



2014

Representative Forum / Annual General Meeting

# Awards Program



ALBERTA  
MEDICAL  
ASSOCIATION





# Awards Program

**Lunch with the AMA President 3-18**

*Friday, September 19*

Long-Service Awards  
Member Emeritus Awards

**Evening with the AMA President 19-22**

*Friday, September 19*

Achievement Awards

**Lunch with the CMA President 23-30**

*Saturday, September 20*

CMA Honorary Membership Awards



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 this year. 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 and CMA 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 remarkable career and service achievements on our website ([albertadoctors.org/about/awards](http://albertadoctors.org/about/awards)) 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 19, 2014

AMA ◦ RF / AGM 2014



# Program

Welcome and AMA President's Remarks

*Dr. Allan S. Garbutt*

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. Richard G. Bergstrom*

*Dr. Steven M. Edworthy*

*Dr. R. Michael Giuffre*

*Dr. Robert A. Halse*

*Dr. Kevin M. Hay*

*Dr. Susan J. Hutchison*

*Dr. Alan N. Lin*

*Dr. Douglas M. McCarty*

*Dr. Christine P. Molnar*

*Dr. Rowland T. Nichol*

*Dr. Jasneet K. Parmar*

*Dr. Patrick M. Pierse*

*Dr. Jeffrey S. Pivnick*

*Dr. Daniel R. Ryan*

*Dr. Judith K. Ustina*

*Dr. Robert S. Warshawski*

*Dr. Eric A. Wasylenko*

## 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. William W. (Bill) Anderson*

*Dr. Daniel J. Hryciuk*

*Dr. Richard G.R. Johnston*

*Dr. D. Jill Konkin*

*Dr. Dale C. Lien*

*Dr. Fredryka D. Rinaldi*

*Dr. Ernst P. Schuster*

*Dr. Wendy L. Tink*

*Dr. Patrick J. (P.J.) White*

*Dr. Josephine M. Wilson*

# AMA Long-Service Award

**Dr. Richard G. Bergstrom**

*Cardiac Anesthesiology, Edmonton*

## Reflections on Service

What I have found most rewarding is the integrity of the staff at the AMA and their hard work at providing a forum for physicians to advance the care they provide to patients. Representative Forum is a respectful and effective group in which physicians can debate, discuss and decide. It is instrumental in helping the greater physician community focus on what we do for patients. I also believe the work on the Council of Presidents helped with a greater understanding of the provincial challenges that the physician community experiences.

Physicians have an honored profession in serving patients and this is enhanced in so many ways by the work of the AMA. The most important thing I learned from the AMA is the idea of “service” and the focus on a physician community. The one thing I would tell physicians early in their career is “get involved with the AMA” – only good things will happen.

## Personal Interests

Something that I understood late in life was my love of learning. Reading is a past-time, now focusing on history and economics. I also love to cook great food; it comes from the importance of a community around a table. My wife and I spend time in London, one of our favorite cities; the music and theatre are unsurpassed. Yet with all of this, it is sharing it with people that makes life so incredibly rich.

**Dr. Steven M. Edworthy**

*Rheumatology, Calgary*

## Reflections on Service

I particularly enjoyed my time as the co-chair of the Physician Office System Program Committee and as a member of the Information Management and Information Technology Committee. I also found the work as co-chair of the Information Sharing Framework Governance Committee rewarding. The entire process of helping to bring information technology to physician offices, including the introduction of electronic medical records, while addressing the issues and challenges of medical professionalism in the new area of electronic communication, was exciting and interesting. In addition, I enjoyed representing physician views to other stakeholders such as Alberta Health Services, Alberta Health and the Canada Health Infoway.

Being part of the AMA has allowed me to develop a broader connection with my profession beyond patient care. I have deepened friendships with colleagues across the province. AMA service has allowed me to feel a stronger sense of satisfaction with my career.

## Personal Interests

My wife Shawna and I have a passion for the wilderness. We go there via foot, skis and canoes with our family and friends whenever possible. To keep my bones moving, I have taken up yoga, which provides a very rewarding exercise of both mind and body. Teaching at the University of Calgary Medical School in several areas also seems to occupy a lot of my spare time – beyond my regular duties there as a faculty member.

**Dr. R. Michael Giuffre***Pediatric Cardiology, Calgary***Reflections on Service**

My 2013-14 term as president occurred during a pivotal time for the AMA and for Alberta physicians. Together we achieved a seven year, \$25 billion agreement that created certainty, allowed for long-term planning and defined programs of critical importance to patients and physicians going forward. The AMA/Alberta Health agreement emphasizing three critical areas is a renewal effort going forward including 1) a provincial framework for electronic medical records; 2) primary care evolution through primary care networks; and 3) creating efficiencies in our health care system with tools such as "Choosing Wisely."

In Alberta there are only two major influences on the overall delivery of health care, the AMA and Alberta Health Services. Since AHS is now governed and run by the Alberta government, AMA is the important counterbalance and the true voice of physicians, representing all doctors, rural and urban, primary care, specialist and subspecialist, academic and non-academic. The AMA is the best at giving a "voice" to physicians and at "putting patients first."

**Personal Interests**

UNICEF and UNICEF Canada have captured my volunteer spirit with an eight-year stint on the UNICEF Alberta Patrons Council and a six-year stint on the Board of Directors of UNICEF Canada. Truly a remarkable organization that makes a difference in the world, with a slogan that reads "no child too far."

**Dr. Robert A. Halse***General Practice/Anesthesia, Ponoka***Reflections on Service**

The Council of Zonal Presidents presented an opportunity to network and obtain feedback from other regions, which had distance issues. We were then able to share those experiences with a wider group of like-minded physicians and AMA staff.

The AMA is our organization and works for us. It is our responsibility as physicians to support the AMA and work for the association as it works for us.

**Personal Interests**

I enjoy travelling with my family and watching my children grow up. I have five children from the ages of 15 to 26 and my wife, Louise, is an ex-midwife and nurse. I am also an amateur apiarist (that means looking after bees).

**Dr. Kevin Hay**

*Wainwright, Specialist in Family Medicine*

## Reflections on Service

Being a part of Representative Forum was a lot of fun and seeing how issues move through the AMA process was enlightening. The most recent one that has been really engaging was the Voluntary Physician Influenza Immunization Program. I've learned so much through my involvement with AMA, but most importantly to enjoy the dynamism and debate that comes with the process.

One of the biggest benefits of being involved in the AMA is the collegiality. It's refreshing to realize that many doctors are facing the same problems and trying to figure out solutions. It teaches you that you're not alone. We need to remember that even though some health care issues seem bleak and seem to change for the worse as each year goes by, *they will not improve at all unless we stay involved.*

## Personal Interests

I've been scuba diving for the past 15 years and am a dive-master. Diving in Alberta is tough – cold, dark, lots of gear and lots of weight: being a masochist might be an advantage! We dive in warm spots too, as people who've been to Rep Forum might guess by my shirts! The place we recommend to anyone is Fiji, which is stunningly beautiful. Vera, my wife, and Emily, our daughter, are warm-water divers but so far our boys haven't taken the plunge!

