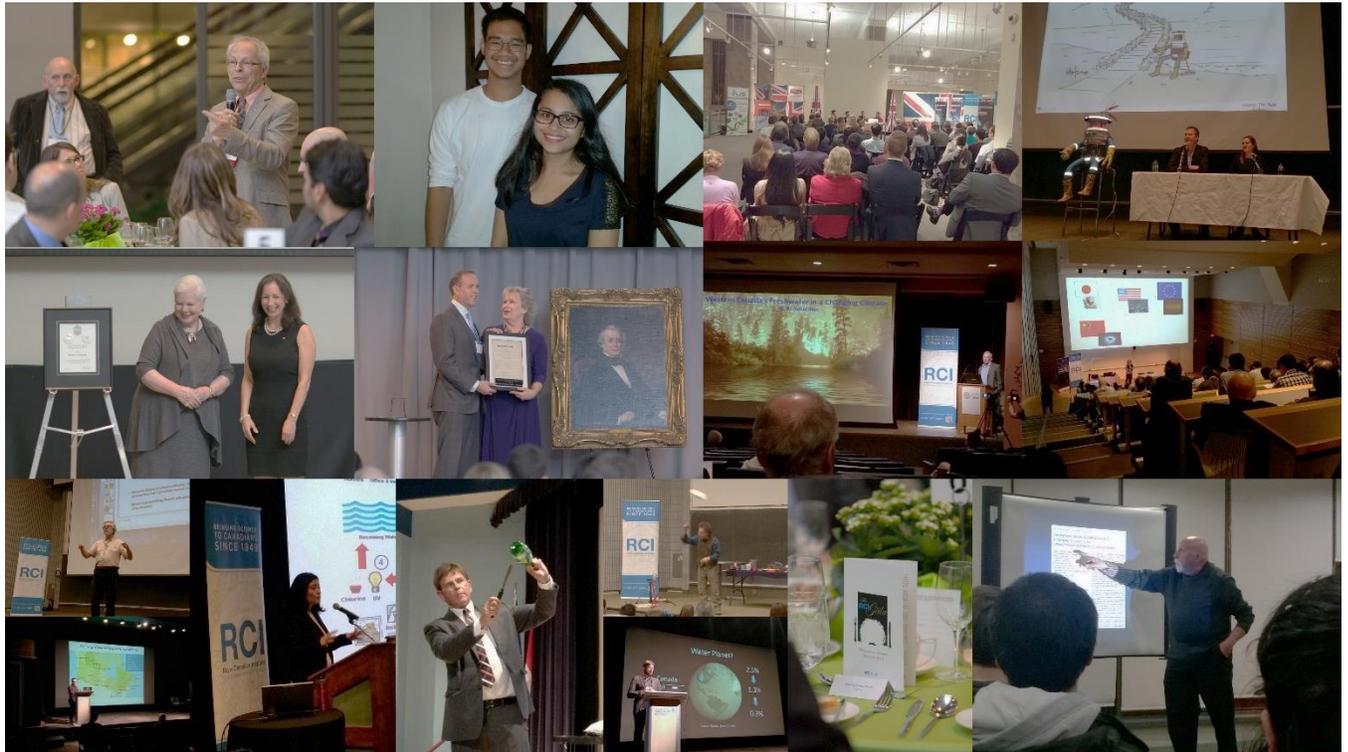

2015-16



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
ROYAL CANADIAN INSTITUTE
FOR SCIENCE
GROWTH & GOVERNANCE

The Royal Canadian Institute is among the oldest societies in Canada. Founded in 1849 by Sir Sandford Fleming and a number of like minded individuals.

The Institute is known for being the first place Fleming presented publically his idea for Standard Time, subsequently adopted around the world. The Institute played a role in the development of the Royal Ontario Museum, Algonquin Park and a national science and technology funding agency.

In 2016, we are called the Royal Canadian Institute for Science (RCIS). Our vision remains similar after 167 years:

An informed public that embraces science to build a stronger Canada.

Now more than ever, science is at the heart of the key issues in our lives. From medicine to climate change, the more people know about science, the better their decisions will be. We provide a conduit to credible, unbiased scientific research, accessible to everyone.

RCIS is a platform for public engagement with leading scientists to foster and expand science dialogue in our community.

