

2021 Winter/Spring Speaker Series

The EZMSA presents the following 2021 winter/spring speaker series with four presenters on:

- 1) Understanding the Federal and Provincial Governments' Role in Health Care
- 2) Canada Health Act 101
- 3) Decision Making in the Alberta Government
- 4) An Overview of the Jason Kenney Government

These events are free of charge for the members of the Edmonton Zone Medical Staff Association, Calgary and Area Medical Staff Society, Central Zone Medical Staff Association, North Zone Medical Staff Association, and South Zone Medical Staff Association.

Membership is required to attend. Please contact zmsadmin@albertadoctors.org for membership.

January 28th 5:30-7pm

Understanding the Federal and Provincial Governments' Role in Health Care

Description:

This is an opportunity for members to gain a better understanding of the difference between the federal and provincial government's role in our health care system and delivery of care.

Registration:

Please click this link to register: <https://albertadoctors.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAuc-uopz8qHNBNQmbYVJa8wSwqB-cwtQff>. The deadline to register is January 26th at 11pm.

Agenda:

- 1) Introductions by EZMSA Executive 5 min
- 2) Presentation by Mr. Jeneroux 55 min
- 3) Questions 30 min

Speaker Biography:

Mr. Jeneroux served as the Shadow Minister of Health from January to September 2020. He has represented the riding of Edmonton Riverbend federally since 2015 and previously represented the riding of Edmonton South at the provincial level from 2012 to 2015.

Currently, Mr. Jeneroux is working at the federal level to extend the length of Compassionate Care Leave by up to three weeks past the death of a loved one. This extra time would allow a caregiver time to grieve and take care of practical necessities before returning to work. The bill had its first hour of debate in November 2020, where it received support from all parties. The bill will have its second hour of debate in February 2021.

Mr. Jeneroux has also championed mental health causes, with a focus on addressing the stigma of mental health in young men. He holds an annual Father's Day on the Hill event to raise awareness and bring together stakeholders and policy makers to address mental health. He's also worked to advocate for young girls' involvement in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) fields of study and work by co-sponsoring an event with LEGO on Parliament Hill.

February 22nd 5:30-7pm
Canada Health Act 101

Description:

This session will explore the Canada Health Act, its enforcement, and its operationalization by provincial governments. It will address the conditions that provinces must meet in order to qualify for federal funding, along with the prohibitions on extra-billing and user charges. Despite these conditions, federal enforcement has historically been quite lax and they have often been reluctant to withhold transfer payments from non-compliant provinces. This session will address particular areas of concern identified by Health Canada, such as extra-billing by private surgical clinics, boutique primary care clinics that combine uninsured and insured services, and Ontario's move to eliminate insurance for out-of-country emergency care. Perhaps most notably, the federal government has now taken steps to crack down on diagnostic clinics that allow patients to pay out-of-pocket to receive faster care. Finally, this session will address how provincial laws have operationalized the Canada Health Act, with a focus on the Alberta Health Care Insurance Act and recent health policy changes in Alberta.

Registration:

Please click this link to register <https://albertadoctors.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJArd-usqTwsE9aKBkrmCECmbh4o8tCjI14V>. The deadline to register is February 20th at 11pm.

Agenda:

- 1) Introductions by EZMSA Executive 5 min
- 2) Presentation by Dr. Lorian Hardcastle 45 min
- 3) Questions 40 min

Speaker Biography:

Dr. Hardcastle is an Associate Professor in the Faculty of Law at the University of Calgary, with a joint appointment to the Department of Community Health Sciences in the Cumming School of Medicine. She is also a member of the One Health Consortium, O'Brien Institute for Public Health, and Conjoint Health Research Ethics Board at the University of Calgary. Lorian obtained her JD with Health Law and Policy Specialization Certificate from Dalhousie University, and her LLM and SJD from the University of Toronto. She also completed a fellowship at the O'Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law at Georgetown University Law Center.

March 18th 5:30-7pm
Decision Making in the Alberta Government

Description:

The presentation will discuss how the Alberta government makes decisions – the process involved in creating policy and programs. The current United Conservative Party (UCP) government will be contrasted with its predecessor New Democrats and Progressive Conservatives. The presentation will also deal with the relationship between Alberta Health and Alberta Health Services (AHS) and the provincial cabinet – Alberta Health establishes the policy and Alberta Health Services implement the policy decisions of the Government of Alberta. All significant policy changes are directed by cabinet order and legislative fiat. It is the UCP government that sets spending, engages in contract negotiations, and decides policy. Simply put, the deputy minister at Alberta Health and the AHS President carry out the instructions of their political masters, the Alberta cabinet.

Registration:

Please click this link to register <https://albertadoctors.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJclfu-trjwuEtJCilqVDhZ-y270Li6yJuf6>. The deadline to register is March 16th at 11pm.

Agenda:

- 1) Introductions by EZMSA Executive 5 min
- 2) Presentation by Dr. Keith Brownsey 45 min
- 3) Questions 40 min

Speaker Biography:

Dr. Keith Brownsey holds a PhD in Political Studies from Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario. He has taught at four different universities in Canada and has been at Mount Royal University in Calgary for twenty-five years. He has published in the fields of provincial politics, energy politics and policy, and government decision-making processes. He was a board member of the Institute of Public Administration of Canada (IPAC) for a number of years and has sat on IPAC's executive committee. He is currently working on an academic article on the development of the cabinet in Alberta.

April 13th 5:30-7pm

An Overview of the Jason Kenney Government

Description:

Is this the end of the beginning, or the beginning of the end for Jason Kenney? Premier Kenney has spent more than 20 years as a politician but most of that was in Ottawa as an MP. He is a relative newcomer to Alberta politics, entering the arena in 2016 and becoming premier just last year. And what a year it has been: pandemic, recession, and a price of oil that at one point went negative. At times Kenney has poured fuel on the dumpster fire that was 2020: fighting with physicians, arguing with nurses, and outsourcing 11,000 health care support jobs. His approval rating keeps dropping. What is Premier Kenney's game plan? Mr. Thomson will help explain what's going on.

Registration:

Please click this link to register <https://albertadoctors.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwkc--rqDluGdL46tt6llmFoRHeHgU506UN>. The deadline to register is April 11th at 11pm.

Agenda:

- 1) Introductions by EZMSA Executive 5 min
- 2) Presentation by Mr. Thomson 45 min
- 3) Questions 40 min

Speaker Biography:

Mr. Graham Thomson is an Edmonton-based political commentator who writes for the CBC, iPolitics, Alberta Views Magazine and others. He previously worked for the Edmonton Journal/Postmedia as a reporter and political columnist for 25 years covering events in Alberta, across Canada and overseas, including Russia, the Middle East and Afghanistan. Before that he was a senior reporter for CBC Television and Radio.