

# 2015



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Representative Forum / Annual General Meeting

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# Awards Program



ALBERTA  
MEDICAL  
ASSOCIATION



# Awards Program

**Lunch with the AMA President 3-11**

*Friday, September 25*

Long-Service Awards  
Member Emeritus Awards

**Evening with the AMA President 12-18**

*Friday, September 25*

Achievement Awards  
*(Medal for Distinguished Service and Medal of Honor)*

AMA Award for Compassionate Service

**Lunch with the CMA President 19-27**

*Saturday, September 26*

CMA Honorary Membership Awards  
CMA Dr. William Marsden Award in Medical Ethics



Honors and rewards  
fall to those who  
show their good  
qualities in action.

*Aristotle*



# Celebrating the dedication and interests of amazing people.

Our award luncheons and dinners are an important part of the fall Representative Forum (RF) and annual general meeting (AGM). If you've joined us at past events, you may notice that the biographical material in the award program booklet looks a little different. We hope you will enjoy this new presentation of our amazing award recipients!



For your reading pleasure today, our honorees have kindly provided their reflections about the importance of AMA service in their professional lives. Additionally, they have generously shared delightful insights into their personal interests and passions.

Following the RF/AGM, we will also post details of their careers and service achievements on our website along with their photographs.

The AMA awards celebrate the achievements of individuals whose fascinating careers have helped to make this world a better place. We hope you will enjoy this glimpse into the lives of those whose achievements we will be warmly applauding.

# Lunch with the AMA President

Friday, September 25

AMA ◦ RF / AGM 2015



# Program

Welcome and AMA President's Remarks

*Dr. Richard G.R. Johnston*

Introduction of Head Table

Blessing

Toast to the Queen

Presentations

*AMA Long-Service Awards*

*AMA Member Emeritus Awards*

Closing Remarks



# Presentations

## AMA Long-Service Award

The Alberta Medical Association (AMA) Long-Service Award recognizes physicians with 10 years of AMA service who contribute their knowledge, skill and time to the advancement of the profession. Their work, whether on the Board of Directors or its committees, supports and encourages the association's development.

### Recipients

*Dr. Isabelle Chiu*

*Dr. Craig D. Hodgson*

*Dr. Duncan J. McCubbin*

*Dr. Randy D. Moore*

*Dr. Michael E. O'Connor*

*Dr. William R. Shields*

## AMA Member Emeritus

The Member Emeritus Award recognizes significant contributions to the goals and aims of the AMA, seniority, long-term membership and distinguished service (20 years) based on criteria determined by the Board of Directors. Members Emeritus enjoy all the rights and privileges of a full member, but shall not be required to pay annual dues.

### Recipients

*Dr. Jane E. Ballantine*

*Dr. Douglas B. DuVal*

*Dr. Janette A. Hurley*

*Dr. Shelby N. Karpman*

*Dr. Carolyn A. Lane*

*Dr. Gerry D. Prince*

*Dr. Jeffrey C. Way*

## AMA Long-Service Award

**Dr. Isabelle Chiu**

*Infectious Diseases, Edmonton*

**Reflections on Service** Through my participation in the Representative Forum, I saw first-hand how the AMA really puts the interests of patients first and what we can achieve when we work together. My proudest achievement was bringing my section's concerns to be heard at the Rep Forum. I also helped revamp and modernize the Schedule of Medical Benefits for the Section of Infectious Diseases and develop the Relative Value Guide and INRV for my section. My involvement with the AMA helped me realize that our association is THE voice of physicians and patient advocacy in our province.

**Personal Interests** My greatest accomplishment has been my family. I'm fortunate to have a very supportive husband and a daughter who is a source of great pride and happiness! I love watching her play hockey and soccer, and grow into a beautiful young lady. I'm her #1 fan. We love to travel as a family and immerse ourselves in other cultures and cuisines. Our goal is to visit every continent in the world – so Antarctica, here we come! Of course, no travel is complete without shopping (OK, maybe not in Antarctica). Anyone who knows me will know that I LOVE shoes. I've actually been called "Imelda Marcos" because of my collection! On a serious note, as I get older, I realize the importance of spending time with the ones you love – creating memories that will last a lifetime.

**Dr. Craig D. Hodgson**

*Family Medicine, Whitecourt*

**Reflections on Service** I was on the AMA Compensation Committee since its inception in 2008 and that connected me with people I would not have worked with otherwise. I have been impressed by the members who are able to bring their sectional perspectives with them to our meetings, yet can set their perspectives aside when we need to get our work done. I hope I have brought a rural view to the discussions and helped give my AMA colleagues a sense of the breadth and depth of what we do out here. I have found my AMA service to be very rewarding, both in terms of playing a part in governance as well as personal experience and growth. Getting to know the other doctors of Alberta has been a pleasure.

**Personal Interests** I spend most of my free time with my family, driving my 11-year-old son and 13-year-old daughter where and when needed. They're both dancers and my daughter does piano and Girl Guides, too. I've played hockey since I was a little kid and still play 45 to 50 games each year in the local men's league, usually after everyone else has gone to bed – and mainly without injury. We also live out of town and although we don't have cattle, we do have 40 acres so there's lots of outside time for the whole family.

**Dr. Duncan J. McCubbin**

*Obstetrics and Gynecology, Medicine Hat*

**Reflections on Service** I found the time on the Reproductive Care Committee very valuable and a great way to keep in touch with the other providers of obstetrical care in the province. I always came back from those meetings with ideas on best practices and learnings I could take back to my community. I also found it rewarding to be part of the Alternate Relationship Plan Working Group, which helped show the province that the AMA speaks for all physicians, no matter how they are reimbursed for their services. I feel that you can only change the system from within and every member can make a very valuable contribution to the profession in one way or another. I have had the opportunity to meet many physicians from across this province through my committee work within the AMA.

**Personal Interests** When I am not at work I spend my time with my wife and our four daughters, who range in age from 16 to 21 and have many interests, including gymnastics, dance, theatre and snowboarding. My third and fourth daughters competed provincially in gymnastics, and the youngest three have travelled to China, London, California and New York to dance. My wife and I have helped with fundraising, but don't actually get to go anywhere! I feel privileged to live and work in this province with so many opportunities for my family.

**Dr. Randy D. Moore**

*Vascular Surgery, Calgary*

**Reflections on Service** I am proud of the fact that, during my two terms as president of the Section of Vascular Surgery, my colleagues and I were able to streamline our relative value guides for fees and produce one of the few surgical fee codes that are completely in line with our intrasectional RVG. This required a great deal of work and coordination with the AMA fees advisors. I was also involved with the very first Specialist On-Call Remuneration Committee, which developed the basic framework for specialist remuneration for after-hours work. It stands out to me as a testament to the ability of AMA members to work together despite disparate goals. The AMA really represents our political voice as physicians and empowers physicians to extend ourselves beyond our comfort zones (our practices), and speak out on the issues that impact our ability to provide safe, effective care for our patients.

