this promising Canadian company, led by entrepreneur Dr. David Young, founder of Arius, a biotech company that was sold to Hoffman-LaRoche in 2008. AVROBIO is a cell & gene therapy company that is developing the IP of Dr. Christopher Paige and Dr. Jeff Medin (University Health Network, Toronto). The company's oncology platform is a tumour cell-based immunotherapy engineered to express the cytokine IL-12 that will initially be deployed for acute myeloid leukemia and subsequently for solid tumour indications. AVROBIO's ex vivo gene therapy platform will leverage hematopoietic stem cells to deliver therapeutic enzymes for lysosomal storage disorders, and will initially be deployed for Fabry disease, a rare genetic disease that typically appears in childhood and is characterized by pain, kidney complications, increased risk of heart disease as the patient ages, and more. Industry leader Geoff MacKay, formerly CEO of Organogenesis, is President and CEO.

Led by an experienced business leader in Dr. Steven Klein, ExCellThera (ECT) is a clinical stage biotech company based on the work of Drs. Peter Zandstra (CCRM, University of Toronto) and Guy Sauvageau (University of Montreal) that is manufacturing expanded and genetically engineered hematopoietic stem cells for therapeutic use in blood cancers, especially acute myeloid leukemia, and gene therapy. ECT will run its first clinical trial in early 2016 at four Canadian sites. Enrollment is expected at 25 patients. ExCellThera is a partnership between CCRM and the Institute for Research in Immunology and Cancer - Commercialization of Research (IRICoR).

THE ONTARIO INSTITUTE FOR REGENERATIVE MEDICINE PURSUING BETTER HEALTH AND PROSPERITY FOR PATIENTS

The Ontario Institute for Regenerative Medicine (OIRM) is a key partner for CCRM in advancing regenerative medicine research and innovation towards approved therapies. Our shared goals are enabling translational research and commercialization efforts in pursuit of better health and prosperity for patients in Ontario, Canada and across the globe.

Following its formal launch in November 2014, OIRM has led a progressive research and commercialization program in collaboration with its institutional, government, charitable and industry partners. This has led to an investment in three large Disease Team projects in vision, immunotherapy and cardiovascular disease, as well as five New Ideas Grants aimed at fostering tomorrow's most promising research.

As a result of these efforts, in June, OIRM was awarded a further \$25 million of investment over five years by the Ontario government. This support will allow OIRM, with CCRM, to build upon the existing programs and will firmly position Ontario to be an early adopter of new treatments and technologies emerging from research and commercial developments.

As OIRM's commercialization partner, CCRM has been engaged with many OIRM researchers since its inception and, in the past year, has supported investigators and their technologies through various stages of commercialization, including assessments of 28 Ontario-led technologies.

OIRM's notable achievements in 2015:



Funded eight research projects; launched next round of grant competitions

Debuted *Expression*, a publication intended for lay audiences, featuring short articles with a focus on Ontario's regenerative medicine advances and leadership



Engaged key leaders in the formation of a Clinical Trials Network and hosted its first workshop in September



Supported three new business ventures being incubated by CCRM



Provided international leadership in creating research and commercialization alliances with China and Japan through formal partnerships and exchanges



Co-hosted the national stem cell meeting with CCRM and Stem Cell Network



Supported three commercialization internships at CCRM



Expanded to over 160 regenerative medicine research programs across the province, resulting in a network of over 1,200 scientists, highly qualified personnel and technicians

MEDICINE BY DESIGN INITIATIVE A COLLABORATIVE STRATEGY TO DRIVE INNOVATION

CCRM understands how building and maintaining connected networks can make all the difference when advancing new discoveries to market. Which is why connection and collaboration are at the core of CCRM's strategy to overcome the major bottlenecks that have previously impacted the path towards commercialization.

