

Asthma Society of Canada Announces 1st Recipient of the Bastable-Potts Asthma Research Prize

April 30, 2014

TORONTO– The Asthma Society of Canada (ASC) today announced Dr. Michael Brauer, Professor at the School of Population and Public Health, University of British Columbia, as the first recipient of the Bastable-Potts Asthma Research Prize.

The Asthma Society of Canada established the Bastable-Potts Asthma Research Fund in 2014 following the receipt of a bequest from the estate of Gail Suzanne Potts, who died in 2012. Mrs. Potts mother suffered from adult onset asthma, and her desire was to foster research and the climate for research into the variety of factors that are known to be or could be responsible for adult onset asthma.

Dr. Brauer's ground-breaking research into traffic-related air pollution and its relationship to asthma in both adults and children is being recognized by the ASC as a significant contribution to Canadians suffering from allergies and asthma.

The cause of asthma is not fully known but both genetics and the environment appear to be factors. The causes of asthma exacerbations are better known, but still not fully understood. The award recognizes innovative research done by a Canadian researcher that adds to the body of knowledge regarding asthma and its relationship to environmental exposures. This year's award is in the amount of \$10,000.

The award will be presented by Dr. Robert Oliphant, President and CEO of the Asthma Society of Canada, Dr. Susan Waserman, Chair of the ASC Medical and Scientific Committee, Neil Maisel, Honorary Director of the ASC and Dr. Diana Royce, of AllerGen, NCE, at the ASC's **For Life and Breath** Conference in Toronto, which is focusing on Allergy, Asthma and the Environment.

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