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New Directors Assist in Efforts to be a World Leading Arthritis Research Organization

Arthritis Research Canada (ARC) announces two new Board of Directors whose expertise guides our pursuit of "A World Without Arthritis"

(Vancouver, BC) – Arthritis Research Canada (ARC) is pleased to announce Jocelyn Cruickshank and Amanda Girling to the Board of Directors. Composed of members with a wealth of experience, Arthritis Research Canada’s Board of Directors are passionate to advise, assist and aid our mission to transform the lives of people living with arthritis through research and engagement.

Jocelyn Cruickshank is a Partner and a Managing Director of KPMG Corporate Finance Inc. in Greater Vancouver and a former board member of the Massey Theatre Society. Introduced to Arthritis Research Canada by a colleague, Mrs. Cruickshank was intrigued by the commitment and energy displayed by Arthritis Research Canada’s scientists, staff and board members. “I am fortunate to be part of a firm that values community involvement. On a personal note, I am very proud to serve and support such an important cause as Arthritis Research, a disease that impacts 1 in 6 Canadians” says Mrs. Cruickshank.

Amanda Girling is currently the CEO of Janspec Group of Companies and held previous positions as Director of Human Resources at Open Learning Agency and Senior Consultant at Ernst & Young. Ms. Girling’s experience and leadership will aid to increase public awareness of Arthritis Research Canada, while maintaining a commitment to quality and the pursuit of the highest standards. Ms. Girling noted “after seeing the amazing work Dr. John Esdaile and his team are doing, I was honored to join the board and assist in any way to bring attention to their work.”

“We are very grateful to have highly experienced and dedicated members on our board” says Shauneen Kellner, Executive Director of Arthritis Research Canada. “The two new members are a valuable addition, each bringing a unique set of skills, professional experience and a commitment to excellence in support of our efforts to be a world leading arthritis research organization.”

ABOUT ARTHRITIS RESEARCH CANADA:

Arthritis Research Canada (ARC) was created in 2000 in recognition of the tremendous potential that research can bring to arthritis treatment in Canada, and indeed, the world. Building a strong multi-disciplinary research team of outstanding medical doctors and research scientists, ARC has facilities in British Columbia, Alberta and Quebec, dedicated to understanding, advancing and sharing knowledge about the causes of arthritis, and addressing issues that are impacting people with arthritis right now.

Arthritis Facts:

- There are over 100 types of arthritis in all (rheumatoid arthritis, lupus, osteoarthritis, gout, juvenile rheumatoid arthritis, etc).
- Arthritis affects 350 million individuals worldwide, including 4.6 million Canadians, 600,000 of whom are British Columbians.
- 1 in 6 Canadian adults currently live with arthritis. This number is expected to grow to 1 in 5 by 2036, in which an estimated 7.5 million Canadian adults will have arthritis.
- Arthritis is the most costly chronic disease in Canada, costing the economy approximately \$33 billion each year in health care expenditures and lost productivity.¹
- 56% of people are affected with arthritis before they are 65 years of age.
- Arthritis is the most common chronic condition in women and the third most in men.
- Children too are affected by arthritis.
- Arthritis represents one in every 10 doctor visits and one in every 16 hospitalizations.
- Arthritis is the most expensive condition for the Canadian economy, yet receives only 3% of the available research dollars in Canada.

¹ Arthritis Community Research and Evaluation Unit (ACREU): Arthritis in Canada (Prepared for The Arthritis Society, 2013) 3 [<http://www.arthritis.ca/document.doc?id=925>]