**Personal Interests** I run a martial arts studio (in my spare time!) and I'm especially interested in improving self-esteem and safety for the most vulnerable members of our society. This includes helping women who have lived through abuse rebuild confidence and helping the elderly improve their safety through fall prevention. I'm quite passionate about it and all of my time and teaching is done for free. I've trained all three of my children, so martial arts is part of their lives as well.

**Dr. Michael E. O'Connor***Laboratory Medicine, Medicine Hat*

**Reflections on Service** I sat on the health issues committee that brought together family practitioners, gynecologists, pathologists, the Alberta Cancer Board and Alberta Health under the auspices of the AMA. This committee was instrumental in ensuring all eligible women are offered essential cervical cancer screening. As members of the association of physicians we have the potential, by working together, to do amazing things for the health of society.

I served on the executive of the Alberta Society of Laboratory Physicians (ASLP) for several years after substantial cuts to laboratory funding occurred in 1995. With the AMA's help we succeeded in rebuilding confidence in the AMA amongst the lab physician community. Active involvement with both the AMA and the ASLP has afforded me the opportunity to make many friends. I was immensely touched by the compassion of my colleagues, including then AMA President Dr. P.J. White, who attended my daughter's funeral in Edmonton. Such kindness was a consolation at a time of great loss.

**Personal Interests** I am very fortunate to have shared the last 34 years with my dear wife, Dominica, who has traveled halfway round the world with me and continues to accompany me as we, together, navigate the joys and hazards of life (and the golf course). I am a golfer, not a good one, but it has been a source of exercise, recreation and humility.

**Dr. William R. Shields***Urology, Lethbridge*

**Reflections on Service** The two years I spent on the Board of Directors gave me a much bigger picture of how decision making should be accomplished and, in particular, the contributions of the employees of the AMA. I have the utmost respect and gratitude for our AMA staff, their caliber of expertise and their commitment to the AMA. I very much enjoyed watching other board members playing computer games during meetings and wished I could multitask like that! My hope was that the AMA would deal more forcefully with government, and although others did not feel so strongly, I think it is important to hear and consider all points of view. That is what I tried to accomplish.

The AMA plays a part across the board in all activities of physicians – work, finances and personal health. This is only possible because so many members have given of their time and knowledge to make it such a vital organization – one that advocates for both physicians and all Albertans.

**Personal Interests** My main interests outside the pressure cooker of work are baking bread and bicycling. I still use the cooling racks I received as a parting gift from the board. I'm also a big Stampeders fan and I am hoping to make them the official football team of the AMA, given there isn't another worthy one in the province!

## AMA Member Emeritus

### Dr. Jane E. Ballantine

*Community Primary Care, special interest in Endocrine and Metabolic Medicine, Calgary*

**Reflections on Service** It has been an honor to be both a representative of my fellow primary care physicians within the AMA and a spokesperson and representative of the profession of medicine to the public. I grew up in the Section of General Practice and served as its president, working alongside many tremendous colleagues and staff. My years on the AMA Board of Directors were very rewarding and, as AMA president, I had the great pleasure of leading the AMA as we celebrated our centennial, which showcased the tremendous contributions that physicians have made to improving the health and health care of Albertans.

The AMA has always stood to support its physician members in providing the best possible care for our patients. We are a privileged profession to be able to care for our patients who trust us to do what is in their best interest. It is imperative that we always keep that thought front and center.

**Personal Interests** My passion outside of work is the same as at work. It is about helping people and I have volunteered extensively with Samaritan's Purse and had the opportunity to provide care and support in a number of different countries. I have had the wonderful opportunity to serve in Belize, Mexico, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Haiti, Trinidad, Cambodia, Kenya and Malawi. I have volunteered with the Calgary Stampede for many years and enjoy giving back.

### Dr. Douglas B. DuVal

*Anesthesiology, Edmonton*

**Reflections on Service** I have had the privilege of serving the AMA for almost 30 years, beginning in 1986 with membership on the committee reviewing anesthetic and operative deaths. Since then, the majority of my AMA activity has been as either an executive or representative of the Section of Anesthesia, or working on committees focused on physician remuneration such as the Committee on Fees and the provincial Schedule of Medical Benefits Subcommittee. Through this work I have learned much of the complexities, nuances and impediments to enhancing intersectional fee relativities. I have tried to contribute constructively to this pursuit.

Many will attest that the investment of time and effort one contributes in service to his/her professional association yields immense satisfaction in how it may benefit patients, the public and the profession. For me, the opportunity to better know and appreciate my outstanding colleagues has been an important additional reward.

**Personal Interests** My wife Monique and I have four amazing adult children and two grandchildren. We try to remain physically active and in the past have participated in endurance sports such as triathlon (myself) and long-distance running (Monique more than I). We like to hike and paddle when we get the opportunity, and enjoy time in Canmore and Northern Ontario. In our remaining years of working life and our anticipated retirement, we hope to visit several places on our growing list of exotic destinations.

**Dr. Janette A. Hurley**

*Integrative Family Medicine, Addiction Medicine, Underserved and Marginalized Medicine, Calgary*

**Reflections on Service** I have many fond memories of the initiatives the Health Issues Council worked on, my favorite being the “Condom and the Pill” project. It was a controversial but brave stand on STI prevention taken by the AMA. When AHW attempted to cut funding for tubal ligations, a group of female docs hastily gathered around my kitchen table and started a petition that was rolled out with the help of the AMA. The cut was halted. Integrative family medicine, addiction medicine, chronic pain and complex care are a natural flow for my current role in the Section of Generalists in Mental Health.

The practice of medicine is the highest professional calling one can be given. It truly involves being of service to our community. At times it can seem lonely, but my involvement with the AMA has buffered this feeling since the AMA has got “the back” of physicians.

**Personal Interests** I’m the lead physician at the U of C’s Student Run Clinic, where I introduce medical students to the art and service of working with the marginalized. We always need more preceptors at our clinics and an ARP! I am a board member for La Leche League International. Since ceasing to practice obstetrics, I have discovered a true love for sleep. I love to meditate, have a daily yoga practice and really enjoy walking (even early mornings in the winter ☺). I also have a wonderful one-year old breastfed grandson who makes everything special.

**Dr. Shelby N. Karpman**

*Family Practice and Sport and Exercise Medicine, Edmonton*

**Reflections on Service** I began as a U of A student rep on a number of committees and then on the board. Later, I became chair of the Communications Committee, where I was involved in the very first ad campaign. It set the precedent for mobilizing the public and our members regarding health care issues. I also served as a member of the committee that had the honor of selecting the Top 100 Physicians of the Century in Alberta, was an Edmonton region RF member, and then president of the Section of Sport and Exercise Medicine. A highlight was the RF where I got to sit with my son, who was the board rep from the U of C.

Much of how physicians practice is dictated by what occurs in boardrooms and offices, and understanding that process and being a part of it allowed me to be involved in changes that bettered my career.

**Personal Interests** My work has been my passion and has allowed me to travel the world with national teams and celebrate championships with local ones. When I’m not working with athletes, I can be found in sporting venues as either a fan or participant, with golf and hockey being my predominant sports. Travel has always been another passion. When I am looking for quiet, you can find me outside with a good book and a glass of wine.

