

## Research Management Committee (RMC) Members

<b>Michael Rudnicki, Ph.D., OC – Chair</b>	CEO & Scientific Director of the Stem Cell Network, Senior Scientist & Director of the Regenerative Medicine Program and the Sprott Centre for Stem Cell Research at the OHRI
<b>Janet Rossant, CC, Ph.D., FRS, FRSC - Deputy Chair</b>	President & Scientific Director of the Gairdner Foundation, SickKids Chief of Research Emeritus
<b>Bernard Thébaud, MD, Ph.D.</b>	Senior Scientist, OHRI & CHEO Research Institute. Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Ottawa.
<b>Cheryle Seguin, Ph.D.</b>	Director of Research for the Ontario Institute of Regenerative Medicine (OIRM), Associate Professor in the Department of Physiology and Pharmacology at The University of Western Ontario
<b>David Glass, M.D.</b>	Executive Director, Muscle Diseases & Aging Initiative at Novartis Institutes. Senior Lecturer, Cell Biology at Harvard Medical School
<b>Denis Claude Roy, M.D., FRCPC</b>	Director, Cellular Therapy Laboratory, Scientific Director CRHMR and Professor at the University of Montreal
<b>Eva Szabo, Ph.D.</b>	Assistant Professor, Stem Cell and Cancer Research Institute, McMaster University.
<b>Jennifer Molson</b>	Research Assistant at the Ages Cancer Assessment Clinic, Patient Advocate on the RMC
<b>John A. Hassell, Ph.D.</b>	Professor, Biochemistry and Biomedical Sciences Department at McMaster University
<b>Judy Illes, Ph.D., FRSC, FCAHS</b>	Professor, Neurology and Canada Research Chair in Neuroethics at the University of British Columbia. Director, of the National Core for Neuroethics at UBC
<b>Keith Humphries, M.D., Ph.D., FRSC</b>	Director, Terry Fox Laboratory of the BC Cancer Agency, Professor in the Division of Hematology of the Department of Medicine at the University of British Columbia
<b>Michael Parr, Ph.D.</b>	President, Chief Scientific Officer at Sitka Biopharma

<b>Michael Underhill, Ph.D.</b>	Professor in the Department of Cellular and Physiological Sciences at the University of British Columbia
<b>Peter Zandstra, FRSC, Ph.D.</b>	Executive Director at Medicine by Design (MbD), Chief Science Officer at the Centre for the Commercialization of Regenerative Medicine (CCRM), Professor, Stem Cell Bioengineering at U of T
<b>Rosario Isasi, J.D., M.P.H.</b>	Research Assistant Professor at the Miller School of Medicine
<b>Ruth Slack, Ph.D.</b>	Professor at the University of Ottawa in the Faculty of Medicine, and University Research Chair
<b>Sharon Colle</b>	President & CEO, the Foundation Fighting Blindness
<b>Terry Thomas, Ph.D.</b>	Chief Scientific Officer at STEMCELL Technologies Inc.
<b>Timothy Caulfield, LL.B., LL.M., FRSC, FCAHS</b>	Canada Research Chair in Health Law and Policy, Professor; Faculty of Law and School of Public Health, Research Director, Health Law Institute
<b>Timothy Kieffer, Ph.D.</b>	Professor, Cellular & Physiological Sciences and Surgery, University of British Columbia
<b>William Stanford, Ph.D.</b>	Senior Scientist at the Sprott Centre for Stem Cell Research at the OHRI, Professor at the University of Ottawa, Investigator in the Ottawa Institute of Systems Biology, Director of the Ottawa Human Pluripotent Stem Cell Facility

## **Michael Rudnicki, Ph.D., OC, Chair**



Dr. Rudnicki has been at the helm of SCN since 2004-05. He is also a Senior Scientist and the Director of the Regenerative Medicine Program and the Sprott Centre for Stem Cell Research at the Ottawa Hospital Research Institute. Michael is a seasoned leader and mentor, accomplished scientist and respected both nationally and internationally. Under his leadership SCN has seen many accomplishments, first and foremost the facilitating of a strong community that spans this country and has continued to demonstrate what a multidisciplinary research can achieve.

