Ride for Heart

On May 31, 2015, five riders from MCB rode in the Heart and Stroke Foundation’s Ride for Heart. It was a cold and wet day, but the event was superbly organized, with lots of activities in addition to the ride itself. While team captain, John Dawson, pedalled the 25 km route in about 75 minutes, Jordan Meyers propelled through the 50 km route in 95 minutes! The team raised $1,510 as part of the Ride for Research, which had nearly 200 research and medical professionals participate in the ride. Your support directly impacts research and the lives of Canadians through preventing disease, saving lives and promoting recovery.

Since Guelph has one of the oldest and most respected veterinary colleges in North America, we are uniquely positioned to study naturally occurring models of cardiovascular diseases in animals. A good example is the occurrence of Dilated Cardiomyopathy (DCM) in Doberman Pinchers: where only a small percentage of cross-bred dogs develop the disease, 50% of Dobermans develop DCM, so we know there is an inherited component. In addition, the symptoms of DCM that Dobermans develop are strikingly similar to those in people. To cap it off, the shape and size of an adult male Doberman heart and a human heart are very similar, so we have an amazing opportunity to figure out what is going on in the dog and apply what we learn to develop new therapies for the treatment of cardiovascular disease in people.

Our Cardiovascular Research Group uses leading-edge approaches, innovation, and infrastructure to research cardiovascular disease, and train the next generation of Scientists. Interactions between investigators in basic research and translational medicine provide a unique environment and opportunities to investigate cardiovascular disease in experimental and naturally occurring models. Our integrative cardiovascular research capabilities span from molecular to physiologic and pharmacologic platforms. Our goal is to attract and train the brightest individuals, to develop new understandings of cardiovascular disease, and generate new therapeutic strategies to benefit the health of Canadians.

Check us out at: http://www.uoguelph.ca/CardiovascularResearch/index.html