

Wednesday, October 15th, 2014

LSC 3 - Life Sciences Centre

2350 Health Sciences Mall

**12-1pm**



## Dr. Bruce Verchere

*Head, Diabetes Research Program, CFRI*

*Irving K Barber Chair in Diabetes Research*

**“Aggregating evidence for a role for IAPP as an initiator of islet inflammation in type 2 diabetes”**

In type 2 diabetes, progressive loss and dysfunction of insulin-producing beta cells occurs, in part due to formation of islet amyloid and inflammation within the pancreatic islet. Islet amyloid forms by aggregation of islet amyloid polypeptide (IAPP), a peptide co-secreted with insulin by beta cells. We have recently found that IAPP aggregates are potent inducers of islet inflammation, by activating islet macrophages and inducing expression of pro-inflammatory cytokines. Recent work has provided new insight into the mechanism by which IAPP aggregates lead to macrophage activation and beta cell dysfunction. IAPP-induced inflammation represents a novel therapeutic target in type 2 diabetes.

Sponsored by:

# CSL Behring

Biotherapies for Life™