Our platform, in formal talks, informal discussions, online and in print, provides access to leading science for all Canadians.

ROYAL CHARTER

OF INCORPORATION OF "THE CANADIAN INSTITUTE."

Province of Canada.

ELGIN AND KINCARDINE.



ICTORIA by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Queen, Defender of the Faith, &c. &c.

To all whom these presents shall come, greeting :

WHEREAS William E. Logan, John O. Browne, Frederick F. Passmore, Kivas Tully, William Thomas, Thomas Ridout, Sandford Fleming, and others of our loving subjects in our Province of Canada, have formed themselves into a Society for the encouragement and general advancement of the Physical Sciences, the Arts and the Manufactures in this part of our Dominions, and more particularly for promoting the acquisition of those branches of Knowledge which are connected with the Professions of Surveying, Engineering and Architecture, being the Arts of opening up the Wilderness and preparing the Country for the pursuits of the Agriculturist, of adjusting with accuracy the boundaries of Properties, of improving

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Over the past two years as President of the Royal Canadian Institute for Science, I have been at many events with leaders of the key science organizations in Canada. There is always a look of amazement in people's eyes when I introduce the RCIScience as one of the oldest science organizations in Canada. Although often the amazement is connected with our age – we are over 167 years old -- the surprise also comes from the fact that people have not heard of the RCIScience. Therefore, over the past 2 years, the Council chose to focus on two key areas – **Growth and Governance**.

To grow to be a national science organization, to be recognized for providing a free live and on-line platform of scientists speaking about their research across Canada -- not just for one week a year when we celebrate science literacy, but every week, offering many different types of venues and opportunities across Canada to hear directly from scientists. To achieve these two objectives, we developed and implemented strategic, targeted approaches towards growing our social media presence; growing the number of Canadians who are provided with an opportunity to hear about science; growing the number of partnerships because we believe we can deliver better together with other like-minded organizations; growing the number of different types of public science talks and events; and growing the number of communities where talks are offered.

We strengthened our governance because over the past many years, sponsors, members of organizations and the public have become increasingly more interested in how not for profit organizations are run – how are decisions made and who is accountable. How well an organization is run is important to both the members and to sponsors, when they make the decision to financially support a not for profit, or to become a member or to contribute their volunteer hours to helping an organization achieve its vision.

RCIScience undertook a number of actions to bring itself up to a higher level of governance by formalizing all our policies, finalizing our Council governance guidelines into a comprehensive manual, focusing on enhancing the effectiveness of how Council conducts its meetings and its business, strengthening our review activities in the area of policy adherence and strategic plan delivery and strengthening our financial management and oversight.

I am proud to say RCIScience is a well governed organization with a strong and focused path for growth for the future – to provide the Canadian public with free access to leading science. This annual report will provide the details to support our accomplishments and will list upcoming challenges.



Helle Tosine, BSc. MSc.

113th President, Royal Canadian Institute for Science

RCISCIENCE COUNCIL

The Royal Canadian Institute has always been run by volunteers. From a small group of entrepreneurs, engineers and surveyors grew a formally-governed organization with a Royal Charter from Queen Victoria.

In 2016, the RCIScience Council has 14-members, including a 5-person Executive Committee which guides the overall direction of the Institute through setting Council agendas and ensuring that all bylaws and standard practices are met. The First Vice President chairs the Program Committee and the Treasurer chairs the Finance Committee. The Executive Director of RCIScience reports to the President. To ensure continuity, past presidents maintain a strong connection and voting position on Council as members of the Advisory Committee. As part of the good governance objective, Council recently undertook a review of the skills and competencies needed to achieve its long term vision. It concluded that it was mandatory for Council members to strongly support the vision of RCIScience and that there be strong representation by people with a science background. In addition, recruitment of new Councillors over the next few years will be focussed on fundraising, marketing and community engagement. We also feel it's important that new Council members reflect the younger generation and the diversity of Canadian culture.

Our Council

HONORARY PATRON

His Excellency The Right Honourable David Johnston C.C.,
C.M.M., C.O.M., C.D., Governor-General of Canada

HONORARY VICE PATRON

The Honourable Elizabeth Dowdeswell, OC OOnt,
Lieutenant Governor of Ontario

OFFICERS OF THE INSTITUTE

President: Helle Tosine, B.Sc., M.Sc.
First Vice-President: Peter Love, B.A., MBA
Second Vice-President: TBA
Secretary: Ken Yoon, B.Sc., LL.B., M.B.A., C.A.
Treasurer: John W. Johnston, Ph.D.