CCRM is the commercialization partner of a new network of researchers, academic partners and commercialization experts that will work to translate regenerative medicine discoveries into technologies and therapies for patients, and strengthen Canada's position as a world leader in the field. In July, the Medicine by Design initiative was established at the University of Toronto (U of T) to develop regenerative medicine products and processes to treat degenerative diseases. U of T professor Peter Zandstra, Chief Scientific Officer of CCRM and Canada Research Chair in Stem Cell Bioengineering, is a key architect of Medicine by Design.

U of T's Medicine by Design initiative is supported by a \$114 million investment made through the Canada First Research Excellence Fund, which is managed by the Federal Government of Canada. Medicine by Design is focused on three key areas: cells by design; organs by design; and, tissues by design. These three areas will be supported by technology platforms in genomic engineering, immune engineering and a program to manufacture stem cells on demand.

With collaboration in mind, it is important to note that Medicine by Design is not a virtual network. Its administrative home will be located in the MaRS Discovery District in downtown Toronto. It will share CCRM's floor at MaRS, along with OIRM, and be in close proximity to other University of Toronto researchers who are also moving.

With its culture of collaboration, Medicine by Design, CCRM and the partners will transform health care in Canada through the development and commercialization of enabling technologies and therapies that will change the way disease is treated.



Dr. Peter Zandstra (CCRM, University of Toronto) launches Medicine by Design on July 28, 2015



Medicine by Design is not a virtual network, but a physical one that will be located in the MaRS Discovery District in downtown Toronto.

TRAINING AND EDUCATION TEACHING, ENGAGING AND SHARING

CCRM is committed to sharing its expertise with the regenerative medicine community. We believe that providing opportunities for trainees, academics and industry professionals to learn new skills, gain knowledge and connect with one another is a vital part of driving regenerative medicine forward. In addition to our work within the regenerative medicine community, CCRM also seeks opportunities to connect with elementary and secondary school students to foster a love of science and engineering. Here are some highlights from this year:

HUMAN INDUCED PLURIPOTENT STEM CELL WORKSHOP Delivering hands-on learning experiences

Over two days and through lectures and hands-on sessions, a small group of trainees at the Human Induced Pluripotent Stem Cell (HiPSC) Workshop learned how to apply the processes involved in the production and maintenance of iPSCs, while gaining a strong foundation in standardized characterization methods to ensure the production of quality stem cell lines. This year's course was a collaborative effort; CCRM worked with the Hospital for Sick Children and industry partner STEMCELL Technologies to produce an outstanding learning experience.

CELLULAR THERAPIES MANUFACTURING AND CLINICAL TRIALS WORKSHOP Supporting the advancement

of cellular therapies Mixing industry, government and academics, CCRM's Cellular Therapies Manufacturing and Clinical Trials Workshop's speaker roster featured leaders in the field who shared their expertise with participants over the course of two days. The workshop's agenda combined lectures, case studies and networking opportunities so that participants left the workshop with a strong understanding of manufacturing principles and the clinical trials process, as well as new career-building connections.

TILL & MCCULLOCH MEETINGS

Bringing together Canada's regenerative medicine community This was CCRM's first year taking over the primary hosting duties of the Till & McCulloch Meetings (TMM), which saw a record attendance of 475 participants. TMM is Canada's regenerative medicine conference and was held over three days in October in Toronto. Attracting leading stem cell scientists, clinicians, bioengineers and ethicists, as well as representatives from industry, government and health organizations, TMM provided attendees with superior scientific and industry talks, workshops and plenty of opportunities to network.

SUPER CELLS: THE POWER OF STEM CELLS Introducing kids to the

wonders of stem cells Together with the University of Toronto, CCRM brought an award-winning, museumquality science exhibit to MaRS Discovery District in downtown Toronto. The free, trilingual, interactive exhibit was geared towards children ages four to fourteen to introduce them to the amazing world of stem cells. CCRM is committed to engaging with students of all ages to encourage and develop their interest in the STEM fields.



Susan Runciman, CCRM development technologist, instructing participants at the HiPSC workshop

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The Banting Institute Suite 110-100 College Street Toronto, ON M5G 1L5 Canada

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Centre for Commercialization of **Regenerative** Medicine