



CIRTN membership Charter

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1- Membership and Renewal

Eligibility and recruitment

Membership is open to trainees and scientists at all career stages across Canada with an interest in developing a better understanding of the pancreatic islets of Langerhans in health in disease. Membership categories are described below.

We welcome investigators working in all areas of islet biology: from molecules to cells and tissues, organisms, and populations; from models to humans; and from theoretical to applied research. Members will have an interest in islets and pancreatic hormones and be willing to contribute to a collaborative and supportive community.

Application for membership

To become a member of the network, the applicant must submit an application online using this [electronic form](#). Applications will be reviewed and approved by the CIRTN Leadership group.

Membership in CIRTN is free; the term is for four years, contingent upon contributions as outlined below, and is renewable.

2. Membership Categories

To ensure the best possible representation of islet biologists and achievement of our mission, the network encourages the membership in the following categories:

Regular Members

A regular member is a faculty member at a Canadian academic institution who is actively engaged in research in islet biology and meets the eligibility criteria to hold Tri-Agencies grants. Regular members have access to all the programs put forward by the network and are actively involved in its scientific activities. Regular membership status confers the right to vote in the Member Assembly that will meet annually.

Trainees

Trainee members are currently working under the supervision of a Regular member at a Canadian university or are temporarily undergoing training outside of Canada. Trainee members have access to all the programs put forward by the network and are actively involved in the scientific activities of the network. Trainee membership status confers the right to vote in the Member Assembly.

Associate Members

The Associate member is interested in the activities of the network but does not meet all the criteria for regular membership. It can be:

- (i) A research professional working under the supervision of a Regular member;
- (ii) A scientist working in a private company;
- (iii) A clinician or other health professional involved in islet research on a part-time basis;
- (iv) An independent researcher whose research program is not directly related to islet biology;
- (v) Any person (e.g., a manager), representing an organization who collaborates in the development or implementation of the network's activities;
- (vi) A knowledge user interested in network activities (e.g. patient partner).

Associate members cannot receive funds directly from the network and do not vote at the Member Assembly.

Alumni

Alumni members are retired faculty or staff members, graduated trainees, or any previous member (including all the above categories) who wish to remain in contact with the network activities. Alumni members can participate in scientific activities but cannot receive funding from CIRTN, nor can they vote at the Member Assembly.

3. Member Privileges and Responsibilities

Privileges

Regular and trainee members of CIRTN have the right to vote in the Members Assembly; have privileged access to network activities and resources; and are eligible to apply to the network funding opportunities.

Associate members and alumni are welcome to participate in scientific activities but cannot receive funding from CIRTN, nor can they vote at the Member Assembly.

Responsibilities

CIRTN lives through the active contributions of its members.

Regular members

Regular members of CIRTN are expected to actively contribute to its scientific and educational activities including, but not limited to:

- Contributing to the various working groups of the CIRTN network, as appropriate;
- Reporting on their contributions to CIRTN on an annual basis through a yearly survey (this information will be used to monitor service requirements to maintain membership);
- Actively participating in Scientific Interest Groups;
- Actively participating in training activities, including the CIRTN graduate course;
- Voting at the Member Assembly;
- Contributing to, and creating, an inclusive, diverse, and equitable working and collaborative environment in keeping with CIRTN's dedication to following best EDI practices;
- Encouraging members of their teams (research staff and trainees) to contribute to the network activities (e.g., journal clubs and data sessions);
- Promoting the network and encouraging new members to join;
- Seeking funding from public and private sources, in coordination with the Leadership group;
- Reviewing and evaluating applications submitted to the various CIRTN peer-reviewed programs upon request;
- Keeping their profile on the CIRTN website updated and current.

Maintaining CIRTN membership

Faculty. To maintain active membership, which is required to access CIRTN resources and funding opportunities, faculty are expected to contribute a minimum of 8 hours service annually, which will be self-reported by annual survey of activities (e.g. committee membership, network mentoring activities such as internal proposal reviews, lectures in courses, seminars, reviewing applications from trainees or other members).

Trainees. To maintain active membership, which is required to be eligible for awards/fellowships, trainees must contribute a minimum of 10 hours annually to attending network activities.

The Leadership group will review regular member contributions on a yearly basis based on self-reporting. As circumstances may preclude members from actively contributing during a given year, regular members who do not actively contribute to any of the above in a given year will be notified that they must resume contributions the following year. Members who do not provide the minimum contribution for 2 consecutive years will automatically become Associate members. Members should contact the Leadership group if extenuating circumstances arise that prevent active contributions. Regular membership could be restored with the demonstration of adequate contribution and approval by the Leadership group.

Associate members and alumni

Associate members and alumni are expected to:

- Actively participate in Scientific Interest Groups;
- Actively participate in training activities;
- Promote the network and encourage new members to join;
- Review and evaluate applications submitted to the various CIRTN peer-reviewed programs upon request;
- Keep their profile on the CIRTN website updated and current.