COUNCILLORS OF THE INSTITUTE

Spencer C.H. Barrett, B.Sc., Ph.D., F.R.S.C., F.R.S.
Charles A. Boulakia, B.Sc., M.Sc., LL.B., MBA
Jock Fleming, B.A. ICD.D
Debora E. Barnett Foster, B.Sc., M.Sc., Ph.D.
Jennifer Murphy, B.Sc., Ph.D.
Linda M. Vranic, B.A., P M.Ed., Ph.D.
Julielynn Yee-Ching Wong, B.S., M.D., M.P.H.
Deborah B. Zamble, B.Sc., Ph.D.
Russell W. Zeid

ADVISORY BOARD

Ronald Pearlman, B.Sc., Ph.D.
Bruce Gitelman, B.Sc., M.B.A.
Michael Smith, B.A., M.A.

Committees of Council

Program: Responsible for the content of all public lectures, whether regular meetings or special events.

Nominations: Determines the make-up of Council and ensures bylaw requirements are met.

Membership: Recruits new and maintains existing membership and develops membership policies.

Awards: Oversees the Fleming Medal, W.E. Logan Award, the RCIScience Scholarship and Roy Pearson Bursary.

Finance: Oversees RCIScience finances. Monitors investments, budgets and ensures compliance with CRA regulations.

Fundraising: Works to ensure the fiscal needs of RCIScience can be met to deliver on its strategic plan.

RCIScience is a Charitable Organization as outlined in the Income Tax Act of 1985.

Our charitable number is: **131635286RR0001**.

PROGRAM

The RCIScience lectures are a tradition stretching back more than 100 years. Aimed at anyone who is interested in science, we are the only organization in Canada with a focus on all scientific disciplines and aimed at the general public.

All lectures are free to attend and open to anyone. The audience is varied, from secondary and post-secondary students, to life-long learners interested in keeping their knowledge current, to people newly-arrived in Canada looking to practice grow their social and professional networks. Lectures have traditionally been held Sunday afternoons at the University of Toronto and Thursday evenings at Mississauga Public Library.

Webcasts of our lectures form an archive of modern research in Canada. These are posted on the RCISCIENCE.CA website and are routinely accessed from around the Globe. We are continuing to see our on-line presence grow.



Wade Knapp demonstrates CSI techniques



David Schindler speaks on urban water issues in Calgary

2015-16 was an exciting year for RCIScience. In support of our “Growth” objective and in partnership with other Canadian science organizations we undertook several new activities. Our first cross country lecture series began in Ottawa in April and ended in Calgary in November. The focus of these talks was whether our drinking water is at risk, and featured 3 panel discussions with researchers whose work connects to water, as well as water policy experts. Each lecture was recorded and is available on the RCIScience YouTube Channel. Through a partnership with York University Environmental

Studies, MES student, Jenessa Doherty summarized these talks and the report will be available on our website in mid-2016. We were grateful for financial support from the RBC BlueWater Foundation for this lecture series.



Hitchbot visits a Sunday lecture

We also experimented this year with a science film screening, *Particle Fever*, followed by Q&A, in partnership with the York University Physics Department. We were delighted to start a new partnership with the Toronto Public Libraries with a series of talks in different branches during Science Literacy week in September. A similar partnership also ran with the Markham Public Libraries. We held a Café Scientifique on new pathways to drug discovery in partnership with Life Sciences Ontario and the UK Science & Technology Innovation network. These special programs, and the new audiences they reached, represented approximately one quarter of our overall attendance. During all of these events, we were critically examining what works and what doesn't. For 2016-17 we have a focused plan to ensure we maintain and continue to grow our audiences, both live and on-line.

