

## **OUR RESEARCHERS | DR. MATHIEU LAPLANTE**

Thank you for your generosity. Diabetes Canada is grateful to our donors for supporting critical research that will end diabetes.

Through your support, Dr. Mathieu Laplante, professor with the Faculty of Medicine at Université Laval, is bringing us one step closer to better treatments for people with type 2 diabetes.

In healthy individuals, blood sugars are controlled by a hormone called insulin, which lowers blood sugar levels. For people with type 2 diabetes, they can no longer produce or use enough insulin to control their blood sugars, which can lead to health complications such as nerve damage, blindness, heart disease, kidney failure, anxiety, amputations, and even death.

Dr. Mathiew Laplante and his research team are studying a protein called VSTM2A. In mice, this protein significantly improves blood sugar control.

Through Diabetes Canada's support, Dr. Laplante will:

- 1. Determine the potential of VSTM2A to improve blood sugar control and metabolism in mice.
- 2. Confirm the impacts of VSTM2A on major tissues.
- 3. Study the side effects triggered by VSTM2A.

His work will reveal new biological processes that could be used to improve metabolism and blood sugar control in people with type 2 diabetes.

Thank you for giving hope for a healthier future to people with type 2 diabetes.