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Pierre Savard Awarded the 2015 CAP-TRIUMF Vogt Medal for Contributions to Subatomic Physics

The Canadian Association of Physicists Reveals Medalists of 2015

(Ottawa, ON) – The Canadian Association of Physicists (CAP) and TRIUMF are pleased to announce that Pierre Savard has been awarded the 2015 CAP-TRIUMF Vogt Medal for Contributions to Subatomic Physics. A joint appointee at the University of Toronto and TRIUMF, Savard is being recognized for his contributions to particle physics and his leadership of an important analysis that established the identity of the recently discovered Higgs boson. Introduced in 2011, the Vogt Medal recognizes and encourages outstanding experimental or theoretical contributions to subatomic physics in Canada.

"It is a great honour to receive this award which I would like to share with the ATLAS-Canada researchers whose central contributions to the design 1nd construction of the experiment, and to the analysis of the data, helped make the discovery of the Higgs boson possible," says Professor Savard.

Modern physics experiments are very complex and sophisticated endeavors, requiring precise coordination of large scientific teams. Over 10,000 scientists and engineers work together at the greatest particle physics project to date – the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) at CERN in Geneva. At the LHC's ATLAS experiment, beams of particles are accelerated and collide at very high energies to probe the forces and symmetries that operate at subatomic scales. TRIUMF is an important part of this effort, hosting a large ATLAS-Canada team and the Canadian ATLAS Tier-1 Data Centre, which processes about five percent of the data generated by the ATLAS experiment.

Pierre Savard is one of the world's leading particle physicists and is respected for his insight into both the physics and the sophisticated instrumentation used in particle physics experiments. Savard held leadership positions in two international experiments: the Collider Detector (CDF) at the Fermilab Tevatron Collider and ATLAS at the LHC. His contributions to CDF included precision measurements of top quark properties and searches for exotic new particles. Savard co-led two important ATLAS analysis teams: the "Higgs boson" group and the aptly-named "exotics" group that searches for new physics at record-breaking energies.

In the recent discovery of the Higgs boson, Savard personally led the effort to analyze one of its predicted decay modes. He was one of the ATLAS collaborators who prepared drafts of the Higgs boson discovery paper and subsequently led the analysis team that showed that the Higgs boson is a spin-zero particle, paving the way for the 2013 Nobel Prize for Peter Higgs and Francois Englert. For these efforts, Savard was awarded Radio-Canada's 2012 Scientist of the Year.

Prof. Savard will be presented with his medal at the end of his plenary talk at the 2015 CAP Congress (hosted by the University of Alberta in Edmonton from June 15-19) and he will be recognized during the Congress Recognition Reception.

–With content from the Canadian Association of Physicists.

For more information on the CAP medals, please visit www.triumf.ca/CAP2015 or www.cap.ca.

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About The Canadian Association of Physicists (CAP)– Founded in 1945, CAP is a professional association representing over 1600 individual physicists and physics students in Canada, the U.S. and overseas, as well as a number of Corporate, Institutional, and Departmental Members. In addition to its learned activities, the CAP also undertakes a number of activities intended to encourage students to pursue a career in physics. Visit the Cap at www.cap.ca and follow them at @CAPhys

About TRIUMF - TRIUMF is Canada's national laboratory for particle and nuclear physics. Together with its partner AAPS, Inc., TRIUMF also seeks to commercialize its technologies for the benefit of all Canadians. Located on the south campus of the University of British Columbia, TRIUMF receives operating support from the Government of Canada through a contribution agreement via National Research Council Canada; the Government of British Columbia provides capital for new buildings. TRIUMF is owned and operated as a joint venture by a consortium of the following Canadian universities: University of Alberta, University of British Columbia, University of Calgary, Carleton University, University of Guelph, University of Manitoba, McGill University, McMaster University, Université de Montréal, University of Northern British Columbia, Queen's University, University of Regina, Saint Mary's University, Simon Fraser University, University of Toronto, University of Victoria, Western University, University of Winnipeg, and York University. Visit us at www.triumf.ca and tweet us @TRIUMFLab.