**Dr. Carolyn A. Lane**  
*Family Medicine, Calgary*

**Reflections on Service** My introduction to the AMA was early in my career through the Reproductive Care Committee, working with an interdisciplinary team to achieve better clinical outcomes. This led to involvement in the Section of General Practice executive, the RF, the AMA board and ultimately the Physician Compensation Committee, an innovative, objective approach to addressing a contentious issue – fee equity. I have always enjoyed a challenge and resolving conflict. Hopefully, my involvement with the SGP in developing and maintaining an INRV will remain a building block in achieving fair, transparent and equitable fees throughout the profession.

My AMA involvement has also helped me see hope when the frustrations of the ‘medical system’ bogged down my practice, allowed me to work collaboratively with a group of outstanding physicians and staff – for the greater good of the entire profession.

**Personal Interests** I plan to approach retirement as I did my career, starting every day with anticipation of the opportunities before me and retiring each night savoring all that I have experienced. I look forward to spending time in the outdoors and not worrying about snow falling in July. I intend to have many bountiful harvests of fruits, berries and vegetables from our newly created gardens, and share it with anyone who comes to visit us in the Okanagan, especially my two sons, family and friends, be they two-footed or four-footed.

**Dr. Gerry D. Prince**  
*Family Practice with an interest in Obstetrics, Medicine Hat*

**Reflections on Service** I worked with the Section of General Practice in a variety of capacities and devoted a lot of time to the Primary Care Initiative Committee. Involved from the formation of the committee, to getting PCNs up and organized, it’s been rewarding to see how PCNs have benefited Albertans and physicians alike. I was also very involved with the Relative Value Guide Committee. It’s satisfying to see those principles still serving the fee allocation process as part of the intrasectional relativity process.

I attended my first AMA SGP meeting as a recent graduate. Asked for nominations from the floor for president-elect, one of my older colleagues nominated me on the spot. I got hornswoiggled into it to start, but have never regretted it. AMA service is a great opportunity to help mold the future face of medicine!

Locally the most rewarding work has been establishing and serving as director of the Family Medicine Maternity Clinic which serves all the low risk deliveries for Medicine Hat.

**Personal Interests** My wife and I are still very close to our six children and five grandchildren and enjoy spending time with them. I love the outdoors, especially outdoor endurance events such as Adventure Racing. Each year I put on a race near Medicine Hat that is lots of fun for beginners and experts alike. I enjoy skiing (water and snow), snowboarding, hiking, running, and photography and woodworking when I can make time for it.

**Dr. Jeffrey C. Way**  
*General Surgery, Calgary*

**Reflections on Service** Over the 20 years I have spent serving at the AMA, the time on the board was very valuable. As well, I learned much of the workings of the AMA through my work on the various fees committees, where I spent most of my time. Through this I understood that the AMA does everything to ensure fairness in the fee process and is committed to fair distribution and compensation and an open and transparent process.

I would say to other physicians that the time spent in AMA service is very important, as I still hear physicians talking about the AMA as if it's this third party. I always remind them that we, as physicians, are the AMA. By being involved we have the ability to participate and impact on our professional lives.

**Personal Interests** I've had many interests over the years. A few years ago I took a welding course and became a welder. I now get a lot of requests from friends, because everybody needs a guy with a pick-up truck and a welding machine! I have also been quite involved with medical missions with Samaritan's Purse and with my wife, who is an RN, have travelled to Sri Lanka and Haiti and done disaster simulations for them. Over the past 14 years I have been doing my Masters online and I will graduate in May of 2016 with a Masters in Christian Studies.



# Evening with the AMA President

Friday, September 25

AMA • RF / AGM 2015



# Program

Welcome and AMA President's Remarks

*Dr. Richard G.R. Johnston*

Introduction of Head Table

## AMA Achievement Awards

The Alberta Medical Association (AMA) Achievement Awards were created to honor physicians and non-physicians for their contributions to quality health care in Alberta. The Medal for Distinguished Service and the Medal of Honor are the highest awards presented by the AMA.

Medal for Distinguished Service

*Dr. Norman R.C. Campbell*

*Dr. Luanne M. Metz*

*Dr. Eldon A. Shaffer*

Medal of Honor

*Glen B. Baker, PhD*

*Alvin Libin*

## AMA Award for Compassionate Service

This inaugural award honors a physician who, during his or her career, has served as an inspiration to others with outstanding compassion, dedication and extraordinary contributions to volunteer or philanthropy efforts to improve the state of his or her community.

Recipient

*Dr. Susan A. Christenson*

Blessing

Toast to the Queen

President's Closing Remarks

## Medal for Distinguished Service

### Dr. Norman R.C. Campbell

*“What drives Norm is that desire to make a difference for all Canadians. He works directly with patients, then at a national and international level too, so he really sees the impact of the work he’s doing.”*

*“He has been instrumental in helping Canadians control their hypertension. We went from having abysmally poor control rates for hypertension to one of the best in the world. Norm, and his efforts to get people to reduce their salt intake, was key in that change.”*

A tireless champion in the fight to prevent and control hypertension, Dr. Norman Campbell has been instrumental in helping Canadians understand the importance of limiting their salt intake. Throughout his career, his dedication to research, education and prevention related to hypertension has helped improve the health of countless Canadians and influenced the development of policies that translate evidence into action.

Dr. Campbell received his medical degree from Memorial University in Newfoundland in 1980, before studying clinical pharmacology at the Mayo Clinic under the renowned Dr. Richard Weinshilboum, who specializes in hypertension-related illness. Following his return to Canada, Dr. Campbell joined the staff at St. Clare’s Mercy Hospital and the General Hospital in St. John’s, Newfoundland. He also began teaching at the University of Newfoundland, in both the Division of Clinical Pharmacology and the Division of Nephrology. In 1990, Dr. Campbell moved out west, joining the staff of the Foothills Hospital in Calgary and becoming an associate professor of medicine at the University of Calgary (U of C). Today, he is a professor of medicine, community health sciences and physiology and pharmacology at the U of C and a member of the Libin Cardiovascular Institute of Alberta.

Dr. Campbell’s expertise in the field of hypertension prevention and control has led to his involvement with many organizations. He is currently the CIHR Canadian Chair in Hypertension Prevention and Control, chair of the Pan American Health Organization Dietary Salt Work Group, and chair of the Canadian Hypertension Education Program (CHEP) Steering Committee. CHEP develops, implements and evaluates the impact of Canadian hypertension recommendations. In addition, Dr. Campbell is president of Blood Pressure Canada, a public health coalition of 29 organizations dedicated to the prevention and control of hypertension. Previously, he has lent his expertise to the World Health Organization, the World Hypertension League, and various other international, national and provincial groups. He is a past chair of Alberta’s Ministers Expert Committee on Drugs and Therapeutics and the former head and chief of General Medicine at the U of C and the Calgary Health Region.

