



**New Investigator Program Grant Review Committee September 2025**  
**SickKids Foundation/Institute for Human Development Child & Youth Health-CIHR**

**Chair:** Dr. Simone Vigod  
Professor, Department of Psychiatry, Temerty  
Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto  
Head, Department of Psychiatry, and Shirley A.  
Brown Memorial Chair in Women's Mental Health  
Research, Women's College Hospital  
Toronto, ON

**Vice Chair:** Dr. Amy Wong  
Scientist, Developmental & Stem Cell Biology  
Peter Gilgan Centre for Research and Learning  
The Hospital for Sick Children  
Assistant Professor, Department of Laboratory  
Medicine & Pathobiology, University of Toronto  
Toronto, ON

**Incoming Vice Chair:** Dr. Chiachen Cheng  
Child & Adolescent, Adult Psychiatry  
Program Director, Psychiatry  
Northern Ontario School of Medicine University  
Thunder Bay, ON

Dr. Valerie Abadie  
Research Associate Professor of Medicine  
The University of Chicago  
Chicago, United States

Dr. Laura Avila  
Clinician Scientist  
The Hospital for Sick Children  
Assistant Professor, Department of Paediatrics  
University of Toronto  
Toronto, ON

Dr. Boris Bernhardt  
Assistant Professor of Neurology and  
Neurosurgery  
McGill University  
Montreal, QC

Dr. Francois Bolduc  
Associate professor, Pediatric Neurology  
Adjunct Associate Professor, Medical Genetics  
University of Alberta

Edmonton, AB

Dr. Signe Bray  
Associate Professor, Departments of Radiology and  
Paediatrics  
University of Calgary  
Calgary, AB

Dr. Mathieu Dehaes  
Professor, Department of Radiology, Radio-  
oncology and Nuclear Medicine  
Institute of Biomedical Engineering  
University of Montreal  
Montreal, QC

Dr. Poorva Deshpande  
Staff Neonatologist  
Mount Sinai Hospital  
Assistant Professor, Paediatrics  
University of Toronto  
Toronto, ON

Dr. Laura Duncan  
Assistant Professor, Department of Psychiatry  
and Behavioural Neurosciences  
McMaster University  
Hamilton, ON

Dr. Patricia Fontela  
Assistant Professor (Clinical) of Pediatrics  
Faculty of Medicine  
McGill University  
Montreal, QC

Dr. Amanda Foehlich-Chow  
Assistant Professor and MPH Program Director  
School of Public Health  
University of Saskatchewan  
Saskatoon, SK

Dr. Isabelle Gagnon



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Clinician Scientist, Research Institute of the McGill  
University Healthy Centre  
Associate Professor, School of Physical and  
Occupational Therapy, McGill University  
Montreal, QC

Dr. Sonia Grandi  
Scientist, Child Health Evaluative Sciences  
The Hospital for Sick Children Research Institute  
Assistant Professor, Division of Epidemiology  
University of Toronto

Dr. Jocelyn Gravel  
Professor of Clinic, Department Pediatrics  
University of Montreal  
Director of Research  
CHU Sainte-Justine  
Montreal, QC

Dr. Ashley Harris  
Assistant Professor, Department of Radiology  
University of Calgary  
Calgary, AB

Dr. Chinthaka (Chris) Heyn  
Deputy Chief Research, Department of Medical Imaging  
Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre  
Head, Division of Neuroradiology, Sunnybrook Health  
Sciences Centre  
Assistant Professor, Department of Medical Imaging  
University of Toronto  
Toronto, ON

Dr. Linda Hiraki  
Physician, Division of Rheumatology  
The Hospital for Sick Children  
Associate Professor, Department of Paediatrics  
University of Toronto  
Toronto, ON

Dr. Claire Infante-Rivard  
Professor, Department of Epidemiology  
Biostatistics and Occupational Health

Faculty of Medicine  
McGill University  
Montréal, QC

Dr. Peter Kannu  
Associate Professor and Chair  
Department of Medical Genetics  
University of Alberta  
Edmonton, AB  
Dr. Thomas Kitzler  
Assistant Professor, Department of Human  
Genetics  
McGill University  
Montreal, QC

