



## MEDIA RELEASE

### CANADIAN FOUNDATION ON FETAL ALCOHOL RESEARCH GRANTS AWARDED

**Toronto, September 9, 2009** – The second annual round of grants awarded for research, prevention and treatment of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) was today announced by Dr. Gideon Koren, Director of Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children's Motherisk Program on behalf of the Canadian Foundation on Fetal Alcohol Research (CFFAR).

The announcement was made at the 10th Annual Fetal Alcohol Canadian Expertise (FACE) Research Roundtable on the occasion of International FASD day.

Created in September 2007 through a 5-year \$1 Million commitment by the Brewers Association of Canada (BAC), the CFFAR is an independent, non-profit foundation created to promote interest and fund research related to the short and long-term bio-medical, psychological and social effects of alcohol consumption during pregnancy, and the prevention of fetal alcohol spectrum disorders.

The recipients of this round of grants were selected after a peer-review of applications. The 2009 grant recipients are:

- Dr. Bhushan Kapur, Ph.D, University of Toronto, for the research project titled "Placental transfer of formic acid in the presence and absence of folic acid".
- Dr. Krisztina Malisza, Ph.D, University of Winnipeg. Her research project is titled "Neuroimaging Cognitive in Children with ARND & ADHD".
- Dr. Ronald Roesch, Ph.D, Simon Fraser University. His work is titled "An examination of the abilities, risks and needs of adolescents & young adults with FASD in the criminal justice system".

"The Canadian Foundation on Fetal Alcohol Research is happy to once again support the work of talented investigators such as Drs. Kapur, Malisza and Roesch. Their focus and dedication to furthering the knowledge of the bio-medical, psychological and social aspects of alcohol consumption during pregnancy is of critical value to the development of tools to treat and prevent Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder," said Dr. Koren, CFFAR's Director of Research.

Ian Faris, President and CEO of the Brewers Association of Canada added: “Canadian brewers are proud that year after year, we are able to fund research into the effects of alcohol on pregnant women and on pre-natal development. When we initially made this \$1Million commitment to funding research, we were hopeful that our contribution would make a difference. Looking at the quality of the projects selected again this year, we know that the research undertaken with these funds will contribute to a better quality of life for the individuals living with FASD and their families.”

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For more information contact Andre Fortin at 613-232-9092 or visit the CFFAR website [www.fasdfoundation.ca](http://www.fasdfoundation.ca).