



*Far and away the best prize  
that life offers is the chance to  
work hard at work worth doing.*

Theodore Roosevelt

*Celebrating the  
dedication and interests  
of amazing people*

Our awards presentations are an important part of the fall Representative Forum and Annual General Meeting. The Alberta Medical Association and Canadian Medical Association awards celebrate the achievements of individuals whose fascinating careers have helped to make this world a better place.

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

We hope you will enjoy this glimpse into the lives of those whose achievements we will be celebrating.

# AMA Awards Evening

## with the President *Friday, September 27*



Welcome and AMA President's Remarks

*Dr. Alison Clarke*

Introduction of Head Table

### PRESENTATIONS

*AMA Long-Service Awards*

*AMA Member Emeritus Awards*

Blessing

Dinner

### PRESENTATIONS

AMA Achievement Awards

*Medal for Distinguished Service*

*Medal of Honor*

AMA Award for Compassionate Service

President's Closing Remarks



# Presentations

## AMA Long-Service Award

The AMA Long-Service Award recognizes physicians with 10 years of AMA service who contribute their knowledge, skills 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. Edward J. Aasman*

*Dr. Heidi E. Fell*

*Dr. Kimberley P. Kelly*

*Dr. Lloyd Eric M. Maybaum*

*Dr. Linda A. Mrkonjic*

## 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 Emeriti enjoy all the rights and privileges of a full member, but shall not be required to pay annual dues.

### Recipients

*Dr. Michael J. Caffaro*

*Dr. Neil D.J. Cooper*

*Dr. Christopher J. (Chip) Doig*

*Dr. Darryl D. LaBuick*

*Dr. Linda M. Slocombe*

## AMA Long-Service Award

### Dr. Edward J. Aasman

*Rural Family Medicine, Rocky Mountain House*

**REFLECTIONS ON SERVICE** My role in leadership in the AMA began with the PCN Executive in 2007. In this role I witnessed an incredible transition in primary care in Alberta. I have since moved into my role as president of the Section of Rural Medicine. As a physician with rural roots, I have an ongoing passion for primary care in rural Alberta.

**PERSONAL INTERESTS** As a rural physician I do not have much free time, but I try my best, with my wife, to support our family farm, where we breed and raise horses for dressage riding. We also enjoy cycling, hiking and kayaking. My clinic and community are active in teaching students, including the students and residents from the University of Calgary Longitudinal Integrate Clerkship (UCLIC) as part of the rural program.

### Dr. Heidi E. Fell

*Family Medicine, Calgary*

**REFLECTIONS ON SERVICE** I am most proud of my recent work as chair of the AMA Informatics Committee, which has been tackling some tricky work regarding integration of information within the health care system, including work around Connect Care and CPAR/CII. Ensuring that the needs of physicians are well represented in discussions with Alberta Health and AHS is always interesting and sometimes quite challenging.

It's never too early to get involved—I started my work with the AMA as a medical student on what was then the Communications Committee. The AMA has always provided great people to work with and a connection to colleagues throughout the province and in other specialties that can be hard to find otherwise in community practice. Working with the AMA also helps to give balance and diversification to my professional career.

**PERSONAL INTERESTS** I love spending time with my husband, James, and my now-adult children, Danae and Connor. I hold a third-degree black belt in karate and have recently received my full Canadian karate referee licence. I also like to scrapbook our adventures when I get the chance.

## Dr. Kimberley P. Kelly

*Addiction Medicine and Family Practice,  
Edmonton*

**REFLECTIONS ON SERVICE** The first resolution I presented at Representative Forum (as an observer) was to increase the number of child care spaces for Albertans. The lack of accessible child care significantly hinders women's progress and potential.

A pivotal moment in my career, and in my life, came in 2018 when I addressed RF on #metoo Medicine, disclosing the sexual harassment I had experienced as a medical student and calling on medical leaders to address how medical culture perpetuates harassment, discrimination and bias. The Healthy Working Environments framework evolved because the AMA was willing to address this important but uncomfortable topic. I continue to lead the Equity Canadian Medical Association Community of Interest, working to address gender inequity in medicine.

**PERSONAL INTERESTS** I have been privileged to advocate for ten years on behalf of those without a voice; now I hope to create space to hear those voices directly. Healthy students are better learners, so I have advocated for Comprehensive School Health for all schools and for the AMA Youth Run Club. I dream that one day every school in Alberta will have an affiliated physician ambassador!

I thank my husband, Dr. Rufus Scrimger, and my sons, Jack and Alex, for their support and participation in my many advocacy projects. I would also like to thank my parents, Frank and Frankie Kelly, and our nannies—Irene, Bridget, Rachel, and Mila—who provided me with the time I needed to soar!

## Dr. Lloyd Eric M. Maybaum

*Psychiatry, Calgary*

**REFLECTIONS ON SERVICE** My AMA service began during my year as president-elect of Calgary and Area Medical Staff Society (CAMSS), followed by three years as president, a year as past-president, and service as a Calgary Zone rep. I have served on the Nominating Committee, the Provincial Practitioners Liaison Forum, the Physician and Family Support Program Committee, the Governance Review Group, and the Government Affairs Committee. I have been a Board member since 2016.

I have many good memories of my time with the AMA—of helping to move medical staff associations under the umbrella of the AMA, of our ongoing work helping to chart the course of our profession and especially of navigating through the challenging fee negotiations with then-Health Minister, Fred Horne and the former Progressive Conservative government while I was president of CAMSS.

Each day I am reminded that in the AMA we have the most coherent, organized and professionally managed provincial medical association in the country because we, as physicians, have remained united despite outside forces trying to split our membership. Work with the AMA enables physicians to see the big picture, and it has enabled me to become a better, more balanced leader. I have been truly blessed.

**PERSONAL INTERESTS** I love spending time with my wife, Tracy and our children, Victoria, Katherine and Maxwell, and our two dogs, Kubo and Milo. I ski and snowboard, and I enjoy a cup of tea with a good book.

## Dr. Linda A. Mrkonjic

*Orthopedic Surgery, Calgary*

**REFLECTIONS ON SERVICE** Through all my AMA involvement I have been fortunate to act on behalf of “generic” doctors, not just my clinical specialty group. These opportunities have reminded me that I am first and foremost a physician, who just happens to have a few extra procedural skills. In order to function in these roles, I have had to think outside myself and my own needs, thus becoming a better doctor and a better person.