## **Janet Rossant, CC, Ph.D., FRS, FRSC, Deputy Chair**



Janet Rossant, CC, PhD, FRS, FRSC, is President & Scientific Director of the Gairdner Foundation, SickKids Chief of Research Emeritus and a world-renowned expert in developmental biology. Widely known for her studies of the genes that control embryonic development in the mouse, Dr. Rossant has pioneered techniques for following cell fate and altering genes in embryos. Her current research focuses on stem cell development and cell differentiation in the developing embryo, important areas for the study of birth defects as well as regenerative medicine. Dr. Rossant trained at the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, UK and has been in Canada since 1977, at Brock University and then the

Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute in Toronto. She joined SickKids in 2005 and established it as a global forerunner in genetic research. Dr. Rossant has been recognized for her contributions to science with many awards, including the ISDB Ross G. Harrison Medal, Killam Prize for Health Sciences, March of Dimes Prize in Developmental Biology, SDB Conklin Medal, and CIHR Michael Smith Prize in Health Research. She is a Fellow of both the Royal Societies of London and Canada, and is a foreign Associate of the US National Academy of Science.

## **Bernard Thébaud, MD, Ph.D.**



Dr. Thébaud is a Senior Scientist at the Ottawa Hospital Research Institute and a Neonatologist at the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario. He is also a Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Ottawa and holds the University of Ottawa Partnership Research Chair in Regenerative Medicine. Dr. Thébaud moved to Ottawa in 2012 to accelerate the clinical translation of stem cell-based therapies for lung diseases from the lab into patients. His group was the first to show that stem cells derived from human perinatal tissue (placenta, umbilical cord/cord blood) prevent/restore experimental neonatal lung damage. He is now extending his observations to other complications of prematurity. Dr.

Thébaud obtained his MD at the University Louis Pasteur in Strasbourg, France. He trained in Pediatrics/Neonatology at the University Paris V in Paris, France, where he also obtained his MSc and PhD. He completed a 2-year postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Alberta where he subsequently established his research program. Dr. Thébaud participates on numerous peer review committees and scientific advisory boards at the international, national and provincial level, including NIH and CIHR. He has over 100 peer-reviewed publications, and given over 50 lectures at leading international meetings and institutions over the past 5 years.

## **Cheryle Seguin, Ph.D.**



Cheryle is an Associate Professor in the Department of Physiology and Pharmacology at The University of Western Ontario and a Scientist with the Lawson Health Research Institute and Children's Health Research Institute. Cheryle obtained her BSc (1999) and MSc (2001) from The University of Western Ontario and her PhD in the area of cell biology and tissue engineering from the University of Toronto (2005). Following this, she became a postdoctoral fellow with Janet Rossant at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto ON, working in the field of early mammalian development and stem cell biology. Her lab has been supported by operating grants from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, the Natural

Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada, the Canadian Foundation for Innovation, and the Chordoma Foundation. Cheryle is a previous recipient of a Canadian Arthritis Network Scholar Award and is currently supported by a CIHR New Investigator Award and an Early Researcher Award from MRI. Since 2011 she has served as Chair of the Stem Cell Network Training & Education Committee and currently serves as Director of Research for the Ontario Institute of Regenerative Medicine (OIRM).

## **David Glass, M.D.**



David Glass is the executive Director for the Muscle Diseases and Aging Initiative for Novartis Institutes for Biomedical Research. He is also a Senior Lecturer in Cell Biology at Harvard Medical School. His area of interest is muscle diseases, sarcopenia, muscle atrophy, and cachexia- loss of muscle from chronic disease. He is also interested in the basic biology of aging.