**Dr. Susan J. Hutchison**

*General Practice, Edmonton*

## Reflections on Service

I have enjoyed the opportunity to serve the profession through my participation in the AMA. The experience has allowed me to understand how the changing health care environment impacts on physicians' ability to deliver medical care in Alberta. I hope that I have contributed to improving the ability of physicians to deliver quality medical care. I believe we have a good health care system, but am of the opinion that we have the ability to make our system excellent.

## Personal Interests

My interests revolve around my husband, our family, friends, gardening, golf and travel. I have been very lucky to have four fantastic children who are now young adults. They have brought so much joy to my life, even though it has been a whirlwind to have had four children in three years and continue to practice medicine. I have been doubly fortunate to expand my family to include my husband's children as well.

I am an avid gardener. I started gardening as a child and followed my father as he planted our huge family garden every year. When I garden, he is there beside me, if only in spirit. I am also following in his footsteps on the golf course and am now finding time for my previous passion of travel. My husband and I hope to spend the next phase of our life experiencing new countries and cultures.

**Dr. Alan N. Lin**  
*Plastic Surgery, Calgary*

## Reflections on Service

My longest service on an AMA committee is as a member of the AMA/Workers' Compensation Board Advisory Committee. Understanding the challenges facing physicians in dealing with the WCB and recognizing the WCB's requirements for managing claims for injured workers is an endeavor both challenging and rewarding. I believe the committee's work thus far has achieved positive outcomes for both physicians and the WCB and I believe additional cooperative changes in the future will benefit all the parties involved. I hope that eventually this will create a better working relationship with the WCB and that it will lead to a more timely provision of health care to workers and the safe return of workers to their job sites.

Serving with the AMA has many benefits for physicians at any stage in their careers. Hands-on committee work provides a physician with greater understanding of the issues that collectively impact our profession than can be realized solely in one's practice and provides an opportunity for a serving physician to advocate for positive actions and outcomes. However, the most valuable benefit of AMA service is in meeting and working with the wonderful, hardworking and knowledgeable staff of the AMA.

**Dr. Douglas M. McCarty**  
*Family Practice, Edmonton*

## Reflections on Service

I've been a member of the WCB Negotiating Committee for the last three contracts and worked to ensure there was fairness to everyone on those negotiations. Dealing with the WCB can be a complicated process, and it's important that physicians are fairly compensated for their time. But more than that, I wanted to be there for my patients so that they get the care they need and get back to work.

It was a valuable experience because you get different perspectives and different opinions. It helps you see beyond your own cocoon and realize what other physicians are dealing with. I tell physicians that if you're not involved, then your opinion isn't heard and if enough people are heard, things can change.

## Personal Interests

In my down time I love to golf and travel to Phoenix, Palm Springs and Vancouver to play. And we fish all over Northern BC, and go up to Prince Rupert. Sometimes we catch and sometimes we don't, but that's why we call it fishing! I also like to hike, and have done the West Coast Trail and lots of hiking in Banff and Jasper, usually with my friend and colleague Dr. Carter. And for the past few years I've volunteered with a group called Dreams Take Flight that helps medically fragile kids travel to Disneyland for a day.

**Dr. Christine P. Molnar**  
*Radiology/Nuclear Medicine, Calgary*

## Reflections on Service

My most meaningful long-term accomplishment – which started in 1993 with advocacy and participation on a ministerial task force – has been working through the AMA Section of Diagnostic Imaging to bring about a comprehensive provincial breast cancer screening program. Serving on the AMA Board of Directors allows me to advocate for our profession and quality patient care. I learned a lot from other physicians and the AMA staff and hope we helped to shape the future of medicine in some small way.

Service to our profession is enlightening, instructive and rewarding. I believe it is also our professional obligation. With the AMA you can share and learn from physicians apart from the groups that one would typically be aligned with. Start with what makes your heart sing.

## Personal Interests

I love cycling and I'm doing my second 200 km Ride to Conquer Cancer. I have been riding since I was four, when I grabbed my Mom's bike and taught myself in the back alley. I'm a really adventurous cook and right now I'm into SousVide cooking and have a combi-oven; I love the technical side of it and am not afraid to finish things with a blowtorch! And my five grown kids and I still do things together, including cooking and snowboarding. I also love to garden, and spend days planting and moving things and just having a gay-old time!

**Dr. Rowland T. Nichol**  
*General Practice, Calgary*

## Reflections on Service

The highlight of serving the AMA was representing it as its president. The trust and responsibility of guiding the organization at that point of its journey, acknowledging its history and the values that the AMA represents and then translating them into the solutions to the challenges then facing it, was an honor.

The AMA works to validate the individual communities of physicians while addressing the systemic issues that face the profession. The challenge was making sense of these issues and finding ways for physicians to see that success could be achieved by staying united. The AMA is exemplary in its capacity to stay focused and is disciplined while maintaining a values and principle based organization. Being true to your values while striving to manage the tensions between self and serving others is one of the most difficult aspects of leadership. Participating with the AMA supports that journey.

## Personal Interests

At this point in my life, it appears that the question is what has happened to the free time that I thought had been predicted for my generation? I am passionate about supporting leadership development in health care as a means to supporting more creativity in our social environment. I am an ardent supporter of the dance arts in Calgary. An expanding interest for me is the joy I have with my grandchildren.

**Dr. Jasneet K. Parmar***Geriatric Medicine, Edmonton***Reflections on Service**

I have served as the Edmonton Zone Medical Staff Association (EZMSA) representative at the AMA Representative Forum for two years in my position as president of the EZMSA and then for a year as Edmonton Zone representative at the RF. This opportunity has served as a medium for advancing many issues requiring advocacy for the medical staff in Edmonton, including the physician Practitioner Advocacy Assistance Line (PAAL). The RF is a very good example of a democratic process.

I see the AMA as physicians helping physicians to provide the best advocacy for patients. I have very much enjoyed my participation with the AMA and have grown as a professional and as an individual. The AMA is one of the finest organizations I have ever worked with and it allows me to advocate for patients, physicians and for a better health care system.

**Personal Interests**

I have been a volunteer with the Alzheimer Society for more than 20 years and it is a cause very dear to my heart. I am so fortunate to have work that is my passion and to be in a position to advocate for seniors' care. To do that and have enough time for family as well, I really am blessed. My work and my girls are really my world and I couldn't ask for more.