As Calgary and Area Medical Staff Society (CAMSS) president, I have served physicians in the Calgary area. CAMSS has evolved into an effective advocacy entity that has raised the PCN role within our zone and worked for equitable representation of acute care site doctors and community/family physicians. CAMSS has established a collaborative working relationship with our zone AHS representation, ensuring that physicians’ voices are heard at as many tables as possible.

Being a doctor is hard work, but you never have to feel alone. There is a community of doctors to support you—just reach out. Identify what is important to you, and see how you can improve it. Seek opportunities to work with medical peers who are different from you. Diversity adds richness and helps you stay true to who you really are.

**PERSONAL INTERESTS** In my free time I want to laugh—deep, heart-felt laughs from the depth of my gut. I spend time with people, things and situations that bring me joy. I am grateful for each day I get to do this.

## AMA Member Emeritus



### Dr. Michael John Caffaro

*Medical Administration, Edmonton (formerly  
Family Medicine, Hinton)*

**REFLECTIONS ON SERVICE** I had some outstanding experiences serving the Association—the Fees Advisory Committee, the Relative Value Guide working group (when I was called the “young fellow at the end of the table”) and the Board of Directors. Most gratifying was my time at the Representative Forum representing both the Section of Rural Medicine and the physicians of West Yellowhead, during a time of tremendous—and still unfinished—change in healthcare and the AMA. I worked with smart, hard-working, dedicated professionals whose selflessness and collective wisdom seem increasingly rare in our society.

Professionalism is under pressure—some would say attack. Physicians must continue doing what is right, even when it’s hard and nobody’s watching.

During my more than two decades of medical practice in Hinton, I thought I had the best job in the world. I looked forward to going to the office and hospital every day, and the occasional tough experiences were far outweighed by the good ones. My staff and I laughed every day, and I never regretted the path I chose.

**PERSONAL INTERESTS** Hinton was a wonderful place both to start married life and to raise a family. My decision to leave in 2015 and return to Edmonton was significantly based on the expected needs of aging parents and in-laws. Alongside my shepherding of those I love into their final years, I have had the chance to build a new garden with my wife Victoria and continue to cycle extensively around this wonderful city. The Edmonton I returned to after more than two decades away is now blessed with significantly greater opportunities for craft beer sampling, perhaps the only other hobby I can afford while I gently release three children into the adult world via postsecondary education.

## Dr. Neil D.J. Cooper

*Pediatrics, Calgary*

**REFLECTIONS ON SERVICE** Relationships have highlighted my time in AMA service—with AMA staff, with medical leaders and with AMA members. Our organization continues to be a model for all the Provincial and Territorial Medical Associations in the country as we collaboratively take on difficult issues. Working to bring together many disparate opinions into a common understanding has been the greatest challenge, but also the most rewarding part of my work with the AMA. I have enjoyed every committee I have served on.

As president, I hope that I was able to communicate effectively with members, especially when it came to describing our approach to physician compensation. I am proud of the work our AMA Compensation Committee has done over the years.

I have always said that I like the way the AMA does its business. We have a great system where grassroot members can express their thoughts and ideas through their section leadership and then have them acted on by the organization. You have only to express interest in order to start contributing. It's extremely rewarding to become involved in the AMA and to have the opportunity to serve with amazing thought leaders who believe in making the system better for our patients and in helping each other improve the way we practise medicine.

**PERSONAL INTERESTS** I spend much of my free time volunteering for Dreams Take Flight, as Medical Director, on the executive and as the chief IT geek. I am proudest of all that my entire family has joined with me in volunteering to make a difference in the lives of thousands of Dream Children.

## Dr. Christopher (Chip) J. Doig

*Critical Care Medicine, Calgary*

**REFLECTIONS ON SERVICE** I am grateful to have served on RF and the Board, and as an Officer of the association. As I said when I was installed as President, primary care is the heart, spine, muscle and more of the health care system. I hope that my contributions have demonstrated a commitment as a specialist to recognizing the importance of primary care physicians in our system.

The profession of medicine is a large corpus with different parts that serve vital functions—front-line clinicians, researchers, teachers and those who serve in regulatory structures such as the College of Physicians & Surgeons of Alberta (CPSA). I hope new physicians recognize the privilege of being a member of this profession and of caring for members of our community; know that the profession as a whole benefits from playing their role in the body; and remember that “Patients First” shouldn't be a catch phrase, but a daily guiding principle. We must live the words on the CMA coat of arms: Integritate et Misericordia (integrity and compassion).

**PERSONAL INTERESTS** I am a passionate skier, cyclist, swimmer and soccer player. I love to play in the mountains with my family. My boys now fly down the ski hill and wait for dad at the bottom. A more expensive bike than my kids have gives me a slight advantage on the trails in summer. I love to dive into the pool and put in a few laps. I am now ranked second in my family in our annual Golden Boot competition (for the person who scores the most goals in their respective soccer leagues)—but, alas, only because the competition now is just between me and my daughter, Pele. I'm lucky to be healthy and enveloped by the love of my family.

**Dr. Darryl D. LaBuick***Family Medicine, St Albert*

**REFLECTIONS ON SERVICE** I have had the privilege of serving the AMA as Board member, AMA President, AMA Representative to the CMA Board, Chair of Council of Zonal Leaders, Negotiating Committee, Deputy Speaker and Speaker for the AMA Representative Forum and most recently as President of the Section of General Practice. I am honoured to have had the opportunity to participate in so many roles and to interact with so many talented, spirited people.

As a Board member, I supported the establishment of the Primary Care Networks, and I was the founding President of our local St. Albert and Sturgeon PCN. As President in a negotiating year, I worked on the Rural Remote Northern Program and the now-defunct Retention Benefit Program, which helped keep physicians practising despite tremendous resource shortages.

As physicians, our responsibility for patients goes beyond the bedside and the clinic. Patients look to us to advocate for their care and for the system as a whole. We are privileged to be leaders and advocates for them.

Taking on leadership roles has allowed me to interact with physicians and leaders who have offered me knowledge and wisdom in patient care and health system challenges. The demands of the practice of medicine these days have isolated physicians. The roles I have played have inspired in me a higher sense of collegiality and a greater understanding of the challenges we face.

