



**CANADIAN LYME DISEASE**  
RESEARCH NETWORK

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# **SEPTEMBER 2022**

**Canadian Lyme Disease Research Network**

**221 Portsmouth Avenue**

**Kingston, Ontario K7M 1V5**

**[www.clydrn.ca](http://www.clydrn.ca)**

# PILLAR UPDATES

## Pillar 1

### DIAGNOSTICS

*Final draft of the research proposal has been created and vetted to Pillar 1 members for final feedback. Pillar 1 members plan to present the research proposal to PCAC members, Network Leads, and Executive Committee for endorsement in the coming weeks. The project will be collecting prospective samples during the 2023 Lyme disease season. All samples collected from the ON and BC provincial labs will be analyzed by the BC provincial lab.*

## Pillar 2

### PREVENTION AND RISK REDUCTION

*Pillar 2 wide meeting (all working groups) was held in the spring 2022. Photoshoot was completed in Lunenburg, NS to create a stockpile of photos to be used for Lyme disease education, awareness, and prevention. The Surveillance Working Group doubled the number of surveillance sites this spring/summer 2022. The veterinary surveillance program continued this summer. Retrospective case-control study is writing up the manuscript. The prospective case-control study launched at both recruitment sites (45 participants completed study to date). The Innovation Working Group recruited a post-doctoral fellow for the project. The Modelling Working Group completed a proposal and received funding approval from Executive Committee to proceed.*

*Improve prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of LD in Canada*

## Pillar 3

### CLINICAL SCIENCE AND HEALTH SERVICE RESEARCH

#### **COHORT Study\*:**

**Lyme disease participants**-34 participants have been enrolled (consented); 29 participants completed their Baseline visit; 23 participants completed 1-month follow-up visit; 12 participants completed 3-month follow-up visit; 8 participants completed 6-month, 9-month, and 12-month follow-up visits; 7 participants dropped out or lost to follow-up.

**Healthy control participants**-2 participants have been enrolled (consented); 2 participants completed their Baseline visit.

#### **CLYME (Biobank) Study\*:**

**Lyme disease participants**-62 participants have been enrolled (consented); 54 participants completed Baseline visit; 44 participants completed 1-month follow-up visit; 14 participants dropped out or lost to follow-up.

**Healthy control participants**-2 participants have been enrolled (consented); 2 participants completed Baseline visit.

**\* Recruitment sites:** Kingston, ON & Lunenburg, NS

## Pillar 4

### PATIENT AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, TRAINING AND KNOWLEDGE TRANSLATION

*Conducted 43 virtual interviews with national healthcare practitioners: coding data and data analysis underway. Knowledge Translation Porthole discussions still on hold. Data analysis underway for the barriers to preventative behaviours study from the 22 focus group sessions carried out across BC, MB, ON, QC, and NS. The Pan-Canadian survey study is finalizing the questionnaires for the study; expecting the study to roll out later this fall. Brokered Dialogue study commenced Phase 1 of the project: 14 interviews have been completed. The doctoral project on Indigenous experiences and perspectives on Lyme disease continues development. The Community Advisory Committee was formed over the summer; new members underwent orientation and held its first meeting.*



# COMMITTEE UPDATES

## PGC

### PROJECT GRANTS COMMITTEE

*PGC held its first meeting in July 2022 since the committee revamped its mandate to find ways to help translate priorities identified from our patients, family caregivers, and community stakeholders through engagement and collaboration into fundable research grants. The committee is still looking for new members to join: if interested in joining, please reach out to **Dr. Rob Colautti** ([robert.colautti@queensu.ca](mailto:robert.colautti@queensu.ca)) and **Dr. Clara Juando-Prats** ([clara.juando@utoronto.ca](mailto:clara.juando@utoronto.ca)). Dr. Rylan Egan and Dr. Tim Salomons applied to the New Frontiers Research Fund Exploration Grant competition. Committee was not successful in moving forward in the PHAC Climate Change & NSERC Discovery Frontiers Letter of Intent competition for a tick microbiome sequencing project. Currently providing support for the upcoming PHAC Infectious Diseases and Climate Change Fund competition for the TickNet Canada application.*

