
Dr. Kevin Keough appointed as President and CEO of AHFMR

Dr. Kevin Keough, Department of Biochemistry, Memorial University of Newfoundland, former President (1987-1990) and long standing member of our Society, has been appointed to serve as the third President and CEO of the Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research, succeeding Dr. Matt Spence this July. Dr. Spence, who is also a member of our Society, has held this post since 1990, and made a significant imprint on Alberta's health research activities through his dedicated leadership and keen foresight.

As AHFMR President, Dr. Keough will guide the Foundation's planning, operations, and strategic directions in its third decade as a major provincial supporter of health research activity in Alberta. The President and CEO advises and reports to AHFMR's nine-member Board of Trustees and liaises with the provincial, national, and international research community to ensure the development and maintenance of top-ranked health research in the province, and its application for the benefit of all.

The Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research is an internationally acclaimed health research funding organization. It was founded in 1980 with a \$300 million endowment from the provincial government. AHFMR has funded over 6000 health researchers and trainees over the past two decades, with more than \$750 million. Currently, more than 200 senior researchers and 600 trainees are supported by AHFMR in Alberta's three largest universities, in hospitals, and in health regions throughout the province. Heritage research is improving the lives of Albertans and people around the world.

Dr. Kevin M. W. Keough received his doctoral degree from the University of Toronto in 1971. He is currently a professor of biochemistry in the Biochemistry and Pediatrics Departments at Memorial University of Newfoundland, and first Chief Scientist with Health Canada in Ottawa. He most recently served as Memorial University's first Vice-President of Research and International

Relations. Dr. Keough has maintained a research laboratory for 30 years, with a focus on the structure and function of lipids. In particular, he investigates the chemistry of surfactant in lungs, and the biochemistry of liposomes, membranous structures that can act as carriers for drugs and vaccines. He founded a company, NovaLipids Incorporated, based on his liposome innovations.

Dr. Keough is the Deputy Chair of the Council of Science and Technology Advisors, an expert external advisory panel that provides guidance on federal science and technology issues to the Cabinet of the Government of Canada. He is also the Canadian Co-Chair of the Canada-European Union Science and Technology Agreement. As a former executive member of the Medical Research Council, he was instrumental in the creation of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, and is now a member of its Governing Council. A founding member of the Board of Directors of Genome Canada, he was also a member of the boards of directors of the Genesis Group Inc., the Canadian Centre for Fisheries Innovation, the Canadian Centre for Marine Communications, the Centre for Cold Ocean Resources Engineering, Operation ONLINE Incorporated, and the Newfoundland and Labrador Science Centre. Dr. Keough also served as President of the Canadian Federation of Biological Societies, and the Canadian Association of University Research Administrators.