**PERSONAL INTERESTS** In addition to my full-time family practice, I remain passionate about advocating for underserved Seniors Care in my role as Medical Director at the Youville Home in St. Albert. In my spare time, I keep my life simple, spending cherished time with family and hitting golf balls into forests and water followed by a torrent of choice words and thrown clubs.

**Dr. Linda M. Slocombe**

*Family Medicine and Low-Risk Obstetrics,  
Calgary*

**REFLECTIONS ON SERVICE** Alberta is a wonderful place to practise medicine, and my involvement with the AMA has helped make my journey rewarding. I remember my first Representative Forum, where the collegiality and professionalism—and the fun—were apparent from the start. I had no choice but to stay involved with an organization that was there for all Alberta physicians and their patients. As a member of the Board, I realized the complexities of representing all Alberta doctors. My term as AMA president was a highlight of my career and challenged me to develop skills I didn't know I had. Most recently, being one of the AMA representatives on the CMA Board has been an extraordinary experience.

During my term as president we were faced with difficult negotiations and provincial elections. We were able to stay unified as a profession and not back down despite attempts to discredit our profession. My time on the Physician Compensation Committee, working alongside my specialty colleagues, helped to begin the long process of working together towards income equity.

My experience of AMA service has been invaluable in my career. It has opened doors I did not know were there, created lifelong friendships and kept me proud to be an Alberta physician. The culture of successful organizations comes from the top, and we have the best in the country.

**PERSONAL INTERESTS** The practice of medicine and my work with the AMA have been the greatest part of my life. I enjoy walking my dog Charlie, and when I do have free time in the future I will pursue my passion for birdwatching and my ultimate goal of living in flip flops.



# Presentations

## AMA Achievement Awards

The 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.

### Recipients

#### Medal for Distinguished Service

*Dr. Michael J. Bullard*

*Dr. David B. Hogan*

*Dr. Frances L. Harley*

#### Medal of Honor

*Mr. Harold James*

*Ms. Brenda Reynolds*

## AMA Award for Compassionate Service

The AMA Award for Compassionate Service honors physicians who, during their careers, have 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. Vincent I. O. Agyapong*

*Dr. Debra L. Isaac*

## AMA Medal for Distinguished Service

### Dr. Michael J. Bullard

When Dr. Michael Bullard retired in 2018, the emergency medicine community lost a true giant. He has cared for patients on four continents, taught generations of students and became a world leader in emergency medicine, in knowledge translation and in triage and acute care global health initiatives.

He received his medical training at the University of Alberta, at Foothills Hospital in Calgary, and at Luton and Dunstable Hospital in Luton, England. He was one of the founding members of Emergency Medicine in Canada, receiving his Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians specialist certification in 1985. In addition to working at various hospitals in Canada and England, he was one of four doctors operating a 300-bed general hospital in South Africa, acted as Visiting Professor and Consultant in Emergency Medicine in Taipei, and spent ten years in Southeast Asia helping to develop the specialty of emergency medicine there.

After returning to Canada in 1998, he became a driving force behind the development and spread of the Canadian Triage and Acuity Scale for use in hospital emergency departments. In fact, the CTAS triage tool he helped to develop has become the standard of care in all Canadian emergency departments and EMS services and is currently being used in eleven other countries. More recently, he has focused on establishing provincial knowledge translation, working with multiple provincial strategic clinical networks and the Alberta Clinical Pathways Steering Committee to get the best medical evidence into the hands of frontline medical professionals.

Among his many awards are the 2008 International Federation of Emergency Medicine (IFEM) Humanitarian Award for his contributions to the development of the specialty of Emergency Medicine in Taiwan and ongoing collaborations since his return to Canada; the 2010 Dr. Garnet E. Cummings Lifetime Achievement Award for “very significant long-term contributions to the Department of Emergency Medicine at the University of Alberta”; the 2015 Canadian Association of Emergency Physicians (CAEP) Honorary Life Membership Award “in recognition of outstanding contributions and dedicated service to CAEP and Emergency Medicine in Canada”; and the 2018 Award of Distinction by the Taiwan Society of Emergency Medicine (20th anniversary celebration).

When doctors think about retirement, they hope they will be able to look back on their careers and see evidence that they made a difference in the lives of their patients, their colleagues and in their communities. A rare few will leave a lasting legacy. Dr. Bullard is among those remarkable few. He has made the world a better place, and he will leave behind not just something for others to use, but something of himself.

## Dr. David B. Hogan

Dr. David Hogan has devoted his career to improving health care and quality of life for older Albertans. He has gained a well-deserved reputation as an engaged and compassionate clinician who exhibits professionalism and compassion towards his patients, their families and their caregivers. He is a national leader in geriatric medicine, and he has contributed enormously to our understanding of aging. In particular, he is sought out provincially and nationally for his expertise in dementia and geriatric syndromes.

He received his medical training from Dalhousie University, the University of Alberta and the University of Western Ontario. During a long career at the University of Calgary he was the founder of that institution's Geriatric Medicine Division and the inaugural Brenda Strafford Foundation Chair in Geriatric Medicine (the first Canadian University Chair in the discipline). Under his leadership, the University of Calgary Brenda Strafford Centre on Aging has contributed greatly both to public understanding and to the education of health care providers and researchers regarding geriatrics, gerontology and aging.

He has played a leadership role in the Canadian Consortium on Neurodegeneration in Aging (CCNA), directing its training and capacity-building program and acting as an inaugural member of CCNA's Research Executive Committee. The CCNA has become the premier national research hub in neurodegenerative diseases and between 2019 and 2024 will receive \$44 million in funding from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) and 11 other partners. He is currently the Calgary site Principal Investigator for the Canadian Longitudinal

Study on Aging (CLSA), a national prospective cohort study that will follow approximately 50,000 Canadians who were between the ages of 45 and 85 when recruited for twenty years. Information on their biological, medical, psychological, social, lifestyle and economic characteristics will be collected to better understand how we can all age better. Through his frequently cited research, his effective teaching, supervision, and mentorship, and his own work as a compassionate clinician, he has contributed enormously to caring for the aging population in Alberta and across the country.

Among his many awards for his clinical and research contributions to improving the care provided to older adults are the Foothills Medical Staff Association Service Recognition Award, the Alzheimer Society of Calgary Jeanne Bentley Award for Community Spirit, the AMA Long-Service Award and the RCPSC RAC 1 Prix d'excellence. More recently, he was a co-recipient of Alberta Health Services President's Excellence Award for Outstanding Achievement in Quality Improvement for his work with the Falls Risk Management Collaborative (2017) and the President's Award for Outstanding Achievement in Innovation and Research Excellence for contributions to the Fracture Liaison Service (2018). Last year he also received an O'Brien Institute for Public Health Research Excellence Award.