His skill as researcher, clinician and teacher has earned him myriad awards, including the 1998 Gold Star Letter for Excellence in Lecturing from the U of C, the 2007 Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada’s Leadership Award in Heart Healthy Policy, and a 2011 Special Distinguished Service Award from Hypertension Canada. In 2014, he was named to the Order of Canada and received a fellowship in the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences, the Canadian Cardiovascular Society Dr. Howard N. Segall Award of Merit and the Confederation of Alberta Faculty Associations Distinguished Academic Award. He was recently bestowed CMA’s highest honor, the Frederic Newton Gisborne (FNG) Starr Award.

Dr. Campbell has written hundreds of peer-reviewed manuscripts, led several pioneering research projects and is a sought-after international speaker and lecturer.

## Dr. Luanne M. Metz

*“She has contributed to the knowledge of care and understanding of MS on a national and world stage. She has distinguished herself as a caring clinician, skilled administrator, excellent teacher, effective researcher and visionary leader. Alberta should be proud of this extraordinary physician.”*

*“Dr. Metz has tirelessly devoted herself to MS patients in the Calgary MS Clinic, in an exemplary fashion, from the establishment of outstanding standards of care to providing access to the most recent new and experimental therapies ... it’s an outstanding example of delivering the best health care through knowledge and teamwork.”*

Dr. Luanne Metz is internationally recognized as a pioneer in Multiple Sclerosis (MS) research, treatment and care. Over the course of her career she has transformed the entire landscape of our understanding of MS, and in the process has raised the standards of medical care and improved the quality of life for patients living with the disease.

Dr. Metz was director of the MS Clinic of Calgary from 1993 to 2014 and is credited with leading the clinic’s evolution into one of the world’s leading centers for MS treatment, care and research. Under her, the clinic grew from a staff of four neurologists, one psychiatrist and one nurse that offered fewer than 400 half-day clinics per year to a multidisciplinary team that includes 11 neurologists, a psychiatrist, a neuropsychiatrist, eight nurses, a nurse practitioner and occupational therapists, physical therapists, social workers and other specialists. Today, the clinic serves more than 7,000 patients and offers over 1,400 half-day clinics per year.

Dr. Metz expanded the clinic’s research capacity and over the past five years the clinical and collaborating basic science team have published more than 100 manuscripts. In addition, she led the development of several innovative programs, including an Early Contact Program that provides education and nursing support to the newly diagnosed, even before they see a neurologist, alleviating stress and anxiety.

Dr. Metz received her medical degree from the University of Calgary in 1983 and her neurological certification in 1988. During her time at the MS Clinic of Calgary, she mentored and trained many of Canada’s MS specialists, including the directors of the MS Clinic at the University of Alberta and the Red Deer MS Clinic. Dr. Metz has lent her expertise and knowledge to Alberta’s MS Drug Program and to the TAMSI research initiative, which is funded by Alberta Health and describes the impact of MS on Albertans – including the controversial CCVSI treatment. She was the founding member and first president of the Canadian Network of MS Clinics, has served on several drug study monitoring committees, is on the editorial board of the *Multiple Sclerosis Journal* and since 2004, has co-led the MS program at the Hotchkiss Brain Institute.

Her early research work changed how neurologists approach the management of MS relapses, proving the safety and effectiveness of patients receiving oral steroids at home. Dr. Metz has led numerous clinical trials and her research in relation to minocycline has been groundbreaking. Her current collaborative work into the potential impact of the hormone prolactin to facilitate repair of myelin holds tremendous promise.

Although Dr. Metz stepped down as the MS Clinic of Calgary director in 2014 to become the head of the Division of Neurology at the University of Calgary, she remains involved in its activities and is head of clinical research at the clinic.

## Dr. Eldon A. Shaffer

*“His acumen in recruiting outstanding people resulted in Calgary becoming one of the international strengths in inflammatory bowel disease research.”*

*“I like to say that he was the Gretzky of University of Calgary GI and internal medicine: not only was he a strong scorer (successful researcher and academic in his own right) but he made a major mark setting up others – he made everybody around him much better.”*

Over the past 50 years, Dr. Eldon Shaffer has established himself as one of the world’s most preeminent gastroenterologists. His contributions to patient care, research and teaching have revolutionized the way physicians diagnose and treat gastroenterology and liver diseases and improved the lives of countless patients and their families.

Dr. Shaffer received his medical degree from Queens University in Kingston, Ontario, in 1965, before completing clinical training in internal medicine and gastroenterology at McGill University. A GI Fellowship at Boston University followed and set him on a path as a clinical scientist. He was recruited back to McGill as an assistant professor, where he established a Medical Research Council of Canada-funded laboratory and began an active consulting practice in gastroenterology at the Montreal General Hospital. In 1977, he relocated to Calgary, moving his research laboratory to the University of Calgary (U of C) and establishing both the U of C’s Division of Gastroenterology and a Royal College accredited training program in gastroenterology. At the U of C, he became the first division head and founded the residency-training program, which has produced over 60 trainees who have gone on to consultative practices across Alberta and around the world. Dr. Shaffer has also trained and guided countless lab-based researchers, who now hold faculty positions in Europe, Hong Kong, Israel and here in Alberta.

Dr. Shaffer’s influence and impact as a researcher has been profound, and he has published more than 500 papers, textbooks, chapters and abstracts. He has also served on countless academic committees, editorial boards and grant reviewing agencies. He was instrumental in establishing the GI Research Group at the U of C, which takes a multidisciplinary approach to translational research focused on inflammatory bowel and liver disease. The group has attracted some of the world’s leading clinicians and scientists, allowing medical students and residents to learn from the best and putting Calgary on the world’s research map.

An impassioned advocate for patient care in all of his leadership roles, Dr. Shaffer worked to establish common standards of care across hospital sites and facilitated the creation of the Heritage Medical Research Clinic, which is devoted to clinical trials of novel therapies. He continues to work closely with patients today, through his busy consultative practice at the Foothills Hospital.

In the midst of his many academic, clinical and research responsibilities, he has also lent his time to various organizations, serving as president of the Canadian Association of Gastroenterology, chair of the Medical Advisory Board for the Crohn’s and Colitis Foundation, and president of the Canadian Professors of Medicine.

His dedication to teaching has been recognized with several awards from organizations such as the Canadian Association of Gastroenterology, the Canadian Society for Clinical Investigation and the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. Dr. Shaffer is a sought-after CME speaker, both provincially and nationally.

## Medal of Honor

### Glen B. Baker PhD

*"Dr. Baker is singular in the respect and admiration he has garnered from members of our professional community ... I am pleased to have had Dr. Baker as a teacher, a mentor, a colleague and a friend."*

*"I have learned many things from Dr. Baker: how to do science, how to teach, how to manage a laboratory, how to guide students, how to resolve conflicts, and how to build a team and be a team player. Dr. Baker exemplifies the role of a mentor and distinguished professor."*

The first non-psychiatrist in Canada to become a full-time Chair of Psychiatry, Dr. Glen Baker has earned the respect of everyone who has had the pleasure to work alongside him or learn from him. A PhD neurochemist with training in neuropharmacology, Dr. Baker has made significant contributions to advancing medical research, elevating medical education and strengthening health care organizations.

