

2011 CSCC Award for Research Excellence
Sponsored by Ortho-Clinical Diagnostics

Peter A. Kavsak



After obtaining a Bachelor of Science in the Department of Biochemistry at McGill University in Montreal, Peter Kavsak then moved to University of Toronto where he successively completed his Ph.D. studies in the Department of Molecular and Medical Genetics, then a one year training as Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute before completing in 2004 his training program in Clinical Chemistry. Between 2004 and 2006 he worked as Research Leader at the Research Institute at Lakeridge Health in Oshawa and as Assistant professor in the Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathobiology at University of Toronto. In 2006, Peter joined McMaster University in Hamilton in the Department of Pathology and Molecular Medicine and is presently a Clinical Biochemist at the Juravinski Hospital and Cancer Centre. Dr. Kavsak is Fellow of both the Canadian (CACB) and American (NACB) Academies of Clinical Biochemistry.

In the early years of his career, Dr. Kavsak has already demonstrated a strong interest and great skills in research that resulted in over 1.25M\$ of research funding as a PI with much more as a co-investigator/collaborator in both academic and industry-supported research. His major research interests are in Diagnostic Research particularly concerning cancer and cardiac biomarkers and in the role of cytokine and growth factor signalling in human disease are already well known by many Canadian and American colleagues. In as little as 8 years, these research efforts have already resulted in over 100 publications of full articles and abstracts in peer reviewed journals, and of over 70 presentations at National and international Meetings!

Dr Kavsak will soon begin his second term as Head, Professional Affairs of CSCC while being also active in the AACC, OSCC, and the Canadian Cardiovascular Society (CCS). He is and has been a member on several Research Ethics Boards, external grant review as well as a scientific reviewer for several journals; as well as an Associate Editor for Clinical Biochemistry. Dr. Kavsak has already received awards from the AACC, CSCC and NACB and recently was awarded an Early Researcher Award from the Ministry of Research & Innovation, Government of Ontario.

Even if we are assured that this is only the beginning of a long and successful research career, CSCC is very proud to give this year it's own Research Excellence Award to this competent, dedicated colleague and I am sure, a friend to many of us.