Dr. Hogan has committed his professional life to geriatric medicine and to improving the quality of care provided to older Albertans and Canadians. In almost every major Canadian initiative related to aging, dementia and geriatric medicine, he has been a vital contributor and leader.

## Dr. Frances L. Harley

Dr. Frances Harley was a pioneer in caring for children with kidney disease. After receiving her medical training in Ontario, Baltimore and Montreal, she came to Edmonton in 1970. Since there was no subspecialty in pediatric nephrology at the time in Canada, she joined a group of adult nephrologists in Edmonton and went on to co-found the Canadian Association of Paediatric Nephrologists (CAPN), the first and only national association for pediatric nephrologists in the country. She subsequently played a key role in establishing pediatric nephrology as an accredited medical specialty with the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada.

Her career in Alberta has been a series of firsts. She was the first to start a child on peritoneal dialysis; the first to start using a cyclor for peritoneal dialysis in children so they could dialyze at night and go to school during the day; the first to treat a case of hemolytic uremic syndrome (commonly known as the hamburger disease) in Alberta; and the first to send infants to a large pediatric centre in the US so they could get kidney transplants. Later, her leadership and support made infant transplantation possible in Edmonton. She helped start multicentre trials in the area of pediatric hypertension, and led one in the 1990s that showed it was safe to use short-acting nifedipine, one of the few medications that could be used in children with high blood pressure. She was instrumental in establishing the Division of Pediatric Nephrology and the first residency program at the University of Alberta, among the earliest in the country, and served twice as acting chair of the Department of Pediatrics. She has been a model for women physicians and faculty, and a tireless advocate for her patients.

In addition to this pioneering work, she played a major role in improving care for children with cystic fibrosis and asthma, and has long been a passionate advocate for people with disabilities. With her personal experience of having a daughter with cerebral palsy, she has been a strong advocate for people with disabilities, fighting to ensure they have the support they need to live independently. When she retired, over the last 13 years, she began making monthly visits to Maskwacis (formerly Hobbema) to work in a clinic caring for patients with kidney disease, diabetes and hypertension, and she has engaged in extensive public health work there.

In addition to her medical work, Dr. Harley contributes to the community wherever she can. She supports the Anne Burrows Music Foundation for Young Musicians, originated and continues to support the Indigenous Woman's Achievement in Community Leadership Award in the Banff Centre Indigenous Leadership Program, and served on the boards for the Edmonton Food Bank and the Canadian Food Bank. She and her husband, Dr. Raul Urtasun, endowed a scholarship for Argentinian artistic creators to attend the Banff Centre.

Pediatric nephrology is not a high-profile specialty. Dr. Harley has devoted herself to it not from a desire for recognition, but from a desire to serve those in need.

## AMA Medal of Honor



### Mr. Harold James

In 1995, the hospital in Lamont, Alberta, burned down. The monumental responsibility of negotiating the insurance claim, selecting the architect and engineering services and working with various government departments to rebuild it fell to Harold James. As CEO of a small organisation in a small town, he didn't have access to enormous resources; nevertheless, he not only made sure that Lamont replaced what it had lost in the fire, he made it better. He imagined not just a hospital but an integrated health centre—with acute care, continuing care and assisted living all under one roof, a daring vision at a time when, in former premier Ed Stelmach's words, "services were stovepiped in their delivery and everyone was embedded in protectionist and territorial ideals." The success of that undertaking, which provided a model for other rural Alberta communities, exemplifies Harold James's will, commitment and vision.

With training in laboratory technology and health services administration (received in St Lucia, Jamaica, Saskatchewan, Ontario and Michigan), Harold became administrator and CEO of Archer Memorial Hospital in Lamont, the town where he and his wife Josie made their home and raised their family for more than four decades, then he became Executive Director and CEO of Lamont Health Care Centre (LHCC). In addition to managing the construction and operation of the facilities, he was instrumental in recruiting physicians and specialists to the staff. Managing a staff including family doctors, ophthalmologists, general surgeons, orthopedic surgeons, a gynecologist/

obstetrician, ENT specialists, an internal medicine specialist, anesthesiologists, a podiatrist, podiatric surgeons, physiotherapists, dental specialists and an optometrist, in addition to provision for public health, mental health, social work, and home care, Harold has achieved his vision of comprehensive care in a small rural health centre. Due to his skilled negotiations and collaboration with different levels of government, LHCC survived the major cuts and reduced services and closures that faced many rural hospitals in the 1990s.

As CAO of the Lamont County Housing Foundation (LCHF) from 1995, he coordinated initiatives in planning and building appropriate housing and associated services for the aging residents of other towns, too, allowing them to remain in their communities, close to their families, friends and neighbors, unlike so many others who have had to be uprooted due to a lack of services and programs in their communities.

In testimonial after testimonial, people speak of Harold's integrity, his kindness, his determination, his wisdom, and his commitment to service. For more than forty years, he has stayed true to his vision of offering compassionate and excellent care to all, especially to the vulnerable and the marginalised, and the people of his community and of this province have many reasons to be grateful for his service.

## Ms. Brenda Reynolds

Brenda Reynolds is a social worker of Saulteaux heritage. Working at Gordon's Residential School providing counselling services and educating students about abuse, she learned in 1988 of the sexual abuse of seventeen girls by a staff member. The disclosures led to the first litigated case of sexual abuse involving an Indian Residential School staff member in Saskatchewan and Canada and the largest class action settlement in Canadian history to date, as well as the Indian Residential School Settlement Agreement, an agreement between the Indigenous people who attended the schools, the Canadian government and churches who operated them. Since that time she has continued to work with survivors and their communities, addressing the intergenerational trauma resulting from these horrifying experiences.