## Denis Claude Roy, M.D., FRCPC



Denis Claude Roy received his M.D. and trained in Hematology at the University of Montreal. Dr. Roy did a research fellowship at Harvard University, in the Division of Tumor Immunology, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston. Dr. Roy joined the Hôpital Maisonneuve-Rosemont, as Director of the Cell Therapy Laboratory and Program in 1990. Dr. Roy was a member of the Hematology Training Program at the University of Montreal, served on the Royal College Examination Board-Hematology for numerous years. He is currently a Full Professor of Medicine at the U of M. His research interests focus on the immunobiology of stem cell transplantation, immunotolerance and immunotherapeutic interventions. He has published more than 100 original articles and book chapters in prestigious journals such as Cell, Science, PLoS Medicine, Nature Medicine and Blood. Dr. Roy is a former member of Executive Committee of the National Cancer Institute of Canada-CTG-Hematology. Dr. Roy is currently Director of Research at CIUSSS-East-Montreal and its Center of Excellence in Cellular Therapy, Clinical Therapeutics Arm Leader of the Canadian Stem Cell Network, Co-Director of the ThéCell FRSQ Network, founding member of the CNTRP, and CEO of CellCAN Regenerative Medicine and Cell Therapy Network.



## **Eva Szabo, Ph.D.**



Dr. Eva Szabo joined the McMaster University Stem Cell and Cancer Research Institute as Assistant Professor in January 2013. She holds a Tier 2 Canada Research Chair in Metabolism in Human Stem Cells and Cancer Development, was a finalist for the 2014 Maud Menten New Investigators Prize for Clinical Research, which was awarded by the CIHR-Institute of Genetics, as well as recipient of an Early Researcher Award from the Ontario Ministry of Research and Innovation. Eva's current research program focuses on dissecting the functional, molecular and genetic interplay between adipocyte development (from adult and pluripotent sources) and metabolic disease pathogenesis. Her program hopes to

understanding human adipose tissue development and underlying mechanism of aberrant adipocyte regulation and fatty acid metabolism, providing novel therapeutic targets for management of obesity and downstream development of type 2 diabetes (T2D), cardiovascular disease (CVD) and peripheral neuropathy.

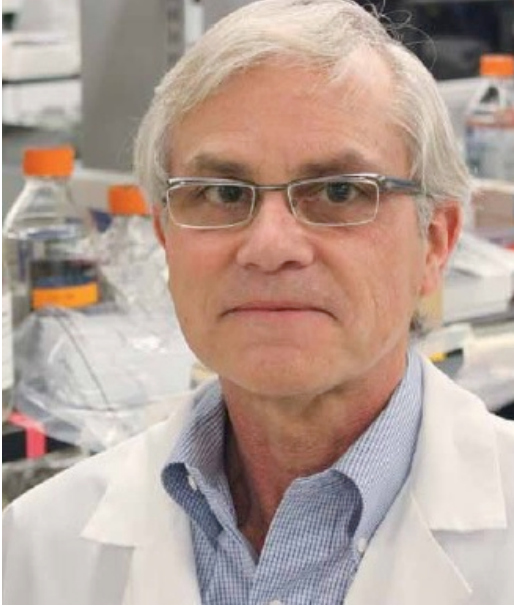
## Jennifer Molson



Ms. Jennifer Molson was diagnosed with Relapsing Remitting Multiple Sclerosis at the age of 21 in 1996. After multiple failed therapies, she took part in a clinical trial at the Ottawa Hospital involving stem cell at the age of 27. The trial was a stem cell bone marrow transplant to treat Secondary Progressive MS as an autoimmune disease. As of 2006, Ms. Molson has actively been involved with the Stem Cell Network on the Research Management Committee as a Patient Advocate, as well as, with the Canadian Stem Cell Foundation since their inception in 2009, as their first volunteer. Ms. Molson is currently employed at the Ottawa Hospital since 2008 as a Research Assistant at the Ages Cancer Assessment

Clinic. Ms. Molson has a passion for stem cell research and speaking to the public about her experiences being involved in a clinical trial.

