



Council of Canadian Academies
Conseil des académies canadiennes

News Release

Dr. Tom Brzustowski named Chair of the Council of Canadian Academies' Scientific Advisory Committee

For immediate release-

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OTTAWA (June 24, 2010) – Elizabeth Parr-Johnston, Chair of the Board of Governors for the Council of Canadian Academies is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Tom Brzustowski, O.C. as Chair of the Council's Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC). Dr. Brzustowski will serve a three-year term effective June 2010. He has served as Interim Chair of SAC since April 2010 and is replacing Elizabeth Dowdeswell who is the Council's newly appointed President.

SAC provides advice to the Council's Board of Governors on the substance and procedures of expert assessments, particularly on the following aspects: the generation of potential subjects for future assessments; the suitability of subjects proposed to the Council for expert assessment; the terms of reference for the independent expert panels that carry out the assessments; potential membership of expert panels; peer review process of draft assessment reports; and communication of final assessment reports, with the objective of enhancing their impact.

"Dr. Brzustowski is an original member of the Scientific Advisory Committee and is truly committed to the Council and its mission," said Elizabeth Parr-Johnston. "I have no doubt that he will be an excellent Chair of SAC and his leadership will be of value as the Council continues to pursue its mission of providing science advice in the public interest."

"I am pleased to accept the role of Chair of the Council's Scientific Advisory Committee," said Dr. Brzustowski. "The Council provides a very important service to Canada through its independent, authoritative and evidence-based assessments. I look forward to serving the Council through my new role."

Members of SAC are eminent representatives of the broad science community appointed by the Council's Board of Governors. They are drawn from the academic, business, and non-governmental sectors. Membership reflects balance in terms of discipline, geography, gender, and official language community.

Elizabeth Dowdeswell, President of the Council of Canadian Academies, previously served with Dr. Brzustowski on SAC. She noted, "It was a pleasure serving with Dr. Brzustowski on the Scientific Advisory Committee and the Council is pleased to welcome him officially as Chair of SAC. Without the incredible support of expert volunteers such as Dr. Brzustowski we would be unable to meet our mandate."

Biographies for the members of the Scientific Advisory Committee can be found on the Council's website.

About the Council of Canadian Academies

The Council of Canadian Academies is an independent, not-for-profit corporation that began operation in 2005. The Council supports evidence-based, expert assessments (studies) to inform public policy development in Canada. Assessments are conducted by independent, multidisciplinary panels of experts from across Canada and abroad. The Council's blue-ribbon panels serve free of charge and many are Fellows of the Council's Member Academies: the RSC: The Academies of Arts, Humanities and Sciences of Canada; the Canadian Academy of Engineering; and the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences.

The Council's reports are published and made available to the public free of charge in English and French. For information please visit the Council's website at www.scienceadvice.ca.

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