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## September 2022

### In this issue:

#### General News

- Members to Vote on a Potential Agreement
- Encourage Your Patients to Share Their Care Deficit Experience at [PatientsFirst.ca](https://PatientsFirst.ca)
- Registration for Practice Facilitator Core Training Fall 2022/Winter 2023 Now Open

#### News and updates from:

##### Section of Family Medicine

- Section of Family Medicine Elections
- Registration for PEIP 2022
- Pearls for Family Practice

##### Section of General Psychiatry

- Psychiatric Quarterly Update: Mood Day
- APA Virtual Provincial Docs Lounge

##### Section of Intensive Care

- ASICP 2023– Save the dates

##### Section of Occupational Medicine

- Supporting Important Research

##### Section of Rural Medicine

- New President-Elect Announced
- Section of Rural Medicine Annual General Meeting

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## General News

### **Members to Vote on a Potential Agreement**

As discussed in the [September 9 President's Letter](#), Alberta physicians will vote on a potential ratification package that has been negotiated between the Alberta Medical Association and the Ministry of Health.

A Special RF was held September 8, where physician leaders discussed the package details, [it has now been shared with AMA members on our member-only website](#). Along with explanatory documents and legal documents, you will also find [Question and Answer](#) materials that will be updated regularly. **Voting will open at 6 a.m. Tuesday, September 13 and close Wednesday, September 28 at 4 p.m.** There will also be three virtual member-only town halls (one being held this evening, and two more during the voting period). Members are invited to attend any of the town halls on the following dates:

- September 12, 7:00 p.m. - [Register for this session](#)

- September 15, 7:00 p.m. - [Register for this session](#)
- September 19, 7:00 p.m. - [Register for this session](#)

A recording of the presentation portion of the first town hall will be posted to the website for those unavailable to attend any of the three event dates.

All members are encouraged to learn more about the [details of the Potential Ratification Package](#) and attend one of the three town halls and to ask questions on the [member-only discussion board](#).

### **PatientsFirst.ca**

The AMA's [PatientsFirst.ca](#) website was established so patients can share their own experiences of waiting for care in Alberta. Patients are invited to complete a short, anonymous survey so we can help all Albertans understand what's happening in our health care system. Whether our patients are struggling to find a family physician, waiting for a doctor's appointment, or waiting for a procedure, service or test, we want to know their stories.

Many of you have already referred your patients to [PatientsFirst.ca](#) and we want to make it easier for you to continue referring patients during in-person visits. Recently we sent post-it-sized tear-away pads with information about [PatientsFirst.ca](#) to members that you can hand out to patients who are waiting for care. We've also developed an [office poster that you can print and display in your office](#), as well as [talking points](#) you can use when speaking with patients by phone.

**For more information or to request tear-off sheets**, please reach out to [amamail@albertadoctors.org](mailto:amamail@albertadoctors.org).

### **Registration for Practice Facilitator Core Training Fall 2022/Winter 2023 now open**

FYI – Registration for the Practice Facilitator Core Training Fall 2022/Winter 2023 (September 19 – February 13) opened on Monday, August 22. Practice Facilitator Core Training Winter 2023/Spring 2023 (January to June) registration will open in September.

Please [click here](#) to learn more.

If you have any questions, please contact Kylie Kidd Wagner [kylie.kiddwagner@albertadoctors.org](mailto:kylie.kiddwagner@albertadoctors.org) or Leanne Mazur [leanne.mazur@albertadoctors.org](mailto:leanne.mazur@albertadoctors.org).

If you have any questions about this campaign or would like further information, please email [jpac@albertadoctors.org](mailto:jpac@albertadoctors.org). Thanks in advance for your support.

## **Family Medicine**

### **Section of Family Medicine Elections**

The Section of Family Medicine is currently holding elections for the position of SFM President-Elect.

There are two candidates running for the position. The successful candidate will be in the position for a one-year term beginning September 23, 2022. The President-Elect will then serve as SFM President from September 2023 through to September 2026. Note that SFM members may only vote once for a single candidate.

Candidates running for the SFM President-Elect position are:

- Dr. Scott Beach, Calgary [Bio](#)
- Dr. Jon Hilner, St. Albert [Bio](#)

Voting opened Wednesday, August 17 and will close at 4 p.m. on Friday, September 16. Ballot results will be tallied on September 16 in the presence of scrutineers.

If you are experiencing any issues with the e-vote, or have questions about the election, please contact [section.services@albertadoctors.org](mailto:section.services@albertadoctors.org).

