March 6, 2017

The Hon. Senator Kelvin Kenneth Ogilvie
Senate Standing Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology
The Senate of Canada
Ottawa, Ontario
Canada, K1A 0A4
c/o Shaila Anwar, Clerk

Dear Mr. Chair,

I am writing to thank you for inviting the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) to discuss its contributions in advancing the role of automation in health care before the Senate Standing Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology on Wednesday, February 1, 2017. I am pleased the Committee has expressed interest in this emerging area of health innovation.

During this appearance, I had the pleasure to highlight the work conducted by AGEWELL and the Centre for Surgical Invention and Innovation, and questions were raised about other Networks of Centres of Excellence that support research on automation in health care. The Committee was also interested in receiving information on Dr. Ivar Mendez’s research using robotic surgical platforms, and CIHR’s investments in prevention and diagnosis versus treatment and management as they relate to the mandate of the study, including any examples of relevant prevention projects where CIHR partners with the Public Health Agency of Canada.

Working with our colleagues at the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council, CIHR has developed three appendices with the information the Committee seeks. Should the Committee require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me. I wish you continued success in your study which, I am certain, will help inform the future of health care delivery in Canada.

Yours truly,

Dr. Jane E. Aubin, Ph.D.
Chief Scientific Officer and Vice-President, Research,
Knowledge Translation and Ethics
Canadian Institutes of Health Research
Encl.  

**Appendix A** – Relevant Networks of Centres of Excellence for the SOCI Study on Automation in Health Care  
**Appendix B** – Dr. Ivar Mendez: Biography and Research Interests  
**Appendix C** – Relevant CIHR investments for the SOCI Study on Automation in Health Care