Changes to AMA bylaws & notice of elections

The 114th AMA Annual General Meeting will be held 11 a.m., Saturday, September 28, at the JW Marriott ICE District in Edmonton. As required under the AMA Bylaws, members received 60 days’ notice of:

- Proposed bylaws changes to be considered.
- Elections to take place at the AGM (speaker, deputy speaker and AMA representatives to CMA General Council for 2020).

View proposed amendments, notice of elections and nomination form.

Tell us what you think about the AMA's websites & WIN!

The AMA is in the early stages of redeveloping and redesigning its websites and we need user feedback.
We invite you to complete this survey to help us understand your information needs, how you currently use our websites, the online self-service applications, and other program sites (i.e., TOP, PMO, ARP). We’d also like to know how you would like to use the website and other digital tools to interact with the AMA and our programs in the future.

The survey will take about 10-15 minutes to complete and your feedback is extremely valuable. All data collected in this survey will remain anonymous. If you are comfortable providing your email at the end of the survey, you’ll be entered to win one of six $50 Google Play gift cards as a thank you. Email addresses will be used only to contact winners of the gift cards and/or to invite participation in future web activities. Emails will not be associated with individual survey responses.

The survey will close on August 22, but we encourage you to submit your response ASAP. For more information, contact Leopold McGinnis, Website Manager, Alberta Medical Association, at leopold.mcginnis@albertadoctors.org or telephone 780.482.0677.

Take the survey

Do you have a plan under AMA HBTF? Be aware of proposed changes.

The AMA administers the AMA Health Benefits Trust Fund (HBTF), which operates as a Health and Welfare Trust. The Department of Finance Canada has proposed draft legislation that requires health and welfare trusts to convert to employee life and health trusts by December 31, 2020.

A significant concern with the proposed rules involves the definition of key employee within a corporation and the requirement that no more than 25% of employees covered under the plan are key employees. As drafted, this would negatively affect the majority of members under AMA HBTF.

For our Shine A Light initiative, we profiled Dr. Setorme Tsikatas, Edmonton family physician.

We featured Dr. Fozia Alvi, Airdrie family physician, in our first Community Connections profile.

Top stories from our last issue

Are you taking the right vacations?

AMA switching to Manulife

View MD Scope archive

MD Scope Classifieds

In the August 1, 2019 MD Scope Classifieds you'll find listings for:

- Physicians wanted
- Space available
The Department of Finance is accepting comments on these proposals, including the proposed key employee rule, until July 31. The Canadian Medical Association, on behalf of all Canadian physicians, will be submitting comments. At this time, we are not requesting member comments, but there will be opportunities once the government releases further information, most likely after the federal election this fall.

**Questions?**
If you have further questions about this matter, please contact ADIUM Insurance Services at adium@albertadoctors.org.

---

**Equifax in the news**

If you’ve seen recent coverage regarding an American lawsuit against Equifax Inc. (USA) and a $671 million settlement, you may be wondering if there are implications for Canadian customers. To the best of our knowledge, Canadians are not party to the settlement.

---

**Paging first-time home buyers**

The federal First-Time Home Buyer Incentive will come into effect on September 2, 2019. Check out
Enhanced community support & Access to a Designated Living Option in Continuing Care

Do you know someone getting discharged from hospital before being assessed for continuing care services? A patient’s home or community is the best place for their recovery and assessment for continuing care health service options. The Access to a Designated Living Option in Continuing Care (ADLO) was recently revised to enhance community support and equip AHS staff to safely transition recovering patients to their community and provide the right care, in the right place, at the right time. Watch this video to learn more about the ADLO approach and how it benefits the patient.
Wanted: Your perspective on surgical safety

Efficiency, Quality, Innovation and Safety (EQuIS) Research is seeking your perspective on the World Health Organization (WHO) surgical safety checklist (SSC) as well as ideas on how it can be revised to be more effective in settings similar to the one in which you work. The survey will take 10-15 minutes and will be open until August 31.

The SSC was created by the WHO to improve patient safety and decrease complications and mortality after surgery. With the help of your feedback, EQuIS Research will develop a new surgical safety tool to help reduce the considerable burden of surgical errors to patients and the medical system.

This study is a collaboration between EQuIS and various Canadian medical societies, the National Aeronautical Space Agency (NASA), Harvard School of Public Health’s Ariadne Labs and other key expert stakeholders invested in improving surgical safety.

Take the survey

AHS Medical Staff Bylaws voting results

This past February Alberta Health Services invited physicians to vote on proposed amendments to the AHS Medical Staff Bylaws. The vote was conducted from June 17 to 30, and the proposed motion

“That the recommended amendments to the AHS Medical Staff Bylaws be approved.”
was carried by a vote of 86% approval.

The results of the vote and the recommended proposed amendments to the bylaws will now be forwarded to the AHS Board for review and vote this fall.

Learn more

---

**Are you a physician with an interest in opioid change?**

The AMA's Accelerating Change Transformation Team (ACTT), is looking for one provincial and five zonal contracted physician champions to advance Patient’s Medical Homes (PMHs) that focus on the Opioid Change Package. Alberta Health has provided one-time funding over two-to-three years to accelerate support to family physicians and their teams.

These physician champions will team up with AMA staff, AMA and PCN physician leaders and local practice facilitators to engage and support practices in implementing changes using quality improvement methods and tools to advance as PMHs. The focus will be on how to make improvements within the practice environment.

This posting will remain open until a suitable candidate is found.

View contract opportunity

---