## **John A. Hassell, Ph.D.**



John A. Hassell is a professor in the Biochemistry and Biomedical Sciences Department at McMaster University. His research is currently centered on the discovery and development of novel agents, and repurposing of existing drugs that target breast cancer stem cells. Notably he discovered that neurotransmitter antagonists, including drugs used to treat depression, anxiety and other mood disorders, target breast cancer stem cells. During his academic career Dr. Hassell has received scholarships and fellowships from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, National Cancer Institute and was a Terry Fox Research Scientist of the National Cancer

Institute. Dr. Hassell's research interest in stem cells and cancer stem cells was stimulated by his affiliation with the Stem Cell Network since it was first established.

## Judy Illes, Ph.D., FRSC, FCAHS

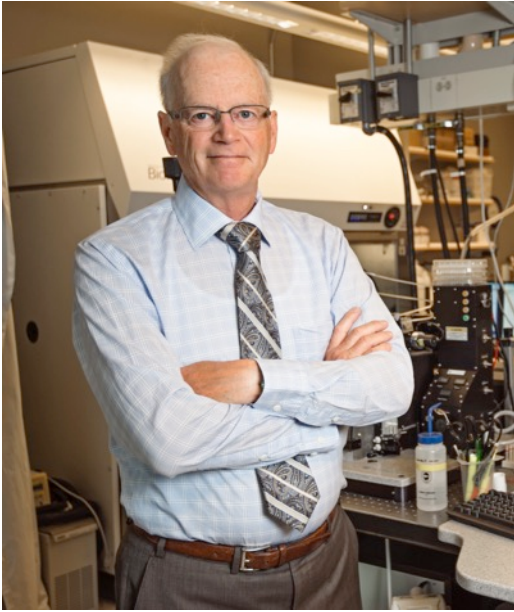


Dr. Illes is Professor of Neurology and Canada Research Chair in Neuroethics at the University of British Columbia. She is Director of the National Core for Neuroethics at UBC, and faculty in the Centre for Brain Health at UBC and at the Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute. She also holds affiliate appointments in the School of Population and Public Health and the School of Journalism at UBC, and in the Department of Computer Science and Engineering at the University of Washington in Seattle, WA. USA, and is a Life Member of Clare Hall, Cambridge University. Dr. Illes' research focuses on ethical, legal, social and policy challenges specifically at the intersection of the neurotechnology and biomedical ethics. This

includes studies in stem cells and regenerative medicine, neurogenetics, aging and neurodevelopmental disorders, and the commercialization of neuroscience. She also leads a robust program of research and outreach devoted to improving the literacy of neuroscience and engaging stakeholders on a global scale.

Dr. Illes is an internationally recognized author, lecturer, and mentor. She is President of the International Neuroethics Society that she founded with others in 2006, and a member of the Standing Committee on Ethics for CIHR, of the Dana Alliance for Brain Initiatives, and a Canadian representative to IBRO US-Canada Committee. Dr. Illes was elected to the Royal Society (Life Sciences) in 2012), to the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences in 2011, and to the American Academy for the Advancement of Science (Neuroscience) in 2013. Her latest book (Oxford University Press, forthcoming, 2016) is *Neuroethics: Anticipating the Future*.

## Keith Humphries, M.D., Ph.D., FRSC



Dr. Humphries, MD PhD is a distinguished scientist and Director of the Terry Fox Laboratory of the BC Cancer Agency and professor in the Division of Hematology of the Department of Medicine at the University of British Columbia. His long-standing research interests are focused on understanding the molecular mechanisms that regulate normal blood stem cell properties and how these are altered in leukemia. Studies in his lab involving a stellar succession of trainees from Canada and around the world have stimulated new approaches for expanding normal blood stem cells *ex vivo*, provided new insights into the mechanisms of leukemic transformation. His laboratory has also been on the forefront of

the use of retroviral and lentiviral -mediated gene transfer to human as well as mouse blood stem cells and have used this technology to develop powerful new models for studying how specific genes contribute to leukemia development. He is an active promoter of translational science and a collaborator on many team projects both nationally and internationally. His has a long track record of research accomplishments and contributions to scientific societies and journals has been recognized by numerous prestige awards, including the 2013 Terry Fox Gold Medal and induction as a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada.

