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## IUBMB Toronto Congress Update

I am sure you are all aware that the Society will be hosting the next International Congress of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. The meeting will take place from July 20-24, 2003 at the Metro Toronto Convention Center. This is an outstanding venue for an international congress. Planning for the meeting is moving ahead rapidly. Dr. Peter Lewis is chairing the local planning committee and they are hard at work on all aspects of the logistics of staging a large international meeting.

This is a very exciting time for Biochemistry/Molecular Biology research. To capitalize on this excitement the meeting will consist of a number of keynote plenary lectures as well as a diverse array of symposia covering the entire field of biochemistry, molecular biology and proteomics. Dr. Mike Walsh is chairing the program committee and he has assembled an outstanding group of Canadian researchers to work with him in planning the program. This committee is advised by an impressive group of international scientists. There will be enough depth in the program to ensure that all participants have an exciting scientific and social experience. This meeting will showcase the best of Canadian science to our international colleagues as well as present the latest international research. A number of satellite meetings are planned to provide additional incentives to attend. We all want this meeting to be an outstanding success. Now is the time to encourage your colleagues from around the

world to make plans to come to Toronto in July 2003.

The meeting will have a large commercial exhibit, pre and post Congress tours and an exciting social program. In addition, the CSBMCB will be partnering with the IUBMB and the Pan American Association of Biochemical Societies to host a pre-congress young scientists program. Dr. Fred Palmer is organizing this program and we will be announcing the details in the summer of 2002.

An important component of the success of the meeting will depend on our ability to attract donations from the private sector, government and individual citizens. We are very fortunate that Dr. Gerard Tertzakian has agreed to chair this important committee. Dr. Tertzakian has experience in the biochemical and biotechnology industry and is a well-known venture capital investor. Dr. Tertzakian cannot do all the fund raising on his own. We will need leads, contacts and help. If you are able to help with the fund raising please get in touch with me so that we can discuss it.

Keep an eye on our website for the latest information [www.nrc.ca/confserv/iubmb2003/](http://www.nrc.ca/confserv/iubmb2003/)

If you have any questions about the congress or suggestions about how to make this the best international congress please contact me directly at [joel.weiner@ualberta.ca](mailto:joel.weiner@ualberta.ca)

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