Currently the Associate Vice-President (Research) at the University of Alberta and a professor in the Department of Psychiatry, his history with the University of Alberta goes back several decades. In 1977 he was one of the three co-founders of the multidisciplinary Neurochemical Research Unit, which was created to investigate the biological bases of psychiatric and neurological disorders and to investigate mechanisms of action and metabolism of drugs used to treat those disorders. The unit continues its work today and has created several national and international collaborations.

An accomplished researcher, Dr. Baker has published over 340 peer-reviewed papers, over 100 articles and more than 400 abstracts, many dealing with biomarkers in psychiatric and neurological disorders and metabolism and mechanisms of action of drugs used to treat those disorders. He has been a Tier I Canada Research Chair in Neurochemistry and Drug

Development, a McCalla Research Professor and has held the prestigious Killam Professorship at the University of Alberta.

His reputation as an expert in biological psychiatry and neuropsychopharmacology is unrivalled, and his work in relation to the pharmacology of antidepressants is considered seminal. He has been recognized with numerous awards for his contributions to research, education and the promotion of mental health initiatives, including the Killam Award for Mentoring, the University of Alberta Distinguished Professorship and Fellowship in the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences. In 2014, he received the Centennial Alumni of Influence Award from the University of Saskatchewan.

Dr. Baker graduated with a PhD (Biological Psychiatry) from the University of Saskatchewan in 1974 and from 1974 to 1977 was a MRC of Canada Postdoctoral Fellow in the Neuropharmacology Unit at the University of Birmingham Medical School.

Over the years, he has held leadership positions with several organizations, including the Canadian College of Neuropsychopharmacology and served on numerous committees with Capital Health and Alberta Health Services. He worked as part of the team that formed the Edmonton Early Psychosis Intervention Clinic and was involved in the establishment of a national mental health research secretariat and the creation of the Canadian Depression Research and Intervention Network, where he is on the interim board of directors.

Dr. Baker is a dedicated teacher whose insight, expertise and mentorship have influenced an entire generation of psychiatrists and strengthened mental health programs and training. Many of his students have gone on to become both colleagues and friends and frequently laud Dr. Baker as an inspiration and role model.

## Alvin Libin

*“Alvin Libin is a compassionate and driven Albertan who has worked tirelessly to enhance the health of Albertans.”*

*“By serving as an advocate for health care and life-saving research, he demonstrates the importance of giving back and, in so doing, has significantly changed the face of medical standards in Alberta.”*

Entrepreneur and philanthropist Alvin Libin’s tireless efforts to support medical research and education, and to ensure patients have the best expertise and resources available, have made a measurable difference in the lives of countless Albertans.

Mr. Libin was born in Calgary in 1931 to Russian immigrant parents who instilled a strong work ethic and a compassion for his fellow citizens. That work ethic helped him build a successful business empire that spanned real estate, oil and gas, and financial services. In 1967, he co-founded Villacentres, which eventually grew into the Extendicare system, which operates 28,000 beds throughout Canada, the United States and the United Kingdom. Today, he is the president and CEO of Balmon Investments, a private management services company, and part owner of the Calgary Flames Hockey Club, where he sits on its Flames Foundation for Life board.

His passion for giving back to the community has led him to take on many leadership roles. From 1980 to 1990, Mr. Libin was chair of the board of trustees of the Foothills Medical Centre, and from 1990 to 2000 was chair of the board of trustees of the Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research (AHFMR). Under Mr. Libin’s leadership AHFMR grew its initial \$300 million endowment to \$1 billion. He has also lent his time and energy to various volunteer roles, including as president of the Calgary Jewish Community Council and leader of the University of Calgary’s Building the Vision national campaign.

In 1984, Mr. Libin and his late wife Mona created the Alvin and Mona Libin Foundation, which contributes \$800,000 annually to such community initiatives as medical scholarships for students and funding non-profit organizations such as the Women in Need Society. The foundation helped create University of Calgary health facilities such as the Libin Gene Unit.

A former cardiac patient, Mr. Libin is dedicated to improving outcomes for those living with heart disease. In 2003, he and his late wife donated \$15 million to the University of Calgary and the Calgary Health Region to create the Libin Cardiovascular Institute of Alberta. Since 2004, the institute’s approximately 150 clinicians and researchers have pursued excellence in cardiovascular research and education, securing more than \$150 million of competitive research funding over the past decade and publishing more than 350 peer-reviewed articles each year. The institute delivers world-class cardiac care to southern Alberta, and has attracted a further \$35 million in community contributions to fund advanced technology and facilities. Mr. Libin remains an active member of the institute’s Strategic Advisory Board, and the institute is now recognized as one of the top three cardiovascular institutes in Canada.

His dedication has been recognized with many awards, including a Doctor of Laws from the University of Calgary in 1994, an Officer of the Order of Canada in 2002, induction into the Calgary Business Hall of Fame in 2010 and the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal in 2012.

## AMA Award for Compassionate Service

### Dr. Susan A. Christenson

*"I think Sue is 'one in a million.' She is a constant source of support, knowledge and help for a community under constant threat of ill health. She is an outstanding and compassionate clinician and community member."*

*"Dr. Christenson is remarkable and goes beyond her normal duties and practices to care for community members. She knows every patient's story and life situation and takes the time to listen to everyone."*

This year, for the first time, the Alberta Medical Association is honoring a physician, who has demonstrated outstanding compassion, philanthropy or volunteerism to improve the state of the community in which he or she is giving back. Our inaugural recipient of the AMA Award for Compassionate Service is Dr. Susan A. Christenson, who provides primary care for the people of the Blood Tribe in southern Alberta. Her unwavering dedication and tireless efforts have helped create a medical home for Blood Reserve members that aims to improve their health and wellbeing.

Since arriving on the Blood Reserve in 2006, Dr. Christenson has gone above and beyond to deliver compassionate, comprehensive care to the people of the community. In 2013, she was asked by the Band Council to establish a clinic at the reserve's Lavern townsite. Today it is a focal point of the community – a place where people feel respected, cared for and valued.

Dr. Christenson's commitment to her patients is evident in myriad ways, including her willingness to see patients after regular office hours, re-open the clinic to perform sutures and answer calls on weekends and holidays. She has even, on many occasions, drawn labs and taken the samples to Cardston Hospital for analysis, and picked up prescriptions in town for those patients who have no means of transportation.

After receiving her MD from the University of California in 1990, Dr. Christenson completed both a post-sophomore fellowship in pathology and a surgical internship before coming to Edmonton in 1991 to complete a rotating internship at the Charles Camsell Hospital. Following her return to the United States, she practiced emergency medicine and urgent care in various communities around California, moving back to Alberta in 2006 to begin working on the Blood Reserve.

