

Section News



**ALBERTA
MEDICAL
ASSOCIATION**

Welcome to the Alberta Medical Association's *Section News* - an opportunity for sections to report on their challenges and objectives. This service helps sections communicate with all AMA members as well as physicians in their own specialties. Your feedback is encouraged. Please contact: Candy L. Holland, Manager, Website and Publications, or Agnes E. McIntyre, Administrative Assistant, Section Services, phone 780.482.2626, toll-free 1.800.272.9680 or email candy.holland@albertadoctors.org or agnes.mcintyre@albertadoctors.org.

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March 2010

Section of Endocrinology and Metabolism Dr. Jacques S. Romney, Treasurer

★ 4th Annual Endocrine Day

The 4th Annual Endocrine day for Family Physicians will be held in Edmonton:

- Saturday, March 20 (8:30 a.m.)
- Lister Conference Centre, Edmonton
- Find program and registration information on the University of Alberta Faculty of Medicine website (<http://www.medicine.med.ualberta.ca/EndocrineDay>).

**Section of General Practice
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★ Medical home model

The General Practice Representative Working Group recently agreed we should move forward on implementing/evolving primary care models.

Many of the components for a medical home model (patient-centred, multidisciplinary, comprehensive, cradle-to-grave care), suggested by the College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC) document *Patient-Centred Care in Canada: Bring It On Home*, are already in place or are being worked on and developed in Alberta but require coordination.

We must be actively involved in taking this to the next level and bring the components together in a manner family physicians know is the best for our patients, rather than just providing feedback to models suggested by other bodies with different underlying interests.

We must also increase our efforts in advocating for the remuneration needed to create this model of sustainable and comprehensive care for our patients. The CFPC *Patient-Centred Care in Canada: Bring It On Home* document is the starting point. Let's make the vision behind it a reality for our patients.

★ Throne speech and budget

As Alberta Medical Association (AMA) President Dr. Christopher J. (Chip) Doig wrote in the February 18 *President's Letter*, both the Speech from the Throne on February 4 and the 2010 Alberta budget on February 9 offer reasons for health care providers and patients in Alberta to be optimistic.

The speech calls for a new Alberta Health Act. The act will set "principles for the development of legislation, policy and program changes across the system." MLA Fred Horne, co-chair of the advisory committee, will carry out public consultations and prepare a report before legislation is introduced in the fall session of parliament.

In addition, as Dr. Doig indicated, "the 2010 budget introduces predictable funding for the health care system and stable, five-year funding to Alberta Health Services. The overall effect from the

five-year financial certainty should be leadership with a longer-term mindset and the flexibility to be more creative and innovative. In building Alberta's health care system, all of us are stronger working in collaboration than in isolation."

See the *President's Letter* on the AMA's website (<http://www.albertadoctors.org/PresLet/Index>).

Section of Obstetrics and Gynecology Dr. Duncan J. McCubbin, Secretary

*** Annual Spring meeting**

Alberta Society of Obstetrics and Gynecology (ASOG)/Alberta Medical Association Section of Obstetrics and Gynecology annual meeting:

- Friday, March 19 (5 p.m.)
- Rimrock Resort Hotel, Banff
- Dinner to follow (spouses welcome).

The ASOG executive welcomes your input. For agenda additions, contact Dr. Duncan J. McCubbin (dmccubpc@telus.net) and copy Dr. Stanley J. Davey (drsdavey@telus.blackberry.net).

Hope to see you in Banff!

*** Upcoming continuing medical education**

West Central Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists of Canada (SOGC) meeting

- March 18-20
- Rimrock Resort Hotel, Banff
- For more information, visit the SOGC website (<http://www.sogc.org/cmcs/wc2010/index.aspx>).
- Plan to attend and bring a colleague.

*** SOGC annual clinical meeting**

- June 2-6
- Le Centre Sheraton, Montreal, Quebec
- For more information, visit the SOGC website (http://www.sogc.org/cme/events-acm_e.asp).