**Dr. Patrick M. Pierse***Pediatrics, Edmonton***Reflections on Service**

What stands out most for me was working towards attaining more equality between all physician groups. It demonstrated and formalized that all physicians had equal worth. There was a lot of collaboration, as each group within the AMA helped define what it meant to be a physician in that area and it taught us all a lot.

The AMA is one of the most fantastic organizations I've ever been involved with in my career, in that their interests are that of the profession. Everyone at the AMA is truly working on behalf of members and committed to you and your future.

**Personal Interests**

I have been a pediatrician for over 30 years, practicing as an amateur magician with an interest in medicine. Born and educated in Ireland, I came to Canada in 1982 for a year and never managed to leave. My wife of 33 years, Johanna, and I have raised seven children, each of whom revels in reminding their father of the many ways he is wrong. Our eldest son followed in my footsteps, becoming rather accomplished at coin magic (as well as pediatrics). My five daughters are my personal trainers, tailors and dieticians, forcing me to go beyond my beloved steak, potatoes and golf. Under their tutelage, I have hiked mountains, biked around Alberta, swam, skied, and tried salad (though the latter never took). And from my youngest son I receive endless books in the hopes they will alter my political views. But where I find solace is in the early morning hours, reading poetry and news by the dim light of dawn.

**Dr. Jeffery S. Pivnick**  
*Family Practice, Calgary*

## Reflections on Service

The time I spent on the AMA Board of Directors gave insight into the workings of our membership organization. Participation in decision making and in the shaping and interpretation of government policy that impacts the medical profession was both intellectually stimulating and satisfying. Contributing to computerization of medical practice in Alberta is also both instructive and rewarding.

The AMA Board of Directors' decision-making process is remarkable. It brings together credible and broad-based information, focused intelligence, and a willingness to solve problems with openness to insights. It is interesting to see how many different informed opinions from physicians contribute to final decision making. Collectively, physicians are the individuals most aware of how medical care in Alberta can be best optimized and what needs to be done. The AMA is the expression of this collective voice.

## Personal Interests

I've been diving longer than I've been in medicine and was certified when I was 14 years old. I did my first scuba medicine conference when I was a resident and became involved with the Diver's Alert Network and the Underwater Hyperbaric Medical Society, both of which are North American medical groups. My wife Jayne also dives, so we are able to travel to places in the Pacific, the Caribbean and Australia. It gives us an opportunity to go places, meet people and see interesting things that most don't.

**Dr. Daniel R. Ryan**  
*Family Practice/Addiction Medicine, Edmonton*

## Reflections on Service

Although I had done some committee work for the AMA in the past, the most important was the time leading up to the formation of the Section of Addiction Medicine. The small group of us that were working in this area had been trying for years to involve physicians in the front-line treatment of these diseases and also at the policy making level. Becoming an "official" part of the AMA to give us credibility and some influence with the government was very exciting.

I also really enjoyed being the first Representative Forum delegate for my section and the total immersion I experienced at RF. I am amazed at how well a large group of doctors can get along and play by the rules. We as a profession must stay united to be strong advocates for our colleagues and our patients.

## Personal Interests

I am an avid, if mediocre, golfer and try to make time for it once a week. We recently bought a quarter section out near Pigeon Lake and are enjoying becoming gardeners. We've already planted trees and a vegetable garden. I've also been involved with Our House Edmonton, an addiction recovery center, for the past 15 years and am currently the medical director and a past president.

**Dr. Judith K. Ustina***Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Edmonton***Reflections on Service**

The AMA is an organization that has inspired relationship building to further patient care. During my term as section head of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, I created an affiliation agreement between the Section of General Psychiatry and the fledgling Section of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, strengthening the ability of both to make an impact on mental health issues in Alberta.

The process that the AMA works through to forge relationships and build networks in order to further physicians' standing in this province and improve patient care is exemplary. I have carried with me the AMA philosophy of respect for all, encouragement, and truly hearing all voices, as I know it is often the dissenting opinions that guide us to the best decisions.

**Personal Interests**

Combining my love of cycling and photography, for the past three years I have been the official photographer of the Annual Solstice Jasper to Banff in a Day Ride, which this year 18 people achieved. My job is to document this remarkable feat through my photos and create a commemorative album. I have cycled throughout my life, and have cycled around Peru, Costa Rica and Cuba. I'm an adventurous person and although my grown kids may be terrified to do some of the things I have done, my adventures may have inspired my daughter to do a long distance swim tour of Croatia this past summer.

**Dr. Robert S. Warshawski***Diagnostic Radiology/Nuclear Medicine, Edmonton***Reflections on Service**

Working on the Negotiating Committee was especially rewarding, as was my role as Edmonton representative to the RF and subsequently chair of the Section of Diagnostic Imaging with involvement with RF. I was involved in the computerization of community delivery of health care (with emphasis on radiology) and in educating third parties about care delivery.

AMA is an advocate for patient care and has a clearly defined goal of appropriate health care. We each have an individual responsibility to our patients, but we also have a collective responsibility to the system as a whole. I came away from my experience with a much better understanding of our responsibility for the welfare of individual patients and the entire health care system.

**Personal Interests**

I have been skiing since I was six years old and hope to do it until I am many multiples of that. I do a lot of backcountry skiing and enjoy biking and hiking. I also spend a lot of time barbecuing and my sons are educating me on the difference between grilling and barbecuing because they now both have smokers – although for some reason I didn't get one for Father's Day. My favourite thing is spending time with my wife Maria – my high school sweetheart – our two sons, our daughter and our new grandson. I'm very interested in home automation and how universal design can make aging easier.

## Dr. Eric A. Wasylenko

*Rural Family Medicine/Palliative Medicine/Clinical Ethics, Okotoks*

### Reflections on Service

My first experience with the AMA working on the Professional Review Committee as a resident 31 years ago still stands out for me. I also really enjoyed being the AMA co-chair on four or five iterations of the Physician Workforce Planning Group and representing the AMA as a member and chair of the CMA's Committee on Health Policy and Economics. I helped lead the physician workforce efforts in the 90s and 2000s to reverse government efforts to restrict physician numbers and opportunities; our groups worked diligently to protect graduating physicians from the practice restrictions, billing numbers and return for service arrangements experienced in other provinces.

Being part of the solution, learning how to advocate with the support of a strong organization, and working together with excellent staff and physicians at the AMA for the betterment of our patients and colleagues, has enriched me as a physician.

### Personal Interests

Travel, photography, hiking, golf, acreage life and reveling in the young adulthood experiences of my kids keep me happy and somewhat balanced. My wife, Louise, and I have a long-term project to hike in every National Park in the country, and we are currently over halfway to our goal (28 of 44 so far). Leading and supporting community service organizations, like leading the development of our local community-owned rural hospice, keeps personal skin in the game.