Dr. Christenson has worked to build a team of specialty providers in areas such as obstetrics/gynecology, rheumatology, nephrology, psychology and respiratory services who now come to Lavern to practice. Those specialists, many of whom nominated her for this award, speak highly of her unwavering dedication to improving the health of her patients and her commitment to ensuring patients feel heard and respected.

Over the past nine years, Dr. Christenson has become part of the Blood Tribe community, frequently participating in ceremonies and community events, and is practicing her Blackfoot language. She grieves for the community when they experience tragedy and shares in their joys and triumphs. She knows her patients, their families and their stories and is devoted to their health and wellness. Her influence on the community is so great, children frequently comment that they want to be a doctor "like Dr. Sue."

# Lunch with the CMA President

Saturday, September 26

AMA ◦ RF / AGM 2015



## Program

Welcome

Introduction of Head Table

Blessing

Toast to the Queen

CMA President's Remarks

*Dr. Cindy Forbes*

CMA Honorary Membership Awards

*Dr. David W. Bond*

*Dr. Brendan J. Bunting*

*Dr. T. Malcolm Campbell*

*Dr. D. Jill Konkin*

*Dr. Robert R. Moriarty*

*Dr. A. James D. Pope*

*Dr. Josephine M. Wilson*

CMA Dr. William Marsden Award in Medical Ethics

*Dr. Paul J. Byrne*

Installation of new AMA President

*Dr. Carl W. Nohr*

Presentation to AMA Past President

*Dr. Richard G.R. Johnston*

New AMA President's Closing Remarks



## CMA President

**Cindy Forbes** MD, CCFP, FCFP

Originally from Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, Dr. Cindy Forbes has been a practicing family physician for over 28 years. Originally interested in teaching, she completed a Bachelor of Science degree in Health Education at Dalhousie University in 1980 and was a recipient of the Dalhousie University Medal for Academic Achievement.

With a passion for health and wellness, Dr. Forbes decided to pursue a career in medicine. She obtained her MD from Dalhousie University's School of Medicine in 1985 where she was president of her graduating class. Dr. Forbes went on to practice family medicine in Bedford, Nova Scotia, and quickly became actively engaged in the work of Doctors Nova Scotia where she ultimately became President from 1996-97. Following her term as Past President, Dr. Forbes moved with her family to North Vancouver, British Columbia, where she practiced as a family physician for three years before returning to Nova Scotia and joining her current family practice in Fall River, Nova Scotia. During her time in British Columbia, she also served on the BCMA's Council on Health Care and Promotion and the Tobacco and Illness Prevention Committee.

A dedicated clinician with a genuine desire to work with her colleagues to enhance the medical profession, advocate for healthy living and improve the quality of the health care system, Dr. Forbes has been an active member in the medical community in addition to practicing as a family physician over her career. She is a former Sport Nova Scotia spokesperson for the "Sports Makes a Difference Campaign" and has served as chief medical officer for the Bluenose Marathon. She was also previously host of CTV-CMA "Medical Minutes" health promotion features for CTV News Channel.

Recently, she has been actively engaged with the NS College of Physicians and Surgeons, Doctors Nova Scotia, the Dalhousie Medical Alumni Association and the Canadian Medical Association (CMA). In the past, she has chaired CMA's Council on Health Care and Promotion and is a former member of CMA's Political Action Committee, and is currently a member of Doctors Nova Scotia's Master Agreement Steering Committee. For the past eight years, she has also served as a medical consultant for Medavie Blue Cross's medication advisory panel.

Today, Dr. Forbes lives in Waverley, Nova Scotia, with her husband Greg and is the proud mother of two daughters. She is an active paddler and volunteer with the Cheema Aquatic Club. She is an avid runner and an aspiring golfer.



## CMA Honorary Members

### Dr. David W. Bond

*Emergency Medicine, Edmonton*

**Reflections on Service** I was on the board for 11 years and was AMA president in 1999-2000. There were a lot of highlights, but being involved in the Physician Resource Planning Committee was especially interesting. I was on it for three or four years and really enjoyed it. I found the CMA board to be a valuable experience as it was interesting to see how the other provinces handled their board duties. I was also on the Nominating Committee for many years and I think we were able to get some different people into the AMA that increased the diversity of the membership. I owe Bob Burns, the CEO during my time with the AMA, a lot as he helped me learn how to be a semi-administrator.

AMA involvement teaches you different skills. Physicians practice pretty autonomously and when you sit on these committees with other physicians you learn not everybody makes decisions the same way, although in the end we often came to the same conclusion.

**Personal Interests** I love to golf and love to travel, and we're looking forward to retiring next year and travelling more. Life is too short to put things off, so we'll be heading back to Italy – I lived there once and have an affinity for Italy. We also go to London a lot. Our daughter is getting married this September, just before RF, so we've been busy with that too.

### Dr. Brendan J. Bunting

*Family Practice, Ponoka*

**Reflections on Service** I graduated from Queens University Belfast in 1974 and moved to Alberta for a "two-year adventure" in 1979 and I'm still here! I have been to all Representative Forums except the first one, and spent eight years on the Board of Directors. I also served on the CMA Board of Directors for three years. My time as AMA president stands out, and I was proud to sign the Trilateral Agreement with AH and AHS in 2003. There have been many lasting accomplishments of that agreement, not the least of which were the establishment of PCNs and formalization of the Physician Office System Program (POSP).

Being involved in the AMA is a wonderful way to meet people across the province and indeed the whole country. I particularly treasure the mentorship of physicians that had served before me and encourage younger physicians to take advantage of such wonderful resources who are often delighted just to be asked! I am also privileged to have worked with key senior staff at the AMA and realize more than most just exactly how much we rely on them!

**Personal Interests** I am the proud husband of Alison, father of John and Kate and now grandfather to Victoria and Rebecca who are five and three. We have a home in Canmore, so spend a lot of time skiing and golfing, and even the grandchildren are starting to ski a bit too. Unfortunately, my knees are working against my favorite sport ... tennis.

**Dr. T. Malcolm Campbell**

*General Practice and In-patient Psychiatry, Innisfail*

**Reflections on Service** I was an active member of the AMA when the Representative Forum was initiated and enjoyed watching it develop. My time on the board was memorable, from the point of view of interacting with politicians and bureaucrats, especially in the Klein years. It was also interesting to be involved in the early challenging deliberations on primary care reform from 1994 to 1997. I enjoyed being the AMA coordinator of the Regional Medical Staff Organization Steering Committee for the new David Thompson Health Region in 1994, and an AMA delegate to CMA General Council and member of the CMA GP Forum, which created an opportunity to discuss national topics of interest to GPs with colleagues from other provinces.

The supportive collegial atmosphere of being involved in section, RF, MD-MLA and MD-MP activities is inspiring and gives one a perspective as to the importance of the physician's role in society. My AMA service has led to many lasting, meaningful friendships and helped me establish here as an immigrant to Alberta.

**Personal Interests** As a farmer's son, I'm glad to have reconnected with my roots by purchasing a quarter section. I raise sport horses and enjoy being involved in their training. Most recently, watching my children follow their academic and career paths has reminded me how quickly the various phases of life go by. I also have a long-standing eccentric interest in reading the obituaries in the *British Medical Journal*.