Special Events

Sandford Fleming Medal Award and Lecture: In November 2015, we launched our first free public lecture featuring the 2015 Fleming Medal winner, Dr. Molly Shoichet. This award, named for RCIScience Founder, Sir Sandford



Her Honour Elizabeth Dowdeswell, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario presents Dr. Molly Shoichet with the Fleming Medal, accompanied by Ms. Helle Tosine, RCIScience President

Fleming, recognizes outstanding contributions to the public understanding of science by a Canadian. Also, for the first time, we were honoured to have the Fleming Medal and Citation presented to the winner by Her Honour, Elizabeth Dowdeswell, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario and Honorary Vice Patron of RCIScience.

Foundation Lecture: Free and open to the public, featuring 2015 NSERC John Polanyi Prize Winner, Chris Eliasmith, speaking about *Building a Brain*. The lecture is supported by NSERC and hosted by Ryerson University.

Friesen Prize 10th Anniversary Program: RCIScience co-chaired this event with the Friends of Canadian Institutes of Health Research and the Banting Research Foundation. Featured a public lecture with the Friesen Prize winner, Nobel Prize winner, Sir Paul Nurse, and two roundtable sessions, one focussed on the importance of discovery research in health care and a roundtable debate on “Does Canada have too many PhDs?” Partnering on these round tables was the first RCIScience event advocating for the importance of science in Canada, in support of our vision.

What’s New

By experimenting with new formats and types of programming, RCIScience has laid a strong foundation for expanding our offerings to new audiences in new venues both in the GTA and farther afield. We will continue to build on these successes in 2016-17.



Cafe Scientifique featuring new visiting scientists from the UK and Canadian Counterparts



Prof John Polanyi thanks Dr. Chris Eliasmith at the 2015 Foundation Lecture

Our geographic expansion begins at home with a series of planned lunchtime lectures in downtown Toronto. ‘Science at Lunch’ will feature topical speakers who will talk about the science of current issues. It continues with a proposal to start regular programming in Ottawa. The Sandford Fleming Award and Lecture will take place in the Fall. Once again, RCIScience will partner with Friends of CIHR and other science organizations to debate science policy in roundtables in Ottawa in Fall 2016.

RCIScience Reach:

- 600+ members
- 4000 people in person (and growing)
- 4000 online (doubled in the last year from 2000)
- Social Media 950+ and growing

ENABLING GROWTH

Fundraising

Since its early days, RCIScience has operated independently, with revenue from membership fees, individual donations and bequests. In 2016, we have forged relationships with most Southern Ontario universities, NSERC and many other like-minded organizations. We plan to work with similar partners in other parts of Canada as we expand.

Each RCIScience lecture costs roughly \$2500 to organize and present. The speakers donate their time, but venues and webcasting have associated costs which are increasing each year.

To encourage participation and access, we keep our membership fees low and we do not charge admission to lectures. We strongly believe that, to deliver on our vision, this is the best way to reach the largest number of people from all segments of society. To continue and grow our lecture program, RCIScience is pursuing alternative fundraising.

Sponsorship

In 2015-16, we set out clear guidelines that will allow us to enter sponsorship agreements for our lecture series. \$2,500 will cover one lecture and \$50,000 will endow a series.

Grants

We will also seek grants to help us expand our offerings to new audiences, both within the GTA and across Canada. The Fundraising Committee created a framework for approaching granting foundations so that they can support special projects that advance our mission as well as help finance our core programs.



Donations & Planned Giving

I do not regret the time I have spent (although I deeply regret many other things) and the zeal shown in bringing into existence and into active operation the “Canadian Institute” because I believe it is calculated to do great good to my adopted country, and to begin the New Year well, have now resolved to provide for it an endowment of £1,000 when all that is mortal of me returns to its mother dust, the interest of which to be annually expended in furthering the objects of the society. To effect this object I have already taken steps to assure my life for that sum.

Sir Sandford Fleming’s Diary, January 1, 1853

Donate to RCIScience. Consider a legacy gift to help us continue the “great good” that Sir Sandford Fleming started.

For more information, please visit our website:
rciscience.ca/membership-donations

The 2015 Science Dinner



Inaugural William Edmond Logan Award presentation at 2015 Science Dinner

The 2015 Science Dinner garnered an unprecedented \$100,000+ in partnerships. This support for RCIScience shows the enthusiasm for what we are doing, not only by our academic partners, but also by those from the private sector.

In 2015, we created the William Edmond Logan Award. Named for our 3rd President, eminent Canadian geologist and surveyor and namesake of Canada's highest peak, this award recognizes



2015 Science Dinner

outstanding contributions to the public understanding of science on the part of an organization. The first award was given to Celestica for its long support of STEM educational initiatives.

