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Media Contacts:

Kaija Hutteri 519-749-8491 ext 130

khutteri@huntingtonsociety.ca

World-Renowned International Huntington Neurologists and Researchers to be featured at the Huntington Society of Canada's National Conference

(KITCHENER, ON) [September 29, 2014] —On October 24 & 25, 2014, the Huntington Society of Canada (HSC) will host their Conference in Winnipeg, Manitoba at the Holiday Inn Airport West. This biannual conference brings together world-renowned international researchers, social workers, healthcare professionals and families to share the latest news in Huntington disease research and best care practices.

This year's conference features cutting edge research topics, coping strategies and management techniques for Huntington disease. HSC is also proud to feature a number of notable professionals recognized internationally for their progressive contributions to Huntington disease research and care.

Speakers include:

Dr. Ed Wild, PhD, Lecturer in Neurology UCL Institute of Neurology

Dr. Ed Wild is a Clinical Lecturer in Neurology at UCL Institute of Neurology, Queen Square, London, and an Honorary Specialist Registrar in Neurology at the National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery. Dr. Wild studied medicine at Cambridge University and has worked in neurology since 2005. His PhD research on Huntington disease was undertaken at UCL Institute of Neurology with Prof. Sarah Tabrizi. His post-doctoral research focuses on cerebrospinal fluid and clinical trials in HD. He has authored six book chapters and over 40 peer-reviewed scientific publications. Since 2009, he has been collaborating with Dr. Jeff Carroll to make HD research news accessible to the global HD community through HDBuzz.net. Dr. Wild was a proud recipient of HSC's 2012 Michael Wright Community Leadership Award.

Dr. Jeff Carroll, PhD, Assistant Professor at Western Washington University

Dr. Jeff Carroll is a scientist studying HD as an assistant professor at Western Washington University. He trained as a post-doctoral fellow in the lab of Marcy MacDonald at Massachusetts General Hospital/Harvard Medical School after completing his PhD under the supervision of Dr. Michael Hayden at UBC in Vancouver. His research is focused on understanding the links between metabolism and CAG-expansion in the huntingtin gene. As well as conducting research, Dr. Carroll is a member of an HD family and carries the mutation that causes the disease. He also co-founded and serves as co-editor-in-chief of HDBuzz.net with Dr. Ed Wild. Dr. Carroll was a proud recipient of HSC's 2012 Michael Wright Community Leadership Award.

Dr. Greg Evans, PhD, Director of The Happiness Enhancement Group

Dr. Greg Evans earned a PhD researching the area of Positive Psychology from the University of Queensland, and is a founding board member of the Canadian Positive Psychology Association (CPPA). Positive psychology is a relatively new field in psychology that focuses primarily on identifying and building what is right with people and societies, rather than simply diagnosing and treating deficiencies and problems. Greg is the Director of The Happiness Enhancement Group (HEG), a company that promotes and increases happiness and human flourishing in individuals, couples, families, organizations, schools, and communities through the applied use of positive psychology. He is the organizer of the Ottawa Positive Psychology Series and a part of the core planning committee of the Canadian Conference on Positive Psychology. Greg is involved in the implementation and study of the strength-based resilience program with the University of Toronto School. He is the creator of The Applied Positive Psychology Program—a professional evidence-based certification course on the science, philosophy, and experience of flourishing. Greg has been a speaker at events such as TedX, SXSW, Ignite, the CPA convention, and the CPPA conference.

Charles Sabine, Journalist

Emmy award-winning TV journalist Charles Sabine worked for the American network NBC News for 26 years. That career took him, via twelve wars, six revolutions, and four earthquakes, to most of the news events of Europe, the Middle East, Africa and Asia since the early 1980s. There, he learned first-hand the extraordinary limits that the human spirit is capable of reaching in the face of tragedy inflicted by both nature and mankind. In 2008, he decided to put the lessons of those experiences to a different use when he became a pioneering spokesman for freedom of scientific research and sufferers of degenerative brain illnesses - in particular, Huntington disease, which has ravaged his family.

Dr. Michael Hayden, PhD, President of Global R&D, Chief Scientific Officer at Teva

Dr. Michael Hayden is the President of Global R&D and Chief Scientific Officer at Teva. He also remains a Killam Professor of Medical Genetics at the University of British Columbia and Canada Research Chair in Human Genetics and Molecular Medicine. He is a Senior Scientist at the Centre for Molecular Medicine and Therapeutics (CMMT) in Vancouver, British Columbia. He is also the Program Director of the Translational Laboratory in Genetic Medicine in Singapore.

The Huntington Society of Canada’s youth organization, Young People Affected by Huntington Disease (YPAHD) will also be hosting the second YPAHD Day. This day organized for youth, by youth will take place on October 23, the day before the conference. YPAHD Day will offer support and information on topics that affect Canadian youth from HD families each day. Topic highlights include: genetic testing, relationships and HD, clinical trials and happiness enhancement.

The Huntington Society is grateful to the sponsors of the 2014 Huntington Society of Canada’s national conference which include **The Winnipeg Foundation, CHDI Foundation, Inc., Reider Insurance, and the Saskatchewan Mutual Insurance Company.**

Huntington disease (HD) is a debilitating brain disorder that is fatal and incurable. About one in every 7,000 Canadians has HD and approximately one in every 5,500 is at-risk of developing the disease. Many more are touched by HD whether as a caregiver, a family member, or a friend. HD causes cells in specific parts of the brain to die. As the disease progresses, a person with Huntington's become less able to manage movements, recall events, make decisions and control emotions. The disease leads to incapacitation and, eventually, death.

The **Huntington Society of Canada (HSC)** is a respected leader in the worldwide effort to end Huntington disease. HSC is the only Canadian health charity dedicated to providing help and hope for families dealing with Huntington disease across Canada.

To interview any of the above speakers for an article or story please contact:

Kaija Hutteri
Communications Coordinator
Huntington Society of Canada
1-800-998-7398
or
1-519-749-8491 Ext. 130

khutteri@huntingtonsociety.ca
www.huntingtonsociety.ca