*Improve prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of LD in Canada*

## TAC

### TRAINEE ADVANCEMENT COMMITTEE

*There were no TAC meetings held over the summer. TAC held its kick-off meeting for the academic year on September 27, 2022, to plan out its activities and webinars. The first webinar "Lyme disease from the veterinary perspective-Dr. Katie Clow" will occur on October 17, 2022. If anyone is interested in joining TAC, please reach out to **Dr. Katie Clow** ([kclow@uoguelph.ca](mailto:kclow@uoguelph.ca)) and **Natasha Bowser** ([natasha.nofal@umontreal.ca](mailto:natasha.nofal@umontreal.ca)).*

## PCAC

### PATIENT AND COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

*There were no PCAC meetings held over the summer. The next PCAC meeting will occur in October 2022. Nancy Garvey and Tamara Rader are leading the roll-out of the GRIPP2-SF checklist tool with a few pilot projects and are also leading other patient engagement initiatives.*



# Year in Review

## 2021-2022 Report

The Year in Review 2021-2022 Report was circulated to CLyDRN members in September 2022. To access the report, please go to [www.clydrn.ca](http://www.clydrn.ca) and click "Login" at the top. Enter your email (username) and password and then follow this path to view the report: *News-Members Annual Report*.

## RESEARCH ARTICLES, BOOKS & INTERVIEWS

### ARTICLES

Burrows H, Slatculescu AM, Feng CX, Clow KM, Guillot C, Jardine CM, Leighton PA, Krause PJ, and Kulkarni MA. The utility of a maximum entropy species distribution model for *Ixodes scapularis* in predicting the public health risk of Lyme disease in Ontario, Canada. *Ticks and Tick-borne Diseases*. 2022; 13(5). <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ttbdis.2022.101969>

Guillot C, Bouchard C, Buhler K, Dumas A, Milord F, Ripoche M, Pelletier R, and Leighton PA. Sentinel Surveillance Contributes to Tracking Lyme Disease Spatiotemporal Risk Trends in Southern Quebec, Canada. *Pathogens*. 2022; 11(5): 531. <https://doi.org/10.3390/pathogens11050531>

Hammond-Collins K, Tremblay M, Milord F, Baron G, Bouchard C, Kotchi SO, Lambert L, Leighton PA, Ogden NH, and Rees EE. An ecological approach to predict areas with established populations of *Ixodes scapularis* in Quebec, Canada. *Ticks and Tick-borne Diseases*. 2022; 13(6). <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ttbdis.2022.102040>

Pelletier J, Rocheleau JP, Aenishaenslin C, Masson GD, Lindsay LR, Ogden NH, Bouchard C, and Leighton PA. Fluralaner Baits Reduce the Infestation of *Peromyscus* spp. Mice (Rodentia: Cricetidae) by *Ixodes scapularis* (Acari: Ixodidae) Larvae and Nymphs in a Natural Environment, *Journal of Medical Entomology*, 2022; tjac106. <https://doi.org/10.1093/jme/tjac106>

### CLyDRN Members Portal

If you have not yet created a user account on the CLyDRN website, please go to [www.clydrn.ca](http://www.clydrn.ca) and click on "Register" at the top. Once you register, CLyDRN Network Management Office will get an email to accept your membership. Once this occurs, you can click on "Login" and enter your email (username) and password to access the members portal. If you have a user account and have forgotten your password, simply click on "Login" and click on "Forget Your Password".

### Publications

Have you recently published (journal article, book chapter, lead author/editor of a book, technical reports, policy briefs or policy guidelines)? Have you recently had one of your presentations or interviews with a journalist video-recorded? Please share your news and links with the CLyDRN Network Management Office so we can share with our members in future newsletters to help raise awareness and celebrate the impact of our members' work.





# Do you have a story to share about Lyme disease? Let's Talk!

Researchers at St. Michael's Hospital and the Canadian Lyme Disease Research Network are conducting a study.

