



## **CCRM's Peter Zandstra appointed Member of the Order of Canada**

January 5, 2022 (Toronto, ON) — CCRM's Chief Scientific Officer (CSO), Dr. Peter Zandstra, is one of the 93 newly appointed Members of the Order of Canada (C.M.). The announcement by Her Excellency the Right Honourable Mary Simon, Governor General of Canada, follows the tradition of naming new appointees to mark the new year. In total, 135 new appointees to the Order were named for 2021.

"Peter Zandstra has leveraged a stellar academic career into higher-order benefits for the regenerative medicine ecosystem in Canada. He is a role-model Canadian professional, and I can't think of anyone more deserving of Canada's highest civic honour," says Dr. Michael May, President and CEO of CCRM.

Explaining how Dr. Zandstra was crucial to the establishment of CCRM, Dr. May continued: "When we first met to discuss the establishment of CCRM, Peter had already been recognized for his impact on the regenerative medicine industry in Canada. It was Peter's expertise in bioprocessing and his connection to most of the important global companies in regenerative medicine that influenced CCRM's focus on cell manufacturing as an important bottleneck in the nascent industry and a key pillar of CCRM's inaugural strategic plan. CCRM has become a leader in cell manufacturing due to Peter's foresight a decade ago."

Ten years on, Dr. Zandstra remains CSO for CCRM, but his accomplishments reach much further. He was a key architect behind the funding for Medicine by Design at the University of Toronto and its inaugural Executive Director. (Medicine by Design is a \$114 million, Canada First Research Excellence Fund initiative in regenerative medicine/synthetic biology representing one of the largest grants in Canadian university history.) In 2017, Dr. Zandstra established the School of Biomedical Engineering at the University of British Columbia where he is Director. He is well regarded as an inventor, co-founder of several companies and known for his commitment to educating and mentoring the next generation of leaders.

Announcing the 2021 appointees, Her Excellency the Right Honourable Mary Simon, Governor General of Canada, commented: "Canada is defined by the people that make up this great country. These most recent nominees to the Order of Canada are shining examples of the commitment and outstanding contributions Canadians have made to the well-being of communities throughout this land, whether it be social, environmental, scientific, economic, cultural or related to mental and physical health. To all of the nominees, congratulations and thank you."

More than 7,500 people, from all sectors of society, have been inducted into the Order of Canada since it was established in 1967.

The full list of appointees can be found [here](#). Appointees will be presented with their insignia at investiture ceremonies to be held on future dates.

### **About CCRM**

CCRM is a global, public-private partnership headquartered in Canada. It receives funding from the Government of Canada, Government of Ontario, industry clients and leading academic partners. CCRM supports the development of regenerative medicines and associated enabling technologies, with a specific focus on cell and gene therapy. A network of researchers, leading companies, strategic investors and entrepreneurs, CCRM accelerates the translation of scientific discovery into new companies and marketable products for patients, with specialized teams, funding, and infrastructure. CCRM is the commercialization partner of the University of Toronto's Medicine by Design. CCRM is hosted by the University of Toronto. Visit us at [ccrm.ca](http://ccrm.ca).

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