## Michael Parr, Ph.D.



Michael Parr is Sitka Biopharma's President and Chief Scientific Officer. With more than 15 years of experience in the industry, Dr. Parr has played a key role in developing and guiding a number of programs into clinical trials. His experience spans a variety of technologies, ranging from biologics to drug and gene delivery systems, as well as diverse therapeutic areas such as neurodegeneration, inflammation, and oncology. Prior to founding Sitka, Dr. Parr spent 6 years as the Director for Commercial Project Development at CDRD Ventures Inc. (CVI), where he was responsible for developing and managing the CVI portfolio. From 2006-2008, he served as Program Manager at Angiotech Pharmaceuticals,

guiding two late-stage novel biomaterial-based drug products in oncology and pain indications toward IND submissions. Previously, Dr. Parr served in a variety of roles of increasing responsibility during his 7 years at Biogen-Idec, most recently as Associate Director of Oncology. During his tenure at Biogen-Idec, Dr. Parr played central roles in bringing his project through research and into clinical trials, as well as being an important member of several late stage development and translational medicine teams. Dr. Parr earned a Ph.D. in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from the University of British Columbia and completed post-doctoral training at Harvard University.



## **Michael Underhill, Ph.D.**



T. Michael Underhill is a Professor in the Department of Cellular and Physiological Sciences at the University of British Columbia (UBC). He completed his Ph.D. at Western University (1991) and carried out post-doctoral training at Duke University (1991-95) where he studied the function of the retinoid signaling in limb development. Following this, he became an Assistant Professor at Western University (1996) where his group described fundamental roles for retinoid signaling in regulating mesenchymal cell differentiation. In 2004, he joined UBC and his interests expanded to include investigating how mesenchymal progenitors support tissue regeneration and tumorigenesis. These research efforts are

currently supported by grants from the Canadian Institutes of Health, Terry Fox Research Institute, Canadian Foundation for Innovation and the Canadian Cancer Society Research Institute. From 2001-2011 he held salary awards from the Canadian Institutes of Health and the Arthritis Society. Dr. Underhill served as the Chair of the Target Validation group at the Centre for Drug Research and Development (CDRD) from 2008-15 and was the Scientific Director from 2013-15. CDRD is a not-for-profit independent organization promoting and facilitating commercialization of academia-based discoveries. He is also a co-founder with Drs. Cullis, Rossi and Young of Mesentech Inc., a company engaged in developing new therapeutics aimed at modifying mesenchymal progenitor behavior to improve tissue regeneration and/or reduce fibrosis.



## **Peter Zandstra, FRSC, Ph.D.**



Peter Zandstra is a Professor at the University of Toronto's Institute of Biomaterials and Biomedical Engineering, with a cross appointment in the Donnelly Centre for Cellular and Biomolecular Research. He serves as the Executive Director of Medicine by Design (MbD) and as Chief Scientific Officer at CCRM, a Toronto-based regenerative medicine translation centre. Dr. Zandstra is the Canada Research Chair in Stem Cell Bioengineering and the recipient of a number of awards and fellowships including the Premier's Research Excellence Award (2002), the E.W.R. Steacie Memorial Fellowship (2006), the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowship (2007), the McLean Award (2009), and the Till and McCulloch Award (2013). In 2016, Dr. Zandstra was appointed University Professor, the highest academic rank at the University of Toronto. His research integrates engineering and biological approaches and in the last several years, work in his lab has focused on using computer modelling and strict control of the microenvironment (niche engineering) to develop a deeper understanding of the regulatory networks that determine stem cell fate. In addition, Dr. Zandstra co-founded three biotech companies including ExCellThera, a clinical stage cell therapy company that focuses on novel treatments for blood diseases.