## We are looking to speak with:

- Persons with lived experience of Lyme disease
- Family or caregivers of people living with Lyme disease
- Healthcare practitioners
- Lyme disease researchers
- Policy and decision makers



**Participate in a 1-hour interview over the phone or zoom and share your experiences of and perspectives on, diagnosis, treatment and management of Lyme disease in Canada.**

Participants will receive a \$50 gift card. For more information or to participate, please contact Lisa Dias at [lisa.dias@unityhealth.to](mailto:lisa.dias@unityhealth.to) or 416-360-4000 ext. 49312

Study Title: Understanding Stakeholder Perspectives on Lyme Disease in Canada, REB: #22-049  
*Please note that email is not secure. Emails can be intercepted, viewed, changed or saved by others. Only send information to this address that you do not feel is sensitive.*



CANADIAN LYME DISEASE  
RESEARCH NETWORK



Canadian Institutes of  
Health Research  
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en santé du Canada



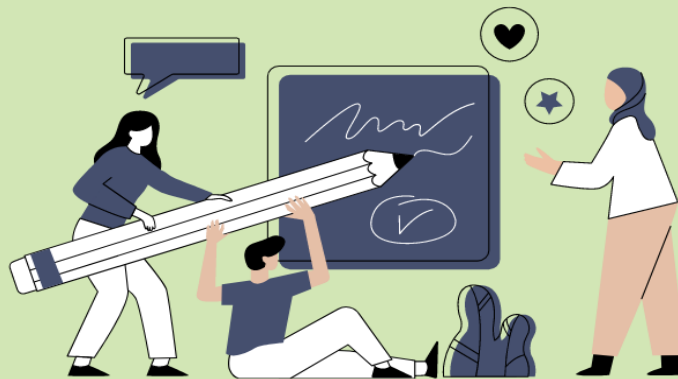
ST. MICHAEL'S  
UNITY HEALTH TORONTO

The Canadian Lyme Disease  
Research Network Virtual AGM  
2 November 2022

Trainees are invited to present  
their research related to ticks or  
Lyme Disease

*through*

*5-minute speed presentations*



- Communicate your research to Lyme disease stakeholders
- Open to students/trainees within & outside of the network
- Protocols can be presented for early stage projects
- A prize will be awarded for the best presentation
- Honorariums for all presenters

To indicate your interest in  
participating, or for more  
information, email  
[natasha.nofal@umontreal.ca](mailto:natasha.nofal@umontreal.ca)  
*by 6 October*

# SAVE the DATE...

## Virtual 2022 MEMBERS AGM

This year's event is scheduled for **Wednesday, November 2, 2022**.

**Meeting Details:** Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/7117307203> or **1-647-558-0588** (ID: 711-730-7203).

### Program Agenda:

Time Slot	Session
10:00 am-10:15 am EST	<b>Opening Remarks</b> Dr. Patrick Leighton & Tamara Rader
10:15 am-11:15 am EST	<b>Plenary Speaker</b> <i>Prevention of tick bites and tick-borne infections</i> - Dr. Lars Eisen
11:15 am-12:00 pm EST	<b>Student/Trainee Presentations</b>
12:00 pm-1:00 pm EST	<b>Lunch Break</b>
1:00 pm-2:00 pm EST	<b>Panel Discussion</b> <i>From research to better outcomes: mobilizing patient knowledge and experience</i>
2:00 pm-2:45 pm EST	<b>Student/Trainee Presentations</b>
2:45 pm-3:00 pm EST	<b>Afternoon Break</b>
3:00 pm-4:15 pm EST	<b>Executive Committee Update:</b> Dr. Patrick Leighton  <b>Pillar &amp; Committee Updates:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Pillar 1:</b> Twylla Bird-Gayson &amp; Terrie Wainwright</li> <li>• <b>Pillar 2:</b> Dr. Catherine Bouchard, Dr. Manisha Kulkarni &amp; Pamela Scott-Crace</li> <li>• <b>Pillar 3:</b> Dr. Rob Brison &amp; Dr. Elizabeth Stringer</li> <li>• <b>Pillar 4:</b> Dr. Cécile Aenishaenslin, Dr. Janet Parsons &amp; Tamara Rader</li> <li>• <b>Patient &amp; Community Advisory Committee:</b> Dr. Clara Juando-Prats &amp; Tamara Rader</li> <li>• <b>Community Advisory Committee:</b> Dr. Lisa Dias</li> <li>• <b>Trainee Advancement Committee:</b> Natasha Bowser &amp; Dr. Katie Clow</li> <li>• <b>Project Grants Committee:</b> Dr. Rob Colautti &amp; Dr. Clara Juando-Prats</li> </ul>
4:15 pm-4:30 pm EST	<b>Closing Remarks</b> Dr. Patrick Leighton & Tamara Rader



### CLYDRN NETWORK MANAGEMENT OFFICE

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