Celebrating our Past

RCIScience maintains an extensive archive of our past activities, including publications that encapsulate the early scientific history of Canada. 2015 marked the centenary of our founder, Sir Sandford Fleming's death. RCIScience marked this at a ceremony at Peterborough campus of Fleming College with an unveiling of his portrait, on permanent loan from the RCIScience archive to the College.

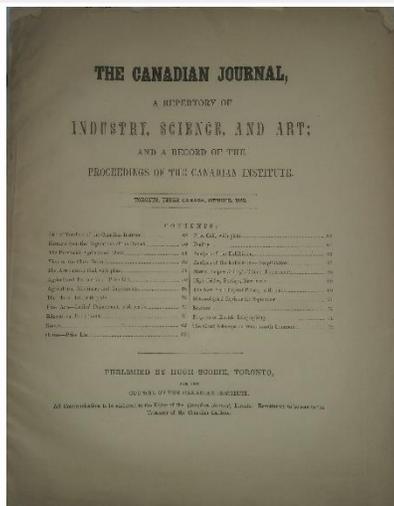
Sir Sandford Fleming remembered on 100th anniversary of his death with unveiling of 1893 portrait of standard time creator unveiled in Fleming college boardroom



By Jessica Nyznik, The Peterborough Examiner
Thursday, July 23, 2015 12:23:10 EDT AM



RCIScience Councillor, Jock Fleming next to a portrait of his great, great grandfather, Sir Sandford Fleming.



