The Winnipeg Chapter SfN (WCSN)
The Winnipeg Chapter SfN was established in 1989 by Dr. Larry Jordan who was, at that time, Director of the Spinal Cord Research Centre at the University of Manitoba. The WCSN's Council is made up of a President (2007-present Dr. Paul Fernyhough), Treasurer, Administrative support and 6 Councillors representing the various research areas. It's membership is made up of researchers, graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, clinicians and support staff from a variety of Departments at the Universities of Manitoba and Winnipeg.

Our Purpose
- educate the public on the results and implications of current Neuroscience research through the Brain Awareness Week campaign.
- introduce grade school students to cardiovascular and neuroscience curriculum-based activities via outreach programs “It's All About Me” and WISE Kid-netic Energy
- advance the understanding of the nervous system by bringing together basic and clinical researchers of various Neuroscience backgrounds at the annual Grass Travelling Scientist Lecture
- encourage networking between clinical and basic science researchers and students by poster presentations on their recent neurological findings.

BAW 2007
Dr. William A. Catterall was chosen by the WCSN membership as the 2007 BAW lecturer. He is a Chair and Professor in the Department of Pharmacology at the University of Washington, Seattle.

Dr. Catterall and his colleagues discovered the voltage-gated sodium and calcium channel proteins, which are responsible for generation of electrical signals in the brain, heart, skeletal muscles, and other excitable cells. Their subsequent work has contributed much to understanding the structure, function, regulation, and molecular pharmacology of these key cell-signaling molecules.

Dr. Catterall has received numerous awards for his research and has published over 300 research papers and 30 reviews on voltage-gated ion channels.

Two Lectures were given by Dr. Catterall on Wednesday, May 16, 2007
* NOON RESEARCH LECTURE
  at the University of Manitoba, Medical College
  "Calcium channels and synaptic plasticity" 
  A reception and Neuroscience research poster presentations followed the lecture
* EVENING PUBLIC LECTURE
  at the St. Boniface Research Centre
  "Electrical signaling in the brain: Ion channels, epilepsy and more"
  A reception and local non-profit health organization displays followed the lecture

During Brain Awareness Week the WCSN links the Winnipeg community with the local non-profit health organizations by inviting them to set up resource booths on disease symptoms, prevention, support groups available and the research going on within Manitoba. The non-profit organizations who have participated in BAW are: Alzheimer's Society Manitoba, Centre on Aging, University of Manitoba, Epilepsy Association, Inc. (Manitoba), Heart and Stroke Foundation of MB, Huntington Society of Canada, Manitoba Brain Injury Association, Manitoba Schizophrenia Society, Inc., Mental Health Education Resource Centre, Mood Disorders Assoc. of Manitoba, MS Society of Manitoba, Parkinson Society Manitoba, WISE Kid-netic Energy, University of Manitoba.

It’s All About Me
Neuroscience Lessons: involving students in grade levels: 5 thru 8 (co-coordinated and directed by Dr. Paul Fernyhough (President of the WCSN) and Stephen Jones) its All About Me is an outreach partnership between the St. Boniface General Hospital Research Centre, the Winnipeg Chapter Society for Neuroscience and the Louis Riel School Division of Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Our Goal is to integrate, into the grade schools, curriculum-based activities of the cardiovascular, neuroscience and other research that we do at the University of Manitoba and St Boniface Research Centre. These activities are designed to work within the Manitoba Schools Grade 8 "Cells and Systems" unit, but can be modified to suit Grade 5 "Maintaining a Healthy Body" unit, with a reduced emphasis on cell function.

The students will:
- recognize the connection between neurons, the organs of the nervous system and the function of the nervous system in normal and disease conditions,
- investigate the cellular structure and function of neurons,
- connect the ideas of memory and motor control to neuron structure and function.

Wisdom - It’s All About Me
It’s All About Me is designed to educate children in grades 5-6 in Manitoba, encouraging them, especially girls, to study science at the high school level and pursue science in their post-secondary studies and careers. This system has been in place for many years and delivers a range of University supported programs that supplement the school curriculum in Manitoba.

The WCSN PLAN
- to merge the Neuroscience program currently being delivered to the Louis Riel School Division into the much larger and province-wide Kid-netic energy program.
- to provide neuroscience workshops to those children who show a vested interest which would be based at the University of Manitoba or St Boniface Research Centre.
- to be delivering novel neuroscience-related material to thousands of children within the province by the end of 2008.

The Winnipeg Chapter Society for Neuroscience would like to Thank the following for their support:
- WCSN members
- St-Boniface Hospital & Research Foundation
- University of Manitoba
- www.sfn-manitoba.ca
- www.sfn-manitoba.ca
- www.sfn-manitoba.ca