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The President's Letter

Dr. Brendan J. Bunting



July 6, 2004

Dear Member:

Health Information Act review

The 2001 *Health Information Act* (HIA) is due for its three-year legislative review. The legislative review will take place this summer and autumn and an all-party committee of 10 MLAs has been struck to oversee the task. Chaired by Cardston-Taber-Warner MLA Broyce Jacobs, the committee held its first meeting June 1.

The MLA committee has determined that written submissions (from organizations or individuals) regarding suggested changes to HIA are due Friday, August 6.

Since HIA became law in 2001, the Alberta Medical Association (AMA) has provided physicians with information and many tools to help deal with the day-to-day realities of living with the act. We will also develop a comprehensive submission for the review on behalf of AMA member physicians. Board of Directors' member Dr. Christopher J. (Chip) Doig is working with a senior staff team to oversee this.

If you wish, contact the AMA with your comments or suggestions and we will consider them as part of our own submission. Please provide us with your HIA experience: tell us what works; what doesn't; what things you would like to change.

If you'd like to provide this input, **please do so by Thursday, July 15**. You may email shannon.rupnarain@albertadoctors.org, or fax, attention Shannon Rupnarain, to 780.482.5445.

You are also free to make your own individual submission to the HIA special review committee. Government's consultation guide is available online at <http://www.hiareview.assembly.ab.ca>.

Sincerely,

Brendan J. Bunting, MB, BCh, BAO
President