Canadian Institute Journal 1852, from RCIScience Archive

FUNDING GROWTH

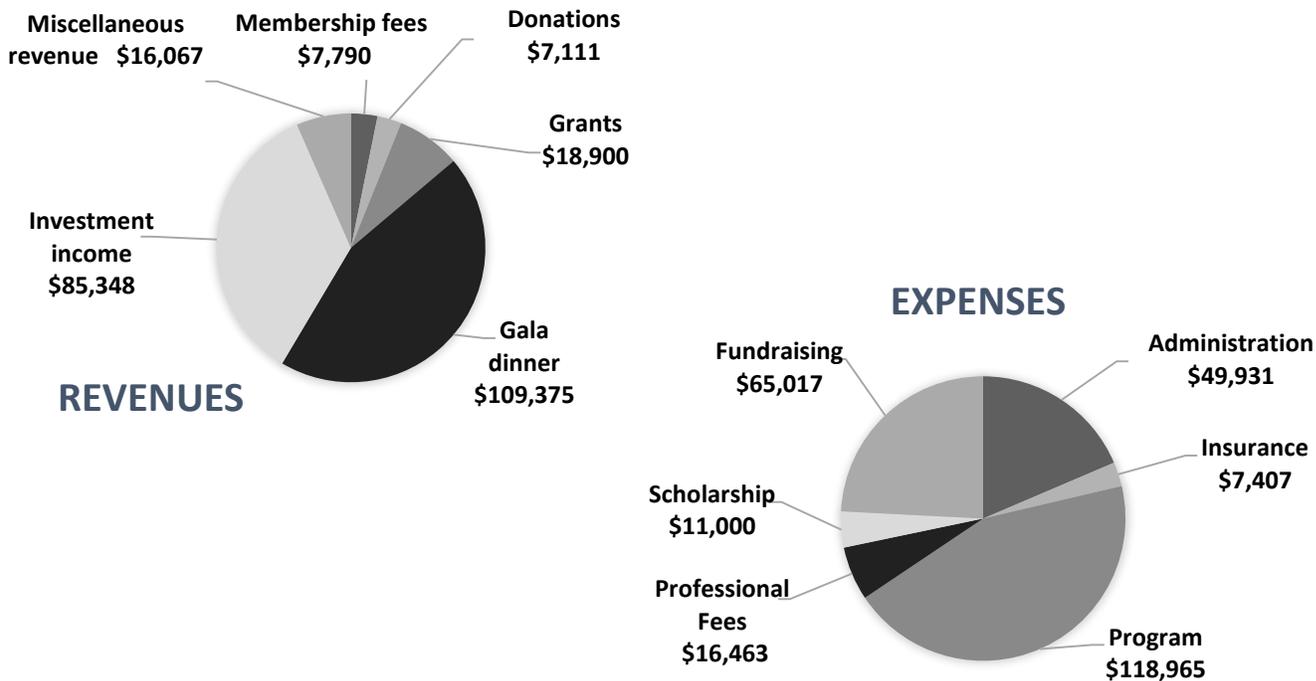
Solid finances are key to growth

RCIScience enjoys an endowment from past sale of property. The endowment, budget-planning and reporting is overseen by a Finance Committee of RCIScience Council. To ensure stronger oversight of our finances, Council agreed to secure the services of CGOV, an independent, Toronto-based investment company established in 1995 to manage the endowment. CGOV works to an investment policy statement created by Council and approved by the RCIScience Membership. Investing more than \$3 billion on behalf of private clients, foundations and institutions, CGOV also maintains a foundation that gives back to the community.

Other revenue sources include memberships, individual donations and sponsorship of our annual Science Dinner.

During the last 2 years, we have increased our activity as outlined in our “Growth” objective to expand science dialogue in communities across Canada. In order to grow our audience through new and exciting venues and talks, we added a full-time Executive Director to supplement the work of our long serving Executive Secretary. Growth comes at a cost. The Finance Committee has risen to the challenge of enabling growth in an environment of low interest rates. This is difficult, but we are confident that, with our active Fundraising Committee, RCIScience will be able to achieve its goals and our mission, while preserving the financial stability of RCIScience.

RCIScience’s Finances are audited by Tinkham & Associates LLP Chartered Accountants, who have many years’ experience working with not-for-profit organizations.



Audited Financial Statements: prepared by Tinkham & Associates LLP

ROYAL CANADIAN INSTITUTE
Balance Sheet

As at	February 29 2016	February 28 2015
Assets		
Current		
Cash	\$ 6,804	\$ 128,122
Accounts receivable	11,949	16,348
Prepaid expenses	9,392	9,772
	28,145	154,242
Investments (note 3)	1,452,802	1,522,734
Portraits	3,200	3,200
	\$ 1,484,147	\$ 1,680,176
Liabilities		
Current		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 23,381	\$ 20,720
Deferred revenue (note 4)	25,000	39,400
	48,381	60,120
Net Assets		
Unrestricted	1,435,766	1,620,056
	\$ 1,484,147	\$ 1,680,176

ROYAL CANADIAN INSTITUTE

Statement of Revenue and Expenses and Changes in Net Assets

Year ended	February 29 2016	February 28 2015
Revenue		
Membership fees	\$ 7,790	\$ 7,205
Donations	7,111	14,180
RBC Foundation grant (note 4)	18,900	-
Gala dinner	109,375	98,901
Investment income	85,348	84,085
OPG rent subvention	1,130	13,560
Miscellaneous revenue	16,067	17,364
	245,721	235,295
Expenses		
Amortization of furniture and equipment	-	17
Annual general meeting and council	6,357	6,624
Gala dinner	48,331	56,042
Insurance expense - general	3,127	2,946
Insurance expense - liability	4,280	4,280
Investment management fees	10,238	-
Lecture series	40,445	25,465
Office supplies and expenses	9,191	18,660
Professional	6,225	6,150
Science Scholarship	11,000	11,000
Space rental	4,396	12,359
Staffing costs	111,238	122,737
Strategic planning	-	8,080
Telephone	1,012	1,181
Webcasting	11,831	5,734
	267,671	281,275
(Deficiency) of revenue over expenses before other item	(21,950)	(45,980)
Other item		
Unrealized gain (loss) on investments	(162,340)	2,588
(Deficiency) of revenue over expenses for the year	(184,290)	(43,392)
Unrestricted net assets, beginning of year	1,620,056	1,663,448
Unrestricted net assets, end of year	\$ 1,435,766	\$ 1,620,056

Our Sponsors



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Our Program Partners

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MaRS Discovery District
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National Sciences & Engineering Research Council

Ontario Genomics
Pueblo Science
Royal Astronomical Society of Canada (Toronto & Mississauga Centres)
Ryerson University
Science Literacy Week
Telus World of Science BC
Toronto Public Libraries
University of Toronto
UK Science and Innovation Network
York University