In 2017, the AMA recruited Brenda to sit on its Indigenous Health Working Group, and she has been instrumental in determining how the AMA can best address the calls to action in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's report. The work of this group led to the development of AMA's Policy Statement on Indigenous Health and the formation of the Indigenous Health Committee, on which Brenda now sits. It was established to promote and operationalize the recommendations in this policy statement, in particular the need to increase the number of Aboriginal professionals working in the health care field; ensure the retention of Aboriginal health care providers in Aboriginal communities; and provide cultural competency training for all health care professionals. Brenda has provided that training to AMA board and staff members, focusing on the history of Indigenous people in Canada, the history of

Residential Schools, the Indian Residential Settlement Agreement, the legacy of the Residential Schools, intergenerational trauma, social and economic influences on health, and a brief history of Indian Hospitals. She has also presented to medical students at the University of Alberta and helped organise a group of almost fifty physicians to visit a First Nations community to learn first-hand about the challenges and the lack of resources faced by many First Nations patients.

Brenda has worked with many First Nations communities, including Alexis Nakota Sioux First Nation, Enoch First Nation, Tsuu Tina First Nation, and Hobbema (now known as Maskwacis), as well as for and with various government agencies, including Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, Alberta Family and Social Services, and the Ministry for Children and Families in British Columbia. In every role that she has played, she has worked tirelessly to improve the lives, the health and the wellbeing of the people she serves, especially of Indigenous peoples.

## AMA Award for Compassionate Service



### Dr. Vincent I.O. Agyapong

In 2016, despite having just been appointed Edmonton Zone Clinical Section Chief for Community Mental Health, Dr. Agyapong could not rest easy knowing that the people of Fort McMurray were suffering from trauma-related mental health issues, with only three psychiatrists in town and no services at all for children and youth except those sporadically provided via telehealth from Edmonton. So he volunteered to provide psychiatric consultation in Fort McMurray for one full week per month, adding to an already demanding schedule, until two additional psychiatrists were recruited last year. Since then, in order to meet the ongoing need for mental health services, he continues to provide psychiatric consultations, to support family physicians and to assist with the on-call program in Fort McMurray.

Not only does he do this with a full and demanding schedule in Edmonton, he also continues to volunteer in his home country of Ghana. In 2009, Ghana had only four resident psychiatrists for a population of over twenty million, and poor infrastructure for mental health care did little to encourage Ghanaian medical students to enter the field of psychiatry. Dr. Agyapong began travelling there annually to teach undergraduate medical students at the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology at no cost to the university. Between 2009 and 2013, he delivered the bulk of the psychiatry curriculum at that institution, which had no psychiatrist on the faculty. He also launched a program to enable Ghanaian medical students to receive fully sponsored elective placements in psychiatry in Irish institutions, with 23 students so far having received sponsorship, and the number of psychiatrists in Ghana has subsequently

increased from 4 to 18, with another 27 residents in psychiatry currently training with the Ghana College of Physicians and Surgeons.

In addition, in order to help address the treatment gap for mental health in Africa and elsewhere, Dr. Agyapong designed a curriculum for an international Masters Program in Mental Health Policy, Services, and Development that received accreditation from the Ghana Accreditation Board and the Academic Board of the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology. He recruited volunteer faculty from the University of Alberta, University of Alabama, University of Dublin, Ahmadu Bello University and the University of Ghana to teach the program. It launched in the 2018/2019 academic year with 16 students from Ghana and Nigeria enrolled; the goal is to produce well-trained global mental health professionals who have received international education in the African and lower-and-middle-income-country context and can design, implement and evaluate global mental health programs and services to expand access to care. He volunteers his time to coordinate both the intensive residential and the online learning sessions of the program from Canada and travels to Ghana at his own cost twice a year during the intensive residential sessions.

Dr. Agyapong has demonstrated enormous compassion and a willingness—indeed, an eagerness—to go out of his way to care for people who would otherwise not have access to the care they need. The people of Alberta and Ghana, in particular, have benefitted greatly from his work on their behalf.

## Dr. Debra L. Isaac

Dr. Debra Isaac is an accomplished clinician, educator, researcher and Clinical Professor at the University of Calgary, a Fellow of the Royal College of Canada in both Internal Medicine and Cardiology, with a subspecialty interest in echocardiography, heart failure and cardiac transplantation. She is the Director of Cardiac Transplantation and Mechanical Circulatory Support and the echocardiography lab Director at Calgary's Rockyview Hospital.

In the early 1990s, she partnered with Dr. Wayne Warnica to establish the Cardiac Transplant Clinic in Calgary, creating a multidisciplinary transplant team that could provide full assessment of patients, present them for listing for transplantation and provide all necessary post-transplant care. This was the first program of its kind in Canada, and it has subsequently been replicated at other Canadian centres. She was instrumental in the establishment of the Canadian Cardiac Transplant Network (CCTN) in 2001, where she was the first executive secretary (2001–2008), and then President (2008–2014). From 2009 to 2016, she was also the representative for cardiac transplant on the Organ Donation and Transplant Executive Advisory Committee for the Canadian Blood Services. During that time, she was instrumental in the development of national policies for cardiac transplant listing, organ allocation, organ sharing and outcomes assessments, advancing the practice of cardiac transplantation nationally and bringing Canada international recognition as a significant contributor to the science and practice of cardiac transplantation. She currently serves as the Director of the Cardiac Transplant Program for Southern Alberta and as medical director for Mechanical Circulatory support.

About six years ago, she made her first trip to Guyana, a small South American country with less than a million people, few cardiac facilities or services, and no ability to diagnose or treat people with cardiac conditions. Dr. Isaac arranged for used echocardiography machines to be transported from Calgary to Guyana and began the Guyana Echocardiography Education program (now the Guyana Program to Advance Cardiac Care), developing a curriculum and training physicians and technologists. The program is now in its sixth year, and over 8,000 echocardiograms have been provided to date; Dr. Isaac reviews these cases with clinicians in Guyana to provide ongoing support.

More than a quarter of those tested suffer from severe cardiovascular disease, and the condition is particularly prevalent among children. Dr. Isaac couldn't stop at diagnosing life-threatening conditions without the ability to treat them, so she began to develop a pediatric cardiology clinic, which has saved many children who would otherwise have remained undiagnosed and untreated. The program also established the country's first heart failure clinic. She has worked with all levels of government in Guyana, fought her way past seemingly endless obstacles, and faced problems with theft and vandalism of medical equipment, building supplies and drugs brought by the team to treat cardiac patients. Her tenacity and determination have made it all possible. Countless patients, both in Canada and in Guyana, are alive because of her.