**Dr. D. Jill Konkin**

*Family Practice, Edmonton*

**Reflections on Service** Involvement with the AMA over the years has been interesting, challenging and educational with never a dull moment. I became significantly involved in the AMA during the first regionalization of health care through the WestView Regional Medical Association when I was in full-time practice in Jasper. That led to being a delegate at the first Representative Forum and then election to the newly constituted board. It was a tumultuous, stimulating and creative time to be involved in medical politics. That new board accomplished many things that contributed to producing a nimbler, more responsive organization.

Those involved in AMA and CMA are a feisty, talented, caring bunch advocating for patients, communities and the profession. Finding ways to make positive change is hard work. It takes patience and perseverance, but can also be fun and rewarding, especially when undertaken with a team of colleagues.

**Personal Interests** Involvement in the community is important to me and I've recently finished two terms as a member of the CASA board, an organization that advocates and provides for mental health services for children, adolescents and their families. I am currently a member of the board of the Boyle McCauley Health Centre, a non-profit community owned and operated health center serving the needs of Edmonton's inner city population. Music is a significant part of my life. I play the piano and support the opera and the symphony. My favorite outdoor activities include sailing and cross-country skiing.

**Dr. Robert R. Moriarty**  
*Family Practice, Edmonton*

**Reflections on Service** I served as president of the AMA Section of Pediatrics for two stints (1985-87 and 2007-10) and also served on the Board and Executive Committee of the Canadian Paediatric Society for the last six years, culminating in the presidency of the CPS 2014-15. There have been many highlights, including being involved in the initial AMA Section of Pediatrics relative value guideline development. I am involved in ongoing advocacy in multiple areas, including childhood immunization and improved medical assessments and supports for children in care.

Being involved with political, social and advocacy issues in support of children and pediatricians is challenging, humbling but inspiring. AMA/CMA has helped with professional development and providing encouragement and recognition of these efforts.

**Personal Interests** Janet and I love hiking, traveling, downhill skiing and dabble with bicycle riding. Love to travel to Italy, been there a few times and have a bucket list trip planned for South Africa in November and will include a conference and safari time. We bought a place in Canmore about three years ago and enjoy the great outdoors. We enjoy our grandchildren, and we have another one due in August. I'm looking forward to spending more time on grandfather duties once I retire in the next couple of years. I'm also still active as Division Head of Community Pediatrics in the Edmonton region and passionate about advocating for Alberta's children.

**Dr. A. James D. Pope**  
*General Practice, Grande Prairie*

**Reflections on Service** I have been honored to serve within the Representative Forum of the AMA and on the Executive of the Section of General Practice. I appreciated being able to work with local political leaders in Grande Prairie as a physician advocate for the AMA. The AMA gave us good training to enhance our effectiveness in those conversations.

The voice of the medical profession is needed to ensure that the medical care we would want for ourselves will be available to our families and the Canadians who will follow us.

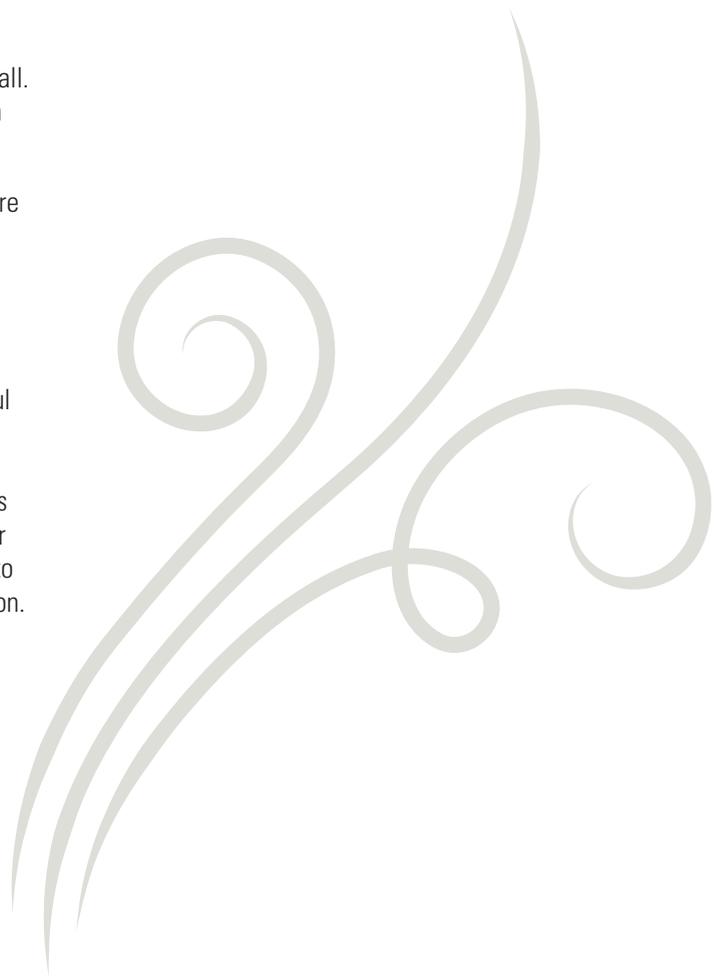
**Personal Interests** I play keyboards in a small band. We play old-time music for the seniors. I enjoy collecting signatures from inspiring historic individuals, including Alexander Fleming, Jonas Salk and Louis Pasteur. In my office I have a picture of Helen Keller with her signature to remind me of what is important when caring for our patients. I enjoy proverbs and one of my favorites is Mark Twain's "Kindness is the language the deaf can hear and the blind can see."

**Dr. Josephine M. Wilson***Family Medicine, Canmore*

**Reflections on Service** My work with the AMA was a very valuable experience. Working on the Health Issues Council – looking towards the future and planning for preventative measures – is a novel and exciting process. My time on the Board of Directors was an eye-opener, as I had not appreciated until then how well-run the AMA was. I was also involved in the initial integration of regional medical staff organizations with the AMA structure and believe the project's overarching concepts benefitted us all. My participation in the AMA made me realize how much leverage we have in our profession.

The public looks to us for guidance on their individual care and on issues that affect the entire health care system. Our influence should never be underestimated. What I learned at the AMA has made me a better advocate for my patients.

**Personal Interests** In addition to spending delightful time with my five grandchildren, I love to hike, walk my Wheaten Terrier and cross-country ski in our beautiful Rockies. I also love music and have been involved in choirs over the years. Currently, I am working hard on projects for the "Mountain Grannies," a group of the Grandmothers to Grandmothers Campaign of the Stephen Lewis Foundation. We support grandmothers in sub-Saharan Africa who are raising grandchildren orphaned by AIDS. This is very rewarding work.