## **Rosario Isasi, J.D., M.P.H.**



Rosario Isasi, J.D., M.P.H., is a Research Assistant Professor at the Miller School of Medicine with appointments in the Dr. J. T. Macdonald Foundation Department of Human Genetics, the Bioethics Institute, the John P. Hussman Institute for Human Genomics and the Interdisciplinary Stem Cell Institute. Professor Isasi has built an international reputation as a scholar with particular expertise in the area of comparative law and ethics regarding genomics and regenerative medicine. She holds many leadership roles in major international initiatives. Mrs. Isasi is the Ethics Advisor of the European Commission's European Human Pluripotent Stem Cell

Registry (hPSC<sup>REG</sup>), a member of the American Society for Human Genetics (ASHG) Task Force on "Gene Editing" and the Chair of the International Stem Cell Forum Ethics Working Party. Professor Isasi is also a member of the Steering Committee and leads the Governance Working Group of the International Stem Cell Banking Initiative (ISCBI).

## Ruth Slack, Ph.D.



Dr. Slack is a full professor at the University of Ottawa in the Faculty of Medicine, and University Research Chair. The goals of Ruth Slack's research is to understand the mechanisms regulating stem cell quiescence and longevity, as well as stem cell activation to promote regeneration of the damaged brain after stroke or in neurodegenerative diseases. Here most recent studies have shown that defects in mitochondrial function or aberrant changes in mitochondrial shape or metabolism result in the depletion of adult neural stem cells, leading to defects in learning and memory. She is a Senior Editor for the *Journal of Neuroscience*, and has served on many review panels including CIHR, HSFO, and the Stem Cell Network. Her

research is currently funded through CIHR, HSFO, CFI, Brain Canada, Krembil Foundation, Parkinson's Research Consortium and Ontario Brain Institute.

## Sharon Colle



Sharon is the President & CEO of the Foundation Fighting Blindness, Canada's largest health charitable funder of sight-saving research. The Foundation has invested more than \$30mm to accelerate research, and leveraged an additional \$10mm in partnerships with major funding agencies such as CIHR's Institutes, the Stem Cell Network, Alberta Innovates Health Solutions, an international NGO and major Canadian universities and hospitals. As well as sitting on the Research Management Committee of the Stem Cell Network, Sharon chairs the Board of the Ontario Institute for Regenerative Medicine and sits on the Governing Council of the Health Charities Coalition of Canada. She

was the recipient of the 2014 Health Charity Coalition of Canada Award of Distinction as an outstanding contributor to the charitable health sector. Daily, she is inspired by Canada's researchers and clinicians, and the families and volunteers who endeavour to create a better world. Sharon lives the Foundation's vision, "to restore hope and sight" and lives life with her children and extended family.

## **Terry Thomas, Ph.D.**



Dr. Terry Thomas completed her PhD in cell biology at the University of British Columbia in 1983. She switched her research focus to stem cell biology in 1986 when she joined the Terry Fox Laboratories in Vancouver, British Columbia where she invented specific labeling reagents to enable purification of cells from mixed populations such as blood and bone marrow. One such technique was used in a Phase I clinical trial to deplete T cells from unrelated bone marrow grafts. In 1994, Dr. Thomas joined STEMCELL Technologies to head the Research and Development department. At that time STEMCELL Technologies was less than a year old and had a total of 8 employees. Under her leadership, the R&D department has

grown from 2 employees in 1994 to more than 200 employees today. When Dr. Thomas was promoted to Senior Vice President, R&D in 2011 she added corporate initiatives and corporate strategy to her existing responsibilities of product development, intellectual property and licensing. Recently she has been promoted to Chief Scientific Officer and has added strategic marketing to her responsibilities.

