



Alan Evans, PhD

Dr Evans is the **Director** of the [McGill Centre for Integrative Neuroscience](#) (MCIN), a 70-member research and neuroinformatics team at the Montreal Neurological Institute-Hospital (The Neuro). He is also is a James McGill Professor in Neurology and Neurosurgery, the **Victor Dahdaleh Chair in Neurosciences**, and the **Scientific Director** of four initiatives aimed at advancing innovative neuroinformatics research: the [Canadian Open Neuroscience Platform](#), McGill's [Healthy Brains, Healthy Lives](#), the [Global Brain Consortium](#), and the [Ludmer Centre for Neuroinformatics & Mental Health](#).

Dr Evans has pioneered novel neuroimaging and neuroinformatics techniques to advance neuroscience research. As director of the **McConnell Brain Imaging Centre** in the 1990's, he oversaw its emergence as a top research centre. He was the Principal Investigator (PI) and Director of the **Montreal Consortium for Brain Imaging Research** and the PI of the NIH project, encompassing 500 children, to create an atlas of the developing brain. He founded Biospective Inc, a company that analyses neuroimaging data for pharmaceutical studies. Today, his lab's neuroinformatics ecosystem is unprecedented globally for its proven track record in high-powered computing and big-data analytics; it supports over 30 national and international large-scale data-sharing initiatives and over a 1000 researchers globally. Dr Evans leads a new tri-regional Canada-Cuba-China neuroscience initiative aimed at advancing collaborative research in neuroscience. The only Canadian partner, his neuroinformatics platform underpins the European Union's **Human Brain Project** and his lab is co-developing the [BigBrain Atlas](#)—a virtual 3D reference brain with 50 times greater resolution than previous human brain models. Exploitation has only commenced, but it is already being utilized by researchers, Parkinson's surgeons, and educational institutions.

Dr Evans also guides, founded or leads several organizations that are setting standards in neuroscience. He is on the Scientific Advisory Committees of **Brain Canada** and **Canada's Advanced Research & Innovation Network**. He co-founded the **International Consortium for Brain Mapping** (1993) and the **Organization for Human Brain Mapping** (1995), for which he was the 2019 Chair. He established (2016), and leads, the North American node of the **International Neuroinformatics Coordinating Facility** (INCF).

His research has led to important biomarkers for the early diagnosis of neurological disorders, notably Alzheimer's and Autism, and psychiatric illnesses. With over 600 peer-reviewed papers, he has continually rank in the **top 1% of Highly Cited Researchers for Neuroscience and Behavior** since 2014. He has received multiple honors including the **Organisation of Human Brain Mapping's highest award** - the Glass Brain (2019), the **Senate of Canada 150 medal** (Alzheimer's research, 2017), the **National Margolese Prize in Human Neurological Disorders** (2014) and the **Vezina Prize for Quebec Neuroradiology** (2014). He was inducted as a **Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada** (2015) and received the **Prix du Québec's** highest citation for biomedical research, the Wilder-Penfield prize (2016).

Dr. Evans obtained his B.Sc. (1974) in Physics at Liverpool University, his M.Sc. (1975) in Medical Physics at Surrey University and completed his Ph.D. (1979) and post-doctoral fellowship studying the structure-function interaction of proteins at the Department of Biophysics, Leeds University. He joined McGill University in 1984, becoming a full professor in 1995.