April 1st, 2020

Dear ISCEV members,

The COVID-19 outbreak continues to cause the cancelation of local, national and international events around the world. Currently, all Canadian borders are closed (even the Canada-USA border, except for food and goods) and we have no idea as to when they will be reopened.

We are closely following the situation and understand the concern and uncertainty that is arising, but we want to reassure everyone that we are still working with the assumption that the ISCEV 2020 meeting will proceed as planned. We are hopeful that the situation will get better between now and September. But we also have to be realistic; it may be that holding the meeting in September will simply be impossible.

Consequently, based on the above, **a final decision on the fate of this year's ISCEV Symposium will be announced by June 1st**. In the meantime, we encourage those who had planned to come to proceed as if the meeting will take place and submit their abstracts (go to [https://iscev2020.ca/](https://iscev2020.ca/) for instructions). In doing so, you will help us reach the best possible decision. There is no need for you to book rooms (or pay the registration fees for now) as there will be enough rooms and seats for everyone. Similarly, we also advise you to wait before confirming your travel arrangements. Should we not receive the usual abstract load then we will explore other alternatives with you and the Board.

We recognize that the situation is evolving rapidly and we will continue to monitor this unprecedented crisis. Thank you for your understanding during these uncertain times.

*The ISCEV 2020 Team*