Dr. Hagar Labouta  
Scientist, Unity Health Toronto  
Assistant Professor, Faculty of Pharmacy and  
Institute of Biomedical Engineering  
University of Toronto  
Toronto, ON

Dr. Christina Lamb  
Assistant Professor, Faculty of Health Disciplines  
Athabasca University  
Alberta, AB

Dr. Catherine Lebel  
Professor, Department of Radiology  
University of Calgary  
Scientist, Developmental Neuroimaging Lab  
Alberta Children's Hospital  
Calgary, AB

Dr. Alex Lohman  
Associate Professor and Interim Head - Department  
of Cell Biology and Anatomy  
Director - Cumming School of Medicine  
Optogenetics Facility  
Hotchkiss Brain Institute  
Alberta Children's Hospital Research Institute



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University of Calgary  
Calgary, AB

Dr. Serge McGraw  
Associate Professor, Department of Obstetrics and  
Gynecology, Faculty of Medicine  
University of Montreal  
Researcher, Azrieli Research Centre  
CHU Sainte-Justine

Dr. Heather Melichar  
Associate Professor, Department of Medicine  
University of Montreal  
Researcher, Maisonneuve-Rosemont Hospital  
Research Center  
Montreal, QC

Dr. Aislin Mushquash  
Research Chair, Youth Mental Health  
Associate Professor, Department of Psychology  
Lakehead University  
Thunder Bay, ON

Dr. Brian Nieman  
Senior Scientist, Translational Medicine and Mouse  
Imaging Centre  
The Hospital for Sick Children Research Institute  
Toronto, ON

Dr. Carmen Riggioni  
Staff Physician, Immunology & Allergy  
The Hospital for Sick Children  
Professor, Department of Paediatrics  
University of Toronto  
Toronto, ON

Dr. Nadezhda Roumeliotis  
Clinical Professor, Department of Pediatrics  
University of Montreal  
Clinician Scientist, Critical Care, Trauma and  
Transfusions

CHU Sainte-Justine  
Montreal, QC

Dr. Orhan Selçuk Güven  
Assistant Professor, School of Speech-Language  
Pathology and Audiology  
University of Montreal  
Researcher, CHU Sainte-Justine Research Centre  
Montreal, QC

Dr. Jai Shah  
Researcher, Douglas Research Centre  
Assistant Professor, Department of Psychiatry  
McGill University  
Montreal, QC

Dr. Shazeen Suleman  
Affiliate Scientist MAP Centre for Urban Health  
Solutions  
Unity Health Toronto  
Toronto, ON

Dr. Emily Tam  
Clinician Investigator, Division of Neurology  
The Hospital for Sick Children  
Associate Professor, Temerty Faculty of Medicine  
University of Toronto  
Toronto, ON

Dr. Tamara Vanderwal  
Assistant Professor, Department of Psychiatry  
Division of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry  
University of British Columbia  
Vancouver, BC

Dr. Kevin Weingarten  
Staff Physician, Division of Haematology/Oncology  
The Hospital for Sick Children  
Assistant Professor, Department of Paediatrics  
University of Toronto  
Toronto, ON

Dr. Pia Wintermark



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Associate Professor, Department of Pediatrics,  
Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, McGill  
University  
Department of Pediatrics, Division of Neonatology,  
MUHC  
Montreal, QC

Dr. Samuel Workenhe  
Assistant Professor, Department of Pathobiology  
Faculty  
University of Guelph  
Guelph, ON

Dr. Yang Zhou  
Assistant Professor, Department of Neurology &  
Neurosurgery  
McGill University  
Research, Montreal Neurological Institute-Hospital  
Montreal, QC

**CIHR Partners at the meeting:**

André Fortin, PhD  
Manager / Program Design and Delivery  
Canadian Institutes of Health Research  
Government of Canada

Tracey Prentice  
Senior Lead – Strategic Initiatives  
CIHR – Institute of Human Development, Child and  
Youth Health (IHDCYH)  
Canadian Institutes of Health Research  
Government of Canada