

Breaking New Ground: Landmark Funding for Spinal Cord Research

(February 19, 2007) - On February 3, 2007, Stephen Harper announced that the federal government will contribute \$30M to support the national Spinal Cord Injury Translational Research Network (SCI-TRN), made up of more than 40 different clinical sites across the country, including UHN. The network--established in partnership with the Rick Hansen Foundation--is a collaboration of leading Canadian researchers, clinicians and community experts in SCI.



Dr. Fehlings and Rick Hansen at the 2005 Wheels in Motion event in Toronto

One of the five platforms--lead by McEwen Investigator Dr. Michael Fehlings--places emphasis on the identification, development and evaluation of best practices in SCI. Dr. Fehlings' research will specifically focus on clinical trial to define the role and timing of decompression in acute SCIs.

This platform will ultimately advance health outcomes for people with SCIs, develop novel and improved treatments and result in a better understanding of the economic impacts of SCI.

For more information on the announcement and to read the press release, visit the [Rick Hansen Foundation](#).