## AMA Member Emeritus

**Dr. William W. (Bill) Anderson**  
*Diagnostic Imaging, Edmonton*

### Reflections on Service

My presidential year involved negotiations, job action and eventually a two-day “locked down” negotiation directly with the minister. That long-term agreement set up our relationship with the government for the next decade, and saw the establishment of both the Physician Office System Program and primary care networks. The job action proved that if physicians speak with one voice and are willing to demonstrate our commitment, we can achieve significant improvements in the system. It hasn’t occurred since, but it shows future generations how important the AMA is for physicians and patients. My two years on the Standing Policy Committee gave me a glimpse into how government really works – influencing policy at that level was exciting.

Advocacy is a critical role for physicians and we must continue to demonstrate to the government, the public and our patients the benefit of our health care system and ways to improve it for future generations. Health competes with all other government services for budget and is always in the spotlight for reductions.

### Personal Interests

My passion outside of work and advocacy really is my family. I have a wonderfully supportive and loving spouse with two fabulously bright and beautiful daughters. Spending time with them in Jasper at our family cabin is essentially like being in heaven and makes all the work seem very worthwhile.

**Dr. Daniel J. Hryciuk**  
*Emergency Medicine, St. Albert*

### Reflections on Service

I go a long way back with the AMA and I know some people at the AMA wonder why I don’t just have an office there. I sat on several committees over the years and have participated in the re-alignment of the after-hours compensation for physician services and in the development of a transparent allocation process for the AMA.

It is an honor to have worked with the many exemplary physicians who volunteer their time to the committees of the AMA, the RF, and the AMA board. I am grateful for the respect and personal friendships that I have had with everyone that I have worked with over the past 20 years and continue to work with now. I’ve learned so much about the professionalism of Alberta physicians in their dedication to the AMA and would encourage all physicians to volunteer their time at the AMA.

### Personal Interests

I enjoy pruning, maintaining and harvesting the ten fruit trees that we have at our St. Albert home, where we’ve been since 1981. My wife and I recently travelled with our neighbors on a cruise around South America and I look forward to more travel. My wife and I are on our third Portuguese Water Dog, something we got well before the Obamas made it popular! Mostly, I enjoy spending time with my wife, Dr. Laura Hryciuk, our three children and our 13 month-old grandchild.

**Dr. Richard G.R. Johnston***Critical Care and Anesthesiology, Edmonton***Reflections on Service**

My involvement in negotiating the long-term agreements that allowed us to create new practice models like primary care networks, new payment methods such as alternative relationship plans, and the benefit programs to fund electronic medical records are some of my proudest achievements. In 1993 the government cut payments to doctors, even though payments had been falling behind inflation for many years. Since then, we have been able to negotiate increases in fees and funding while demonstrating the value of physicians to the public, to the government and to the members themselves.

I tell young physicians that if physicians won't make time to manage and run the system, someone else will. If you choose not to be involved, you can't complain about the outcome. It's much like a requirement of democracy, and we have to get involved.

**Personal Interests**

As I near retirement, I am spending more time with my wife and family, travelling, golfing and walking. About five years ago we built a house out in Vernon, BC, that will be our future retirement home so we like to spend a lot of time out there. My wife and I made a bucket list of places we'd like to get to, including going on a dog sled tour in Wood Buffalo Park or going on an African safari. We're looking forward to working our way through that list.

**Dr. D. Jill Konkin***Rural Family Medicine, Edmonton***Reflections on Service**

I had the privilege of being a board member right after the major reorganization that created the Representative Forum and, along with it, a much smaller Board of Directors. It was a stimulating and creative time. The AMA was in transition with a new governance and organizational structure during the time of upheaval in our health care system after the first regionalization experiment. That board accomplished many things of importance, including the transition of the AMA to the smaller board. The implementation of these changes produced a nimbler, more responsive organization.

Advocacy is an important role for a physician. Clearly, advocacy for our patients, the populations and communities we serve is paramount. However, it is also important to advocate for our colleagues and for our profession. Back seat criticism is easy. Finding a way to be constructively critical and to engage with one's colleagues – particularly those who don't agree with you – to find ways to make positive change is hard work, but also fun and rewarding.

**Personal Interests**

I love to sail and can captain my own boat. One of my favorite events is the week-long Lake of the Woods Sailing Association Regatta. I crewed for a good friend from Dryden, Ontario, two summers in a row. We were second in class the first year and first the following year.

**Dr. Dale C. Lien***Internal Medicine/Pulmonologist, Edmonton***Reflections on Service**

I have been involved with the AMA since I started practice here in Alberta and have been continuously involved in AMA activities since 1986, when I began as the AMA representative for Respiratory Medicine. Since then, I've served as fees representative for our section, was involved in the Relative Value Guide process, and more recently served as president of the Section of Respiratory Medicine and delegate to the Representative Forum. Being the voice for respiratory medicine is an honor and I have tried to represent my colleagues to the best of my ability.

Alberta physicians are privileged to have this effective professional organization. The AMA's strength lies in its members and their willingness to champion the interests of our profession and our patients through both good and difficult times. I encourage all members to participate, as this is the key to maintaining our strength.

**Personal Interests**

On a personal level, lung transplantation remains my passion and my plan is to continue my involvement for as many years as possible. Outside of moving medicine forward in Alberta, while looking out for the interests of the respiratory community, I enjoy spending time with my seven grandchildren, all of them under the age of 10 and all here in the city. Being involved with them and their activities and watching them grow is my other passion.

**Dr. Fredrykka D. Rinaldi***Family Practice, Medicine Hat***Reflections on Service**

I have had the privilege of working with the most amazingly talented and dedicated physicians and AMA staff. My service on the AMA Board of Directors and Section of General Practice Executive has reaffirmed the power of a united and engaged professional voice in advancing the working environment of physicians and their ability to provide and define excellent patient care. I hope that the impact of the work I've been involved in will result in a proactive approach to patient care where we can embed the value of putting patients first into everything.

I encourage all physicians to look beyond the walls of your practice setting for ways of advancing your profession. Never sacrifice your professional autonomy; it is what enables us to put patients first.

**Personal Interests**

In my 'other life' I am committed to my two rescue dogs; both 3 year-old, 60-pound chicks with lots of attitude and boundary issues. I love fashion and gardening. I grow flowers and vegetables and even preserve what I grow. My spouse and I bike (mine a GSXR 1000); I find it so liberating to travel with just what I can pack on the motorbike. We love to travel south into Idaho or southern Montana on back roads because it's such beautiful country.

**Dr. Ernst P. Schuster**  
*Family Practice, Edmonton*

## Reflections on Service

I have been actively involved with the AMA since I joined the Board of Directors in 1993. I served on the board then and was re-elected to the board in 2013. I have been the chair of the Government Affairs Committee and was the AMA representative to the CMA's Political Action Committee. It was an honor to have served as the speaker and deputy speaker of the Representative Forum for a total of 14 years. I have also served on the Nominating Committee and have attended numerous CMA General Council meetings on behalf of the AMA, and had the opportunity to be an AMA representative to the government's Standing Policy Committee on Health in the 90s.