Ready to vote? Member login required. [VOTE NOW](#). ***Please note that only active voting members of the Section may vote.***

### **Registration for PEIP 2022**

Registration for PEIP 2022, the most popular primary care conference in Alberta, is now open. For more information, please [click here](#).

### **Pearls for Family Practice**

Shoulder Issues 101 – Understanding and Applying the New Shoulder Clinical Practice Guideline Developed by the Bone and Joint Health Strategic Clinical Network  
Wednesday, September 14, 2022

Please [click here](#) for further registration information.

To reach the Section of Family Medicine President, Dr. Craig Hodgson, please email [sfmpres@albertadoctors.org](mailto:sfmpres@albertadoctors.org).

## **General Psychiatry**

### **Psychiatric Quarterly Update: Mood Day**

Friday, September 16, 2022

Please [click here](#) for registration.

### **APA Virtual Provincial Docs Lounge**

Please join us! APA Docs Lounge occurs Thursdays from 6:30-7:30 p.m. and upcoming sessions include September 29, November 24, February 23, and April 27. APA Docs Lounge is open to all members and is a unique opportunity to connect and debrief with colleagues from across Alberta, and members of the Executive. Help us bring your voice to upcoming AMA RFs and most effectively represent your general interests by joining the conversation and raising current issues in your practice. Docs Lounges are intended to be a supportive space for members to gather and debrief, as well as relax and get support. The Docs Lounge may also be used to find consultations with colleagues about challenging patients, a key feature of any hospital Docs Lounge.

### **Upcoming Session:**

**Topic:** What the RF is Happening?

**Date:** Thursday, September 29, 2022

**Time:** 6:30-7:30 p.m.

[Registration required](#)

NOTE: After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about how to join the meeting.

The fall AMA Representative Forum is scheduled for September 23-24, 2022. This Docs Lounge is scheduled for the week after the fall RF so it will be the latest information! Come

join our RF Delegates and other members in discussing issues emerging in our profession and at the latest RF.

To reach the Section of General Psychiatry President, Dr. Kathy Fitch, please email [AMA Section Services](#).

## Intensive Care

### **ASICP 2023 – Save the dates**

We are excited to be returning to the Post Hotel in Lake Louise for a meeting of the Alberta Society of Intensive Care Physicians on January 20-22, 2023. The meeting will follow a similar format to previous years with both an early morning session and an evening session on January 20 and 21, leaving the day free for skiing or enjoying the amenities. The Annual General Meeting of the Section of Intensive Care as well as a formal dinner at the Post restaurant on January 20 will be conducted. A pub night and meet and greet will happen on January 19 at the Post Pub.

We hope to expand the diversity of speakers and topics with this year's meeting so please send us your ideas. More details about the program and registration will follow in October.

We hope to see members attend from all 17 ICUs across Alberta.

To reach the Section of Intensive Care President, Dr. Ken Parhar, please email [AMA Section Services](#).

## Occupational Medicine

### **Supporting Important Research**

The Section of Occupational Medicine sponsored Indigenous medical student, Jesse Lafontaine, to review the state of occupational health services available to Indigenous peoples of Canada. The peer-reviewed paper co-authored by Mr. Lafontaine was recently published in [The Lancet](#).

Mr. Lafontaine has now received a Rhodes Scholarship and is attending Oxford University. His story is outlined [here](#).

The Section of Occupational Medicine is proud to have been a sponsor of this important research and wishes Mr. Lafontaine a successful year at Oxford.

To reach the Section of Occupational Medicine President, Dr. John Hickie, please email [AMA Section Services](#).

## Rural Medicine

### **New President-Elect Announced**

The Section of Rural Medicine would like to congratulate Dr. Rithesh Ram on being named the new SRM President-Elect. Dr. Ram will assume his position immediately following the SRM Annual General Meeting on October 26, 2022. Dr. Ram will be installed as the Section President after the 2023 Annual General Meeting for a three-year term.

We are happy to welcome Dr. Ram to the Executive and look forward to his leadership.

### **Section of Rural Medicine Annual General Meeting**

The Section of Rural Medicine will be hosting a virtual Annual General Meeting:

**Date:** Wednesday, October 26, 2022

**Time:** 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

[Registration is required](#). Once registered, meeting details and link will be forwarded to you.

To reach the Section of Rural Medicine President, Dr. Samantha Myhr, please email [srmpres@albertadoctors.org](mailto:srmpres@albertadoctors.org).



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