## CMA Dr. William Marsden Award in Medical Ethics

### Dr. Paul J. Byrne

*Pediatrics, Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine, Edmonton*

*“Dr. Byrne has been a colleague of mine for a number of years, and his passion for medical ethics and his commitment to excellence in research, particularly ethical decision making in perinatal medicine, is inspiring.”*

*“Paul is well known to display moral courage when bureaucratic or political expediency takes decisions down paths that are not in the interests of patients or accepted ethical norms of society ... (he) demonstrates exemplary ongoing leadership, commitment and dedication to the advancement of medical ethics in Canada.”*

There are few physicians who have been as instrumental in advancing medical ethics as Dr. Paul Byrne. Over the course of his distinguished career, Dr. Byrne has dedicated himself to ensuring that medical ethics informs and guides the practice of medicine. It is a task he has embraced with courage and grace.

Dr. Byrne received his medical degree from the National University of Ireland in 1976, and pursued pediatric residencies in both Ireland and Canada. After completing a two-year neonatal fellowship at the University of Western Ontario and St. Joseph's Hospital in London, Ontario, Dr. Byrne moved out west. By 1985, he was an assistant professor with the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Alberta and a staff neonatologist, Division of Newborn Medicine, at the University of Alberta Hospital (UAH). From 1989-97, he served as the director of the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at the Stollery Children's Hospital.

Dr. Byrne's work as a neonatologist necessitated the making of difficult decisions about care options for the tiniest and most vulnerable patients, a process that ignited his interest in medical ethics. It was an interest that would lead him to further incorporate the discipline of medical ethics into his career. From

1997-99, he served as co-director of the John Dossetor Health Ethics Centre at the University of Alberta, and from 2002-06 he served as its director. During this time, he also served as a clinical ethicist at the UAH and the Stollery Children's Hospital, where he consulted and taught through the Clinical Ethics Committee.

His work in medical ethics aligned with an era of broad social change that saw a shift from hierarchal decision making by physicians to one that respected parents' beliefs and was based on informed consent. Dr. Byrne was greatly influenced by his mentor and teacher, Dr. John Dossetor, and together they worked respectfully and compassionately with parents and patients in a time of immense technological advancements and the resulting ethical considerations those advancements created.

Dr. Byrne is currently the interim director of the John Dossetor Health Ethics Centre at the University of Alberta and the director of the Neonatal Transport Team, David Schiff Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, at Edmonton's Stollery Children's Hospital. He also serves on dozens of committees and councils, many with an ethics focus. He is a sought after speaker, whose insight and expertise has guided organizations and individuals from across Canada and around the world. For many, he is synonymous with modern medical ethics.

Dr. Byrne's commitment to medical ethics within academic, clinical and research settings has substantially advanced the medical community's understanding and interest in the discipline. He has influenced thousands of health professionals and others to make ethics a part of their practice and, in so doing, has ensured compassionate, pragmatic ethical care for patients and their families.

## Installation of new AMA President

### Dr. Carl W. Nohr

Dr. Carl Nohr, a general surgeon in Medicine Hat, officially assumes the role of AMA president this weekend.

*"I am an ordinary practicing physician. My love for our profession, and a desire to be of value to colleagues, led me to organized medicine. The AMA has been able to find some use for me, and I am grateful for the privilege of serving our great profession.*

*"There are opportunities for improvements in physician compensation, value for AMA members, health information management, and physician leadership. Physician compensation is complex, and evidently needs ongoing attention. Organizationally, the AMA can build on past achievements by evolving and increasing value for members. We need real progress in health information management, including integration, provision of summary and performance data to physicians, and patient access to their own health information. As for leadership, we usually think of this as a system role, but physician leadership starts with each interaction we have with patients, and each decision we make on a day-to-day basis. Every such interaction and decision reflects on our stewardship of the privilege we have to be physicians and the trust patients place in us, and will either increase or diminish the reputation of our profession."*

Dr. Nohr attained his medical degree in 1978 from McGill University and went on to an internship at the University of Western Ontario. General surgery residencies followed at Western Ontario and McGill universities, then a Research Fellowship in Surgical Immunobiology (PhD, McGill) and a Transplantation Fellowship (University of Minnesota).

Dr. Nohr has served on many hospital, regional, provincial and national committees and has numerous publications, abstracts, chapters and proceedings to his name. He was an associate professor with tenure and taught for 10 years at McGill University. In 1993 he received the Residents' Award for Excellence in Teaching from McGill's Department of Surgery. In 1995, he moved to Medicine Hat and began practice there as a community general surgeon with front line hospital-based duties. Dr. Nohr has an independent practice, working out of a house converted to an office.

Dr. Nohr has served with the AMA on such groups as the Council of Zonal Leaders, Physician and Family Support Program Advisory Committee, Joint AMA/AHS Medical Staff Bylaws Working Group, Representative Forum (RF), Nominating Committee, Provincial Physician Liaison Forum and Provincial Medical Staff Bylaws Committee. He served two terms as Speaker at RF. He was a member of Council with the College of Physicians & Surgeons of Alberta as well as president of the Palliser Medical Staff Association, acting president and vice-president of the South Zone Medical Staff Association. Dr. Nohr currently sits on the AMA Board of Directors, the RF Planning Group and various other internal AMA committees.

## Presentation to AMA Past President

### Dr. Richard G.R. Johnston

Dr. Richard Johnston officially ends his term as president of the Alberta Medical Association this weekend and assumes the role of immediate past president.

*"It has been a great year as president. I have been impressed by the thoughtful comments by many members, and by the willingness of the profession to look beyond things that benefit us to advocate for the changes needed to improve and preserve our health care system."*

Dr. Johnston received his MD, with distinction, from the University of Alberta in 1977. A rotating internship followed then residencies in surgery, anesthesia, and a critical care fellowship. In 2002 he obtained an MBA from the Ivey Business School at the University of Western Ontario. Dr. Johnston is an attending staff member in Adult Intensive Care at the Royal Alexandra Hospital in Edmonton. He is also a clinical professor in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry's Department of Anesthesiology and Division of Critical Care at the University of Alberta. Dr. Johnston has many publications, abstracts and research papers to his name.

Throughout his career, Dr. Johnston served on many hospital and regional committees and was secretary-treasurer then president of the Alberta Society of Intensive Care Physicians. He also served eight years on the City of Edmonton's Emergency Medical Services Advisory Committee and was an external reviewer with the Drug Directorate, Health Protection Branch, of Health and Welfare Canada, as well as with the BC Health Research Foundation.

Dr. Johnston has been an AMA member since 1980 when he was a resident physician. He has served on many committees since then, notably the Negotiating Committee as a member then chair for 19 years. He also represented the AMA for four years on the Canadian Medical Association's Council on Health Policy and Economics. In his role as immediate past president, Dr. Johnston will continue to serve on the AMA Board of Directors and several other committees. His contributions to the association and to the profession were recognized with the AMA Long-Service Award in 2004 and Member Emeritus in 2014.

Dr. Johnston enjoys spending time with his wife and family, travelling, golfing and walking.

*"Now that this year is over, I plan to spend more quality time with Susan, my wife, in travelling to Europe and Turkey this year. We are working our way through our bucket list, and when I retire in two years we will enjoy more time in the Okanagan."*







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