The ability to advocate for physicians and their patients has been key during board involvement. My message to younger physicians is that besides providing excellence and compassion in clinical practice, AMA involvement helps shape the health care system through leadership and advocacy. It may seem like added work, but it broadens the perspective and brings variety and system thinking into your professional life.

## Personal Interests

I also really like to take time off work to spend time with my lovely wife and our children and granddaughter. I enjoy trips to Europe, sailing, hiking, biking and time puttering on our quarter section west of Edmonton, where I have a few toys such as a tractor and a bobcat.

**Dr. Wendy L. Tink**  
*Family Medicine, Calgary*

## Reflections on Service

Opportunities to inspire and work with thoughtful, compelling physicians and staff leaders defined my AMA experience. It has been an honor to represent physicians who care deeply about their patients and discipline, and to make a difference locally, provincially and nationally. I'm especially proud of having advanced a comprehensive, coordinated primary care system to keep care closer to home and reduce emergency visits and hospital admissions.

To early career physicians: your perspective matters. Juggling career and family? Find the best fit, a little or a lot; make time to reap the rewards of personal development, to engage with leaders and contribute to direction setting.

## Personal Interests

Medicine is so cool and so rewarding that it's easy to forget to balance it with the other parts of my life. I am now creating more space for FUN, including travel that will see me on a small boat off the coast of Turkey when these awards are presented. I plan to make more time for scuba diving and exploring third-world health care experiences. I love spending time with my adult children, Jessica and Andrew, and was so proud to work with Jessica and present our family medicine research results across Canada over the past two years. It's also been a joy to work with both of them to renew our Stella's Dream Windermere Lake House. Sincere thanks to family, friends, colleagues and the AMA, with whom I share this honor.

**Dr. Patrick J. (P.J. ) White**  
*Psychiatry, Edmonton*

### Reflections on Service

My years with AMA were a wonderful experience for me. My time as deputy speaker stood out for me because it was always a challenge to keep the meeting running efficiently so we could make sure we stayed focused on the decision at hand.

Providing leadership while our negotiations were going on was a challenge because it was stressful and controversial but it brought the doctors together. The future of primary care is assured by the reorganization initiatives, which will protect this valuable service for everyone. The focus on primary care networks brings a front-loading of resources, which will serve our patients well in the future.

I would encourage young doctors starting out to become engaged and informed about the issues we face. We can never underestimate the role of providing an active voice from our profession to ensure patient care is always the first priority. I intend to continue to advocate for mental health care and for my patients in the future. Our patients rely on us to advocate for them since they cannot advocate for themselves.

### Personal Interests

Music is my passion, especially opera. My wife and I love to collect French and Italian wines and recently visited Two Hands Winery in Australia. We also became grandparents this year to a wonderful grandson named Liam.

**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.

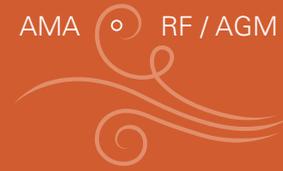
### Personal Interests

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 in 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.

# Evening with the AMA President

Friday, September 19, 2014

AMA ◦ RF / AGM 2014



## Program



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.

Welcome and AMA President's Remarks

*Dr. Allan S. Garbutt*

Introduction of Head Table

Presentation of AMA Achievement Awards

Medal for Distinguished Service

*Dr. Donald E.N. Addington*

*Dr. Steele C. Brewerton*

*Dr. Thomas E. Feasby*

Medal of Honor

*Samuel Weiss PhD*

Blessing

Toast to the Queen

President's Closing Remarks

## AMA President

### Dr. Allan S. Garbutt

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

*"This past year as AMA president left me with a new appreciation for how hard previous presidents must have worked and the sacrifices their families made to allow them to do that work. It showed me that you can't do this job without the incredible support of everyone at the AMA. The work with the AMA has allowed me to contribute to the efforts of many doctors to improve the care that Alberta patients receive. It also reaffirmed my belief that you have to make time to be involved in organizations like AMA and CMA if you want to improve the system."*

After obtaining his MD from the University of Western Ontario and completing a rural family medicine residency at the University of British Columbia, Dr. Garbutt established a family medicine practice in Crowsnest Pass in 1993 and has been there since. He has been a clinical lecturer in the Department of Family Medicine at both the University of Alberta and the University of Calgary since 1994.

Dr. Garbutt originally trained as a wildlife biologist, receiving a PhD from the University of Guelph. His thesis was on the reproductive biology of the Ruffed Grouse ("informally known as Sex and the Single Chick").

Dr. Garbutt has been extensively involved with the Section of Rural Medicine, having served as president, past president, and then president again. He has been a Representative Forum delegate since 1997 and has served on numerous committees. For Dr. Garbutt's many contributions to the association and to the profession, he was recognized with the AMA's Long-Service Award (2010) and the AMA Member Emeritus Award (2011).

Dr. Garbutt enjoys working on his ranch in the Porcupine Hills with his wife Bev.

*"Working on fences, checking range conditions, and the like are such a change from medicine that even hard physical labor is relaxing. Even more important is spending time with my wife and our golden retriever, Cooper."*

## Medal for Distinguished Service

### Dr. Donald E.N. Addington

Credited with putting Alberta "on the map" with his development in 1989 of the *Calgary Depression Scale for Schizophrenia*, Dr. Donald Addington has contributed immeasurably to the art and science of medicine in Alberta for the past 33 years. He has helped raise the standards of quality health care, particularly with respect to programs of psychosis, in Alberta, Canada and around the world.

In his capacities as professor, Department of Psychiatry, University of Calgary, a member of the Mathison Centre for Research and Education and board chair of the Canadian Psychiatric Association, Dr. Addington works to improve patient outcomes by integrating research, advocacy, education and clinical practice. Whether supervising the clinical training of residents and medical students in his position as director of the University of Calgary's Inpatient Clinical Teaching Unit for 12 years or inviting newly appointed academic staff to participate in collaborative projects to help establish their careers, teaching and mentorship have been professional and personal priorities for Dr. Addington.

After completing his medical training at the University of London, England, in 1972 and his psychiatry training in the Royal Air Force Medical Branch, Dr. Addington came to Canada in 1980 to his first appointment at the maximum security Regional Psychiatric Centre in Saskatoon. In 1981 Dr. Addington became clinical director of the Forensic Assessment Unit at Calgary General Hospital. In 1984 he moved to the Foothills Hospital to take up an academic appointment and establish the psychosis research unit. It was then that Dr. Addington developed the *Calgary Depression Scale for Schizophrenia*. This measure of depression and suicidal thinking in schizophrenia has been translated into 36 languages and is the international gold standard measure for research on depression in schizophrenia, with over 1,000 citations.