# Lunch with the CMA President

*Saturday, September 28*



Welcome

Introduction of Head Table

Blessing

CMA President's Remarks

*Dr. Sandy Buchman*

PRESENTATIONS

CMA Honorary Membership Awards

Installation of new AMA President

*Dr. Christine P. Molnar*

Presentation to AMA Past President

*Dr. Alison M. Clarke*

New AMA President's Closing Remarks

## CMA President



### Dr. Sandy Buchman

Dr. Sandy Buchman received his medical degree from McMaster University in 1981 and completed his family medicine residency training at the University of Toronto in 1983.

He is an associate professor in the Department of Family and Community Medicine at the University of Toronto and provides home-based palliative and end-of-life care through the Temmy Latner Centre for Palliative Care, Sinai Health System, in Toronto. He also practises palliative care with the Palliative Education and Care for the Homeless (PEACH) program under the auspices of Inner City Health Associates and St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto. He was recently appointed as the Freeman Family Chair in Palliative Medicine at the North York General Hospital in Toronto.

He practised comprehensive family medicine for 22 years with a special interest in primary care, cancer care, palliative care, HIV/AIDS, global health and social accountability. He currently serves as the medical lead for a group working to build a new hospice in Toronto. He recently chaired the Primary Care Committee of the Canadian Partnership Against Cancer and the Social Accountability Working Group of the College of Family Physicians of Canada. He was president of the College of Family Physicians of Canada in 2011–2012 and the Ontario College of Family Physicians in 2005–2006.

Dr. Buchman has received several awards for his work as a family physician and teacher, including the Award of Excellence from the College of Family Physicians of Canada for his work as regional primary care lead for the Toronto Regional Cancer Program at Cancer Care Ontario and Excellence in Continuing Education from the Department of Family and Community Medicine at the University of Toronto. He was also recognized as Family Physician of the Year for Southern Ontario by the Ontario College of Family Physicians.

Outside of his medical practice, Dr. Buchman has devoted many volunteer hours to helping provide hospice care for the homeless and has also participated in medical missions to Africa and South America. He relaxes at his cottage in Haliburton, Ontario whenever possible, where he is an avid windsurfer.

He is married to Gail Baker, with whom he has three sons, three daughters-in-law and five grandchildren.



# Presentations

## CMA Honorary Membership Awards

The CMA Honorary Membership Awards recognize those persons who have distinguished themselves by their attainments in medicine, science, the humanities or who have rendered significant services to the association, are members of the association in good standing and have reached the age of 65 years.

Honorary members have also significantly contributed to the goals and aims of the AMA, and have been recognized with Member Emeritus distinction. Honorary members enjoy all the rights and privileges of the associations but are not required to pay any fees.

### Recipients

*Dr. Douglas B. Duval*

*Dr. Steven M. Edworthy*

*Dr. Brent T. Friesen*

*Dr. Gordon H. Johnson*

*Dr. Gerhard N. Kiefer*

*Dr. Dale C. Lien*

*Dr. Roger C. Rampling*

*Dr. Fredrykka D. Rinaldi*

*Dr. Peter M. Venner*

## CMA Honorary Members



### Dr. Douglas B. DuVal

*Anesthesiology, Edmonton*

**REFLECTIONS ON SERVICE** I have served the AMA for more than 30 years, beginning in 1986 as a member of its committee reviewing anesthetic and operative deaths. Since then, I've been a representative and executive officer of the Section of Anesthesia and worked on committees focused on physician remuneration, such as the Committee on Fees and the provincial Schedule of Medical Benefits Sub-Committee, where I learned much about the complexities and impediments inherent to attempts to define and address intersectional fee relativity. In these roles I helped to enhance fees for many specialties that had been historically undervalued, including family practice, psychiatry, pediatrics and general internal medicine.

Within my specialty, I have contributed to provincial and national organizations, serving as President of the Canadian Anesthesiologists' Society, which I also represented on the CMA Specialist Forum (which no longer exists), and I attended several CMA General Councils as an Alberta delegate or interested observer.

Serving one's professional association yields immense satisfaction, with the hope of benefitting patients, the public and the profession. It has also given me the opportunity to know, understand and appreciate my outstanding colleagues. We are better physicians when we feel connected to our medical community.

**PERSONAL INTERESTS** My wife Monique and I have four amazing adult children, two wonderful daughters-in-law and four delightful grandchildren. We try to stay physically active, and have participated in endurance sports such as triathlon and long-

distance running. We like to hike, cycle and paddle, and enjoy time in Canmore and Northern Ontario. In our remaining years of working life and our anticipated retirement, we hope to visit places on our growing list of exotic destinations, and nurture a few embryonic and theoretical hobbies.

### Dr. Steven M. Edworthy

*Rheumatology, Calgary*

**REFLECTIONS ON SERVICE** Alberta physicians have been at the forefront of technology advances, particularly in the use of electronic medical record systems. Through Alberta Medical Association leadership, we have been able to work with Alberta Health and Alberta Health Services to develop appropriate legislation for health information and standards of information that improve the care of patients in a safe, secure manner. We also worked with colleagues across Canada through the Canadian Medical Association, learning from the experience of others and sharing our work with other Provincial and Territorial Medical Associations (PTMA).

Through the AMA and the CMA, I have met and worked with many colleagues across Alberta and Canada. It has been my pleasure over the past 30 years to work with colleagues on many committees, both provincial and national, dealing with the momentous changes electronic medical records have made in our care processes, including presentations on Canada Health Infoway, Physician Office System Program (Alberta) and the CMA regional technology forums.

The AMA has provided leadership at critical times by negotiating with government, explaining to members,

pushing ahead with technology and offering support to decision makers. It gives physicians a voice that articulates their need for functional records that interface with provincial repositories and the ability to run the business of their clinics. Despite some of the recent challenges physicians have faced, we can still advance the optimal care of patients through our national organization, the CMA. I highly recommend that new physicians participate in efforts that will affect the future of medicine in Canada.

**PERSONAL INTERESTS** My wife, Shawna, and I enjoy our outdoor pursuits with friends. We intend to continue hiking, skiing and canoeing for a few years yet! Yoga is another interest we share, and it has been my pleasure to introduce many patients to the practice of yoga through my clinical area of rheumatology.

