



Canada Scientific Advisory Committee (CSAC)



Alan Bernstein, PhD – Co-chairperson

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Alan Bernstein is President of the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research (CIFAR), Canada's global research institute. From 2008-2011, Bernstein was the executive director of the Global HIV Vaccine Enterprise, an international alliance of researchers and funders charged with accelerating the search for an HIV vaccine.

Previously, he served as the founding president of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (2000-2007), Canada's federal agency for the support of health research. In that capacity, he led the transformation of health research in Canada. After receiving his PhD from the University of Toronto, and following postdoctoral work in London, Bernstein joined the Ontario Cancer Institute (1974-1985). In 1985, he joined the new Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute in Toronto, was named Associate Director in 1988 and then Director of Research (1994-2000).

Internationally known for his contributions to our understanding of the molecular basis of cancer, Bernstein has made extensive contributions to the study of stem cells, hematopoiesis and cancer. He chairs or is a member of advisory and review boards in Canada, the US, UK and Italy. Bernstein has received numerous awards and honorary degrees for his contributions to science, including the 2008 Gairdner Wightman Award, induction into the Canadian Medical Hall of Fame, and the Henry G. Friesen International Prize in Health Research. He is a Senior Research Fellow of Massey College, received the Order of Ontario in 2018 and was appointed an Officer of the Order of Canada in 2002.