Identified as a pioneer in the development of early psychosis treatment and prevention programs, Dr. Addington has applied his clinical, health services and population-based research to the development of a host of quality improvement products for clinicians and programs. Additionally, his emphasis on educating the wider community about psychotic disorders has been of immeasurable value and help to people who develop psychotic disorders and the families who care for them.

As a researcher, Dr. Addington has received grants from the US National Institutes of Health and the Canadian Medical Research Council and other agencies. He has served on countless academic and medical committees and task forces and as a reviewer for a number of journals and granting agencies. Dr. Addington has written hundreds of manuscripts, books, chapters and abstracts.

## Dr. Steele C. Brewerton

Since he began his medical career in rural Alberta in 1948, general practitioner and obstetrician and gynecologist Dr. Steele Brewerton has had a distinguished medical career and life. On his own and working with his partners over the years, Dr. Brewerton raised the standards of medical care, treating his patients skillfully and compassionately. Dr. Brewerton has lived the classic image of the country doctor. He rode in a horse-drawn sleigh a mile in a snowstorm to deliver a Hutterite baby by a kerosene light, saved a drowned child and carried an ailing, elderly woman on his back one kilometer through a blizzard to his car parked down the impassable road, her equally frail, distraught husband trudging alongside, to transport them to Magrath Hospital.

Following receipt of his MD from the University of Alberta in 1948, Dr. Brewerton established a general practice in Raymond and Magrath, Alberta, from 1948 to 1979, after which he moved to Graham, Texas, where he started a medical practice in obstetrics and gynecology, changing to family practice and gynecology in 1988. During his 16 years with the Graham General Hospital, Dr. Brewerton filled two appointments as chief of staff and served as pastor for his church. Upon his retirement in 1996, Dr. Brewerton was appointed an honorary medical staff member.

Wanting health care accessible to all, Dr. Brewerton and his partners in the Raymond and Magrath practices initiated an early version of a health care insurance plan, whereby a family could purchase a contract for \$25 a year. This covered the costs of any medical care needs that could arise for the families, and those who couldn't afford to pay the whole amount at once could pay in installments.

Constantly improving the care of their patients was a priority. The building and upgrading of new clinics in both towns enabled the doctors to expand the medical services they provided, including lab work, EKGs and X-rays.

A firm believer in being actively involved in and supportive of the communities in which he lived and worked, Dr. Brewerton occupied positions of civic responsibility, including serving 7 years on the school board, and 3 as councillor then Mayor of Magrath, 1976-79. Following 30 years of practice in Alberta, 20 years in Texas and 1-1/2 on a charitable medical mission, Dr. Brewerton lives in Cardston, Alberta.

## Dr. Thomas E. Feasby

With its bestowal in November 2013 of an honorary Doctor of Science degree upon Dr. Tom Feasby, the University of Western Ontario recognized him as being "one of the country's most notable neurologists, scientific directors and medical leaders."

Since his arrival in Calgary in 1991 to head the Department of Clinical Neurosciences at the University of Calgary, Dr. Feasby has worked to create nationally and internationally recognized clinical/research programs and has recruited clinical and scientific talent to Alberta.

Dr. Feasby has contributed frequently to the public debate on key health issues through opinion-editorial submissions to major Canadian newspapers. In his capacity as an advisor on a number of boards, including the Strategic Advisory Board, Institute of Public Health, University of Calgary, and the Board of Directors of the Multiple Sclerosis Society of Canada, Dr. Feasby applies his extensive knowledge, dedication and empathy to the improvement of the health and care of Albertans and Canadians.

He attained his MD in 1969 from the University of Manitoba and embarked on his eminent career path in neurology in 1970 as a resident at the University of Western Ontario and pursued research training in England and at the RAND Corporation

In 1993, Dr. Feasby founded the internationally recognized Calgary Stroke Program. Calgarians benefit from innovative research and experience the best stroke outcomes in Canada. He also founded the Calgary's Neuromuscular Clinic and the ALS Clinic and recruited renowned clinician-scientists to the Calgary Multiple Sclerosis Clinic resulting in Canada's leading MS program. Alberta is now one of the best places in the world for MS research and care.

As dean of the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Calgary (2007-12), Dr. Feasby worked to improve Albertans' access to family physicians by increasing the undergraduate medical class enrolment from 120 to 175 students per year. Under his leadership, programs were implemented to better expose undergraduates to family medicine, resulting in a 50% increase in students choosing this specialty. He served the profession in Alberta for five years as a member of the Council of the College of Physicians & Surgeons of Alberta. He attended the Canadian Medical Association annual meeting three times as a member of the Alberta Medical Association delegation.

Dr. Feasby continues to practice medicine at the Urgent Neurology Clinic and the Neuromuscular Clinic at Foothills Medical Centre.

## Medal of Honor

### Samuel Weiss PhD

From his office at the Hotchkiss Brain Institute on the University of Calgary campus, Dr. Samuel Weiss oversees the creation of ground-breaking programs in neuroscience research, the resourceful pursuit of new avenues of philanthropic support for neuroscience and the building of new provincial networks, all of which benefits Albertans and their families who are struggling to live with the many health issues associated with disorders of the nervous system.

After attaining his PhD in chemistry from the University of Calgary in 1983, Dr. Weiss pursued post-doctoral studies in France and the US before returning to the University of Calgary in 1988 as an assistant professor in the Faculty of Medicine.

An accomplished neuroscientist, Dr. Weiss is well known for his seminal discovery in 1992 that neural stem cells are present in the adult mammalian central nervous system. Dr. Weiss's discovery triggered aggressive research activity and excitement about the potential therapeutic roles of neural stem cells in treating neurological disorders. In honor of this valuable neural discovery, Dr. Weiss was recipient of the Gairdner Foundation International Award in 2008. This award was preceded by the Canadian Federation of Biological Societies Presidents' Award in Life Sciences Research (2004), and followed by election as a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada (2009) and receipt of the Canadian College of Neuropsychopharmacology Innovations in Neuropsychopharmacology Award (2010).

Dr. Weiss's leading role in the establishment and operation of the Hotchkiss Brain Institute (HBI) has raised the standards of health care in Alberta and influenced brain and mental health study and treatment around the world. Through their cutting-edge neuroscience research, the elite team of scientists, physicians, trainees and staff produces ground-breaking studies advancing the understanding and treatment of diseases such as multiple sclerosis, spinal cord injury, stroke and depression.

Dr. Weiss's collaborative and bridge building efforts cut across many disciplines, illustrated by an initiative with the faculties of Arts, Medicine and Kinesiology that focuses on sports-related concussion and pediatric mild traumatic brain injury. In its 2012 strategic research plan, the University of Calgary identified brain and mental health study as one of its six priority research themes, appointing HBI Director Dr. Weiss as lead. The Healthy Brain Aging Initiative is another collaborative effort managed by Dr. Weiss, uniting other universities and basic and clinical departments within the Faculty of Medicine.