### Dr. Brent T. Friesen

*Public Health and Preventive Medicine,  
Calgary*

**REFLECTIONS ON SERVICE** I have enjoyed being a member of the CMA and the AMA. Serving on Representative Forum has been both a privilege and a challenge as I try to represent the perspectives of my colleagues. I particularly enjoyed being a member of the Health Issues Council, which works to promote wellness and develop collaborative partnerships through initiatives such as Finding Balance and the Youth Run Club, and which has made recommendations to the CMA on issues of potential national interest.

I am especially proud of how the AMA and the CMA have adopted a broad perspective on health and well-being in their advocacy and community outreach activities, using their credibility and

national voice to address the broad determinants of health. They have played an important role in advocating effective policies and interventions at the national and provincial levels to improve health and well-being. The current opioid and vaping epidemics reinforce the importance of this ongoing commitment to protect and promote public health.

Participation in the AMA and CMA offers the opportunity for a much greater collective impact than any individual physician could hope to have. My involvement has created opportunities for interactions with colleagues across Alberta and Canada, giving me a better understanding of their challenges and successes as they respond to the needs of their patients and their communities.

**PERSONAL INTERESTS** I enjoy spending time with my wife Denise and family gatherings with our children and their spouses—Ashley (Mark), Sarah (Jack), and Nicholas (Shalane)—and our three granddogs Rogan, Kira, and Keisha 2.0. I like assisting Denise with gardening in our backyard, and I continue to be optimistic that we can have a Japanese Maple tree survive a Calgary winter.

### Dr. Gordon H. Johnson

*Cytopathology, Edmonton*

**REFLECTIONS ON SERVICE** My recollection of dates is hazy, but my involvement with the AMA began in the early 1980s when I worked with the Fees Committee of the Alberta Society of Laboratory Physicians (back when there was a Pathology Fee Schedule). This led to becoming a member of the AMA Fees Committee, and I continued with this group for many years. I will not forget the many challenges we dealt with, including the early efforts to deal with intersectional fee

disparities. While I was on that committee, we initiated efforts to make the fee schedule more equitable and introduced the use of a relative value guide to enable this.

Working with the AMA provides the opportunity to become familiar with all of the non-medical aspects of our work and to develop contacts and friends across the province. I have always been impressed with the superb abilities of the AMA staff on the committee. Their skills made the very large amount of work involved manageable.

**PERSONAL INTERESTS** I will leave clinical practice at the end of October this year, after which I may continue to do some consulting work. My wife and I plan to continue to work our way through our travel bucket list. We have a beautiful home in Vernon, BC, next to two wonderful golf courses. We enjoy kayaking and hiking in the area as well. We have one delightful granddaughter, and we hope to spend time with her and with any others that arrive, if we are so blessed.

**Dr. Gerhard (Gerry) N. Kiefer**  
*Pediatric Orthopedics, Calgary*

**REFLECTIONS ON SERVICE** Over the years, I have been involved in a wide range of AMA and CMA committees, including their respective Boards and a term as AMA President. This experience has enhanced my professional and interpersonal skills, offering insight through interacting with and learning from a diverse group of physicians and staff members within the organizations.

My involvement in the CMA has allowed my participation in advocacy, governance and multiple committees over the years. In my personal and corporate involvement, I have always emphasized the need for transparency and honesty.

Involvement in these professional organizations gives individual physicians the opportunity to influence the decision-making process, health care resources and the entire health care system. The collective wisdom of the group, combined with physician professionalism, honesty, transparency and passion creates the foundation for our strength. Working together strengthens professional skills, provides insight into health care administration and patient advocacy, and offers leadership opportunities in both academic and hospital settings.

**PERSONAL INTERESTS** My family time is precious and rejuvenates my passion and enthusiasm for work and play. My wife and life partner has not only been extremely supportive of all my efforts, but also provides sage advice in everything we do. Spending time with extended family, especially my grandchildren, helps focus me on what's important. I enjoy music, reading, gardening and a variety of sports, although these have become less competitive over time, transitioning to tennis, hiking, cycling and spin classes.

In addition, I have always enjoyed community service and take every opportunity within the corporate community to emphasize the need for philanthropic support of the Alberta Children's Hospital and the ACH Foundation in our pursuit of excellence in both clinical care and research.

**Dr. Dale C. Lien***Pulmonary Medicine, Edmonton*

**REFLECTIONS ON SERVICE** I first became involved with the AMA in 1986 when I joined a Towards Optimized Practice (TOP) committee on respiratory infection. I became the AMA Pulmonary Representative and delegate to the Representative Forum, a position I held until 2015. I've served as fees representative for our section, was involved in the Relative Value Guide process, served a term on the Physician Compensation Committee, and was involved in several other projects. It was a privilege to represent my section colleagues and to contribute to this outstanding organization.

Working for improvement in patient care, for fee equity and in government negotiations gave me the opportunity to work with AMA members of great vision and determination. During my time with the AMA, I witnessed tremendous growth and many remarkable projects that have helped make the AMA the effective organization that it is.

Being a member of the AMA has offered me the chance to work on interesting projects and with exceptional and talented people, and to learn about things I wouldn't have learned about otherwise. The strength of the AMA lies in its members and their willingness to champion the interests of our profession and our patients through both good and difficult times. Participating in the AMA is a way to promote real change in Alberta.

**PERSONAL INTERESTS** Lung transplantation remains my passion, and I plan to continue my involvement for as long as possible. I enjoy spending time with my wife of forty-four years, Maureen, who has been my greatest support. We have been blessed with four children and ten grandchildren. Being involved with them and watching them grow is my other great passion.

**Dr. Roger C. Rampling***Psychiatry, Lethbridge*

**REFLECTIONS ON SERVICE** I have been fortunate to serve with the Alberta division of the Canadian Medical Association and as psychiatry section representative to the 1991-92 and fin de siècle versions of the Relative Value Guide and the current equity initiative ANDI (Adjusted Net Daily Income), respectively. I've felt honored to represent the entire profession on the AMA Fees Advisory Committee and have enjoyed participating and watching as our Representative Forum evolved and grew into an honorable, collegial and remarkably effective organization. I am truly proud of its national reputation.

In my own specialty, we developed fee items to better include families, and provide timely and cost-effective second opinions and conference services to coordinate care between family physicians, hospital and community-based treatment teams. Our AMA has built a successful, effective and credible Physician and Family Support Program for our colleagues and their loved ones.