## **Timothy Caulfield, LL.B., LL.M., FRSC, FCAHS**

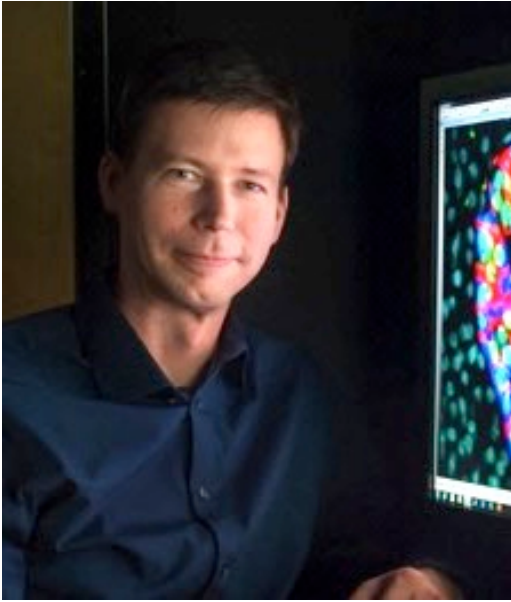


Timothy Caulfield is a Canada Research Chair in Health Law and Policy, a Professor in the Faculty of Law and the School of Public Health at the University of Alberta and Research Director of the Health Law Institute at the University of Alberta. Over the past several years he has been involved in a variety of interdisciplinary research endeavours that have allowed him to publish over 300 academic articles. He is a Fellow of the Trudeau Foundation and the Principal Investigator for a number of large interdisciplinary projects that explore the ethical, legal and health policy issues associated with a range of topics, including stem cell research, genetics, patient safety,

the prevention of chronic disease, obesity policy, the commercialization of research, complementary and alternative medicine and access to health care. Professor Caulfield is and has been involved with a number of national and international policy and research ethics committees. He has won numerous academic awards and is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences.



## Timothy Kieffer, Ph.D.



Dr. Timothy Kieffer obtained his Ph.D. in the Department of Physiology at The University of British Columbia and then conducted postdoctoral training at Harvard Medical School and Massachusetts General Hospital. During his first faculty position at the University of Alberta, Department of Medicine, he established his independent research focused on developing novel strategies to treat diabetes using gene- or cell-based approaches for insulin replacement. In 2002 Dr. Kieffer joined the Departments of Cellular & Physiological Sciences and Surgery at UBC where he established the Laboratory of Molecular and Cellular Medicine. There he formed a productive collaboration with scientists at

BetaLogics (J&J) working on producing replacement beta cells from human pluripotent stem cells. This work has resulted in several joint publications, including one in *Nature Biotechnology* for which Dr. Kieffer received the 2015 Till & McCulloch Award. He has also been the recipient of the Canadian Diabetes Association Young Investigator Award and a Career Development Award from JDRF as well as several prestigious scholarships. His goal is to contribute to the clinical testing of differentiated human stem cells in patients with diabetes and ultimately the development of a diabetes cure.



## **William Stanford, Ph.D.**



Dr. William (Bill) L. Stanford, PhD, is trained as a chemist (Duke) and as an Immunologist (UNC at Chapel Hill), moving to Canada for a postdoc with Alan Bernstein in stem cell biology and genetics. In 2002, Bill established his lab at the University of Toronto (Biomedical Engineering), where he applied interdisciplinary approaches including molecular genetics and systems biology to stem cell research and tissue engineering. Following a sabbatical in systems genetics at the Institute for Systems Biology with Lee Hood and David Galas, Bill moved his lab in 2011 to the Ottawa Hospital Research Institute (OHRI) to facilitate translational research growing out of his basic research program. Bill is a Senior Scientist at the

Sprott Centre for Stem Cell Research at the OHRI, a Full Professor at the University of Ottawa, Investigator in the Ottawa Institute of Systems Biology, Director of the Ottawa Human Pluripotent Stem Cell Facility, and a Tier 1 Canada Research Chair in Integrative Stem Cell Biology. Bill uses a combination of unbiased systems and reductionist methodologies to dissect the molecular control of cell fate decisions in the context of human development, aging, and disease, with a focus on human somatic and pluripotent stem cells.