Known for his infectious enthusiasm, Dr. Weiss serves as an inspiring guide and mentor, as he supervises a pair of post-doctoral fellows, two Master of Science students and a PhD candidate.

# Lunch with the CMA President

Saturday, September 20, 2014

AMA ◦ RF / AGM 2014



## Program



Welcome

Introduction of Head Table

Blessing

Toast to the Queen

CMA President's Remarks

*Dr. Christopher S. Simpson*

CMA Honorary Membership Awards

*Dr. Robert A. Burns*

*Dr. Ken Chow*

*Dr. Ruth L. Collins-Nakai*

*Dr. Allan S. Garbutt*

*Dr. Wayne M. MacNicol*

*Dr. Dennis L. Modry*

*Dr. Harvey P. Woytiuk*

Installation of new AMA President

*Dr. Richard G.R. Johnston*

Presentation to AMA Past President

*Dr. Allan S. Garbutt*

New President's Closing Remarks

## CMA President

### Christopher S. Simpson MD, FRCPC, FACC, FHRS

Chris Simpson was born in Moncton in 1967 and raised in Nackawic, a small pulp mill town of 1,000 people in western New Brunswick. Torn between pursuing a career in music or medicine, he obtained a BSc at the University of New Brunswick while playing saxophone with The Thomists, a 20-piece big swing band based in Fredericton and well-known across the Atlantic provinces.

He went on to medical school at Dalhousie University in Halifax and obtained his MD in 1992. He subsequently completed internal medicine and cardiology training at Queen's University in Kingston and then a Heart and Stroke Foundation Clinical and Research Fellowship in Cardiac Electrophysiology at the University of Western Ontario, under the supervision of Dr. George Klein.

After returning to Kingston in 1999, he founded the Heart Rhythm Program at Kingston General Hospital. Currently, he is professor of medicine and chief of cardiology at Queen's University, as well as medical director of the Cardiac Program at Kingston General Hospital/Hotel Dieu Hospital.

Dr. Simpson's primary non-clinical professional interest is health policy, particularly access to care and wait times. He serves as chair of the Wait Time Alliance (WTA) – a federation of 14 medical specialty societies and the CMA – and as chair of the Canadian Cardiovascular Society's (CCS) Standing Committee on Health Policy and Advocacy. He is the lead for the Southeast (Ontario) Local Health Integration Network Cardiovascular Roadmap Project, which developed a regional model of integrated cardiovascular care for southeastern Ontario. He serves on the executive of the CCS (member-at-large) and on the Cardiac Care Network of Ontario board of directors, and is an American College of Cardiology governor.

He served as the first president of the Canadian Heart Rhythm Society – the national association of heart rhythm specialists and allied health professionals. Over the years he has served on numerous editorial boards and advisory committees, and has chaired or been a member of several national consensus conferences and guidelines statements, including the CCS Consensus Conference on Medical Fitness to Drive and Fly, of which he was co-chair. Within the CMA, he is a co-editor of the CMA Driver's Guide and the CCS representative on the CMA's Specialist Forum. He was the first recipient of the CMA Award for Young Leaders.

An active clinician, educator and researcher, Dr. Simpson has authored or co-authored over 300 peer-reviewed papers and abstracts. His clinical and research interests include access to care, medical fitness to drive, referral pathway development, atrial fibrillation, sudden death in the young, catheter ablation and cardiac resynchronization therapy.

Outside medicine, Dr. Simpson is an active supporter of the Cantabile Choirs of Kingston and the University Hospitals Kingston Foundation, and he recently served as chair of the Kingston Blue Marlins Swim Team board of directors. The proud father of three daughters and a son, he immensely enjoys watching and cheering their musical and athletic pursuits.

## CMA Honorary Members

### Dr. Robert A. (Bob) Burns

*Physician Executive/Administrative Medicine,  
Nanaimo BC*

#### Reflections on Service

I was privileged to be a part of the leadership of medical associations during times of huge change. Negotiations outcomes with AHCIP in 1988 were covered in a one-pager – and parts of them were agreed to on a dance floor! (Thanks, Ruth Collins-Nakai and Minister Moore!). By 2000, they were volumes long and required skilled lawyers to both negotiate and to interpret. I was a Canadian Medical Association General Council delegate from 1988 to 2004 and saw great Alberta physicians play a leading role in the affairs of the national physician association.

Most satisfying was the work on the Task Force on Governance, and its legacy, the Representative Forum, the best physician governance structure in the country, followed by the acquisition of outstanding professional staff – many of whom still work for the AMA. A voluntary professional association is only as strong as its members.

#### Personal Interests

Although I'm still working, at Island Health on Vancouver Island, I just reduced down to 80%. I remain involved in music, golf and hockey and have become a grandfather – and that's the greatest calling yet! She's two-and-a-half, her name is Claire, and she lives in Calgary with her parents Matthew (my son) and Colleen. Family has always been my first priority – wife Barbara (married 41 years), son Matt as above, and daughter Sadie, married to Dave.

### Dr. Ken Chow

*Family Practice, St. Albert*

#### Reflections on Service

Being a member of the Negotiating Committee and the Subcommittee on Finance at the same time was most memorable. I saw the good and the bad negotiated and then implemented. Although there was plenty of good, I also recall the capped budgets, the clawbacks and the delisting of lab services. I was involved with two major accomplishments during my time with the AMA, first with negotiations, where we started the dialogue to have the AMA recognized as the representative for all Alberta physicians. Secondly, I was involved with the creation of alternate payment models.

My experience has taught me that, as a profession, to remain strong we must remain united. The AMA/CMA provide us with the vehicle to remain strong. In the words of Benjamin Franklin, we must all hang together or assuredly we shall all hang separately.

#### Personal Interests

I don't have much free time yet as I am still enjoying working full time. When I'm not working at my practice, I spend a fair amount of time involved in our local primary care network where I sit on the board, which is really important to me. Any spare time Lynn and I have is spent golfing the local courses and southern destination courses. Golf for us is like two kids in a candy store!

**Dr. Ruth L. Collins-Nakai**

*Pediatric Cardiology/Adult Congenital Cardiology,  
Edmonton*

**Reflections on Service**

Being president of both the AMA and CMA is, for me, especially memorable. With the AMA, I was delighted to spearhead the initiative to make seatbelts mandatory, to have mandatory reporting of shaken babies, and to bring in a new era of principled negotiating with the Alberta government. With the CMA, I made the motion to ask Air Canada to become a smoke-free airline – the first in the world. Our focus on early childhood also drew awareness to the need for supportive and nurturing early childhood development and care. Going to Afghanistan focused attention on the need for quality health care services for our Canadian Forces and brought honor to the CMA.