**PERSONAL INTERESTS** Outside of medicine, I am a second-generation Rotarian; I've been part of my club for 32 years! Our club hits well above its weight. We've built a hospital in India, an early childhood school in Mexico, a country-leading girl's school in East Africa and an annual program to deliver recycled emergency vehicles to Mexico. Our club maintains a special focus on youth development with local, national and international exchanges, enrichment, leadership and scholarship programs. The international initiative to eradicate polio began with Rotarians who have donated many hundreds of millions of dollars to this end. You too could be part of Rotary!

**Dr. Fredrykka D. Rinaldi***Family Medicine, Medicine Hat*

**REFLECTIONS ON SERVICE** I have had the privilege of working with the most talented and dedicated physicians and AMA staff. My service on the AMA Board of Directors, Section of General Practice Executive, Representative Forum (Deputy Speaker, Speaker and Member), and President of the South Zone Medical Staff Association has reaffirmed for me 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. My tenure on the Canadian Medical Protective Association General Council and my term as Chair of Palliser PCN have enabled me to engage with the AMA on strategic issues facing our profession.

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 two rescue dogs, both nine years old and 65 pounds, with tons of attitude and boundary issues. I love fashion and gardening. I grow flowers and veggies, and I even preserve what I grow. I bike (on a GSXR 1000). My newest—and growing—passion is for wine.

**Dr. Peter M. Venner***Medical Oncology, Edmonton*

**REFLECTIONS ON SERVICE** I served on the Toward Optimized Practice in Screening for Prostate Cancer committee for nine years, during which time we came up with evidence-based guidelines.

I was on the Board of Directors and worked on the Relative Value Guide for remuneration of physicians. Some years ago, I served on the Committee on Ethics discussing Medical Assistance in Dying. Our early discussions at the provincial level helped to guide the CMA when it worked on later legislation.

Involvement with the AMA early on taught me that my seniors were tremendous mentors, and gave me the courage and support to take on more demanding roles. There will always be criticism, but if it's constructive and offered in an attempt to improve outcomes, especially in patient care, then it should be gratefully received and built upon.

At the end of your career you want to be able to say that you were involved. Working with provincial and national medical organizations allows your voice to be heard, and will help you develop skills and build confidence to take on leadership roles in areas related to your practice and professional development. Ultimately, it leads to better patient care.

**PERSONAL INTERESTS** Having grown up in Jasper, I have a lifelong appreciation of the outdoors. I love the liquid water of our lakes, rivers and oceans, and the solid water in our mountains. I enjoy the short grass on the links and the tall grass of the prairies and foothills.

Without the support of family, colleagues and friends, I would not be able to look back on such a successful and rewarding career. I was fortunate to have been able to pursue a career in medicine that involved clinical care, research, teaching, and administration. My patients and their families had faith in the care I was providing, and I hope I didn't let them down.

## Installation of new AMA President



### Dr. Christine P. Molnar

Dr. Christine Molnar officially assumes the role of AMA president this weekend.

*The Alberta Medical Association is our organization. It represents and supports you, the physicians of Alberta. The AMA is the only organization that has as its mandate your personal and financial success and the health of its members and our profession. Through your dedication and the unity of our profession, we can meet the challenge of creating effective and sustainable health care for Albertans.*

*'We live today in a world of exponential technologies and accelerating breakthroughs, all of which present boundless opportunity. Accessing that opportunity, however, requires organizational evolution.'*

*(Francisco Palao, Michelle Lapierre, Salim Ismail)*

*The AMA is committed to supporting and facilitating physician leadership in order to meet this challenge.*

*I am deeply honored to have the opportunity to represent you as president of the AMA.*

Dr. Molnar is a diagnostic radiologist and nuclear medicine specialist based in Calgary and has been in practice for over 34 years. She received her medical degree from the University of Saskatchewan in 1976 and further certification from the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada in Diagnostic Radiology (1983) and Nuclear Medicine (1984).

Dr. Molnar has served on many hospital, university, and provincial committees, and continues to do so in the interest of improving patient care through advocacy, quality improvement and quality assurance.

An AMA member since 1985, Dr. Molnar has served on the Board of Directors, the Representative Forum and the Nominating Committee, and has been particularly involved with the Section of Diagnostic Imaging, taking on leadership roles as president and fees representative. She serves as the Vice-President, Special Projects, Breast Imaging and Intervention.

## Presentation to AMA Past President



### Dr. Alison M. Clarke

Dr. Alison Clarke officially ends her term as president this weekend and assumes the role of immediate past president.

*In the last year I have had the privilege of meeting physicians across the province, from every specialty and zone. Their dedication to patient care is unwavering. Whether getting individual patients the care they need or working for system-wide improvements, their advocacy is resolute. We know that the system needs to function as a whole with quality and value as cornerstones of health care advancements. Physician participation and input are essential parts of any reform.*

*I am pleased with how the Alberta Medical Association supports physicians in these endeavors. The work of local doctors, members of our various committees, Representative Forum delegates and the Board is brought together to set the direction for our organization. We have many very talented and committed people who work to develop a cohesive voice and path for our profession.*

*While my time as president is coming to a close, our work will continue. We physicians are committed to exemplary care for our patients and to the system, for the long term. Governments come and go and their priorities change – but we will continue to put patients first.*

*I am grateful to acknowledge the tremendous support I have received from so many people. Thank you.*

Dr. Clarke is a family physician who has practiced for over 20 years at Valley Medical Clinic, providing care to patients and their families in the rural community of Strathmore. Dr. Clarke has been involved with primary care networks since the PCN concept was first established and participated in the original planning and implementation in the Strathmore medical community.

Dr. Clarke has also served in leadership roles including president of the Rural Medical Staff Association and chief of staff of Strathmore District Health Services. She is a member of the Health Services Support Task Group under the direction of the secretariat of the Calgary Zone PCNs with specialty groups to facilitate and stream referral processes. She has also written columns for Vital Signs magazine, focusing on the practice of medicine from a rural perspective.

As a member since her family practice residency in 1990, Dr. Clarke has a lengthy history with the AMA. She served as a Representative Forum delegate from 1998–2013, as a member of the Board of Directors from 2010–13 and since 2017 in her role as president-elect. She also served on Nominating Committee and the Ad Hoc Committee to Review AMA's Regional Structure, and was a delegate to CMA General Council on several occasions. For her contributions, she was recognized with the AMA Long-Service Award in 2010.

In her role as Immediate Past President, Dr. Clarke will continue as a member of the Board of Directors and will serve on the Executive Committee.



