

Robert Roberts, MD, FRCPC, FRSM, MACC, FAHA, LLD (Hon.)

President and CEO, University of Ottawa Heart Institute President and CEO, Ottawa Heart Institute Research Corporation

Director, Ruddy Canadian Cardiovascular Genetics Centre University of Ottawa Heart Institute

Professor of Medicine, University of Ottawa



Dr. Robert Roberts is the President and CEO of the University of Ottawa Heart Institute (UOHI) since 2004 and the founding Director of The Ruddy Canadian Cardiovascular Genetics Centre. Under Dr. Roberts' leadership, the UOHI has achieved world recognition being ranked by SIR SCHIMAGO in the top 2% of research institutions worldwide.

Dr. Roberts has had a distinguished and prolific international career as a Cardiologist, Educator and Scientist and has held several international leadership roles. Dr. Roberts continues to lecture around the world on his research.

He developed the MBCK Test which was used as the gold standard to diagnose heart attacks for the past three decades, followed by the discovery of several genes responsible for heart disease, including the first gene for heart attacks and is co-discoverer of more than 30 genes associated with heart attacks, since his return to Canada.

Dr. Roberts completed his undergraduate (Memorial University) Medical school (Dalhousie University) and training in cardiology (University of Toronto) in Canada. He proceeded on scholarship to the University of California and was recruited to Washington University in St. Louis as Director of the Coronary Care unit and in 1982 recruited to Baylor College of Medicine in Houston as Chief of Cardiology where he served for 23 years. During his tenure in the United States, he held leadership roles at the NHLBI, American Heart Association (Vice-President) and the American College of Cardiology (Chair of Annual Scientific Session).

In Canada, Dr. Roberts serves on several prestigious advisory boards, including the Gairdner Foundation; The Fields Institute for Research in Mathematical Sciences; UBC Margolese National Brain and Heart Disorders Prizes; Ontario Genomics Institute, Fondation Leducq; NIH-ACC Inter-Society Task Force for Genetics.

In recognition of his scientific contributions, published in over 860 scientific articles and text books, Dr. Roberts has received several prestigious awards, including:

- Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada
- Distinguished Scientist Award from the American College of Cardiology (1998);
- Canadian Cardiovascular Society Research Achievement Award (2012);
- McLaughlin Medal from the Royal Society of Canada (2008);
- Albrecht Fleckenstein Memorial Award from the International Academy of Cardiology (2008);
- Distinguished Fellowship Award from the International Academy of Cardiology (2012):
- Citation for Highly Cited Researcher from ISI Thomson Scientific (2002);
- Dalhousie University, Doctor of Laws honoris causa (2012);
- First Prize: International Film Festival, NY for video on ""Unlocking the Secrets of the Heart", (1992)

As one of the founders of molecular cardiology, Dr. Roberts is recognized as a leader in the research and practice of cardiology worldwide.