Along with opportunities to learn leadership, the AMA and CMA help physicians focus on what is important to patients in a health care system that is in constant flux and often in chaos. They teach about group dynamics and arguing for one's position, while respecting and listening to other perspectives. Finally, they create friends and a supportive "family" to help during life's vicissitudes.

**Personal Interests**

I am still working with various organizations to improve the care and learning provided to young children both in Alberta and throughout Canada. I am also working with several biotechnology startup companies to bring innovative new products to market. In my free time, I am attempting to become a good golfer!

**Dr. Allan S. Garbutt**

*Family Medicine, Crowsnest Pass*

**Reflections on Service**

I've been involved with the Section of Rural Medicine for what seems like forever, as its president, past-president and then president again. We've done a lot that I'm proud of, but two of the biggest things were establishing the Dr. Michael Tarrant Scholarship for third-year medical students at the University of Alberta and the University of Calgary and creating the Enhancement Program that helps rural students apply to medical school.

This past year as AMA president left me with a new appreciation for how hard previous presidents must have worked and the sacrifices their families made to allow them to do that work. It showed me that you can't do this job without the incredible support of everyone at the AMA. It also reaffirmed my belief that you have to make time to be involved in organizations like AMA and CMA if you want to improve the system.

**Personal Interests**

I enjoy outdoor activities and lend my time to conservation groups like Ducks Unlimited and the Southern Alberta Land Trust. My wife and I have a golden retriever and we love to try to take two weeks each spring to enjoy the sun and beaches in Turks and Caicos. I also look for ways to give back to my community. Over the last three years, my clinic colleagues and I have donated several hundred pounds of meat to our local food bank.

**Dr. Wayne M. MacNicol**  
*Obstetrics/Gynecology, Whitehorse, Yukon*

### Reflections on Service

I was always amazed by the extraordinary commitment of the board to improving the quality of medical care and working conditions for the physicians of Alberta. During my time on the board, we dealt with the outfall of the Barer-Stoddart Report and the beginnings of a Relative Value Guide to address disparities in physician earnings. Government had also begun the move towards regionalization and payment models for hospital/facility services based on severity of illness/output formulas. These issues had huge implications with respect to physician services and access to medical care and our focus was on keeping the membership working toward common goals.

It's important for physicians to recognize their strengths, knowledge and skills and to become a part of the broader medical community to improve the standards of medical care, access to medical services and working conditions of physicians.

### Personal Interests

I continue to participate however I can in the medical community, including with organizations like the Yukon Hospital Foundation. I also have numerous pet projects, including building and renovating an enclosed shop on my property and renovations to our house. Fortunately, I have one son who is a carpenter and another who is an electrician and they help with all the professional advice. Mechanical work on vehicles/equipment, trying to improve my golf game and hiking are the other things that keep me busy.

**Dr. Dennis L. Modry**  
*Cardiothoracic Surgery, Edmonton*

### Reflections on Service

During my time with the AMA, I've served on two Relative Value Guide (RVG) committees and for me the most interesting part was the process of understanding what RVG really means, its purpose and its risks and benefits. Everyone involved with RVG contributed to the discussions to improve health care delivery. I've also worked to influence the implementation of retention benefits with government, and provided a rationale as to why they shouldn't cut \$100 million from fee for service. In dealing with multiple physicians you get multiple perspectives, and when it works you get people aligned on how to resolve a problem.

I think the AMA and the CMA have done an excellent job and are a force for good. They listen to divergent opinions on patient and professional (individual sections) advocacy and make a legitimate attempt to be fair. It's important to get involved if you want your opinion heard.

### Personal Interests

I'm fascinated by the idea of turning back our clock genes, and read a lot about the potential for immortality. I also enjoy golf and fitness, and my wife and I love to travel to warm destinations like Kelowna, Scottsdale and Hawaii. I've got quite eclectic tastes and am a big fan of the arts, including music, dance and theatre and love to visit museums and art galleries when we travel.

**Dr. Harvey P. Woytiuk**  
*General Practice, St. Paul*

## Reflections on Service

After implementing an electronic medical record in 2000, a career milestone occurred in 2006 with the opportunity to be involved in developing and nurturing a primary care network (PCN) in our community. A six physician community PCN blossomed to 30 physicians when the opportunity to join our PCN was extended to the surrounding communities. It has been a pleasure to be involved in the provision of medical services to rural Albertans. Significant progress has taken place, but more work remains before a home grown sustainable program for rural health care delivery can be acknowledged.

If you want to make a difference, get involved and stay involved. The rapport and relationships you make through your involvement will stay with you throughout your career and it's always good to have other people who can commiserate and understand the issues you're dealing with.

## Personal Interests

I've started hobby trout farming by using a dugout on our property and stocking it with trout. It's probably now the easiest place in Alberta to catch trout! I also enjoy inland sailing and even took courses out of Vancouver, with the hope that I'll pursue offshore sailing later in life. I've enjoyed photography since my kids were little – first with film and later digital – and every holiday is an opportunity to pursue my photographic interests. I am the world's biggest Gido wannabe, so am looking forward to having grandchildren to photograph.

## Installation of new AMA President

### Dr. Richard G.R. Johnston

Edmonton intensivist Dr. Rick Johnston officially assumes the role of AMA president this weekend.

*"While a resident and early in my career, I saw the effect that government actions could have on the practice and economics of medicine and I became interested in the economic and political processes that could improve the practice of medicine and the economic well-being of physicians. My involvement in negotiating the long-term agreements that allowed us to create new practice models like primary care networks, new payment methods such as alternative relationship plans, and the benefit programs to fund electronic medical records are some of my proudest achievements."*

Dr. Johnston received his MD, with distinction, from the University of Alberta in 1977. In 2002 he obtained an MBA from the Ivey Business School at the University of Western Ontario. He 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.

Dr. Johnston has been an AMA member since 1980 when he was a resident physician. He has served on many committees, notably the Negotiating Committee as a member then chair for 19 years. He also represented the AMA for four years on the CMA's Council on Health Policy and Economics. His contributions to the association and to the profession were recognized with the AMA Long-Service Award in 2004.

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

*"About five years ago we built a house out in Vernon, BC, that will be our future retirement home so we like to spend a lot of time out there. My wife and I made a bucket list of places we'd like to get to, including going on a dog sled tour in Wood Buffalo Park or going on an African safari. We're looking forward to working our way through that list."*

## Presentation to AMA Past President

### Dr. Allan S. Garbutt

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

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After obtaining his MD from the University of Western Ontario and completing a rural family medicine residency at the University of British Columbia, Dr. Garbutt established a family medicine practice in Crowsnest Pass in 1993 and has been there since. He has been a clinical lecturer in the Department of Family Medicine at both the University of Alberta and the University of Calgary since 1994.

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