



Section News



October 2024

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General news:

Join the AMA president for a town hall in your area

The AMA wants to hear from physicians about what's going on in your communities, what you're facing in your practices and what you and your patients need most.

Through the Local Doctors, Local Issues tour AMA President, Dr. Shelley Duggan and CEO, Karina Guy are hosting a series of member-only town hall meetings across the province. All meetings are hybrid so that members in each area of the province can either join a meeting in person or connect via Zoom.

Learn more on our [Local Doctors, Local Issues webpage](#).

UPCOMING!

October 31 (today!) – Calgary

November 5 – Lethbridge

December 2 – Fort McMurray

December 5 – Grande Prairie

December 10 – Red Deer

Help Shape Our Future - Apply to join the AMA's Negotiating Committee

The AMA is gearing up for another round of negotiations with government in 2026 and we want to ensure we've got a strong Negotiating Committee to represent members.

As a refresher, the Negotiating Committee is guided by Board direction and is responsible for:

- Determining the Association's bargaining strategy and tactics.
- Assisting in the development and preparation of the AMA's negotiating framework to optimize success.
- Working directly with government to represent physicians and achieve the Board's mandate.

If you're interested in serving, please [view the posting](#) to see further details. For questions about the Negotiating Committee or the application process, please reach out to sean.smith@albertadoctors.org.

Connect Care access not required for referrals to AHS

You may be receiving referral communications and summative notes from Alberta Health Services asking you to view information in Connect Care. AHS understands this is a problem because most community providers do not have access to Connect Care. Access to Connect Care is not required to make referrals to AHS and community providers should not be asked to view documents in Connect Care. If you receive foregoing communication, please contact ccproviderbridge@ahs.ca.

Click [here](#) for more information.

Renew your AMA membership for 2024-25

The 2024/2025 membership year is now in full swing, and membership renewal is now open.

[Renewing your membership](#) bolsters us to continue standing together for the good of our profession, and the strength of the AMA lies in the collective expertise, experience and passion of members like you.

[Stay united and renew now!](#)

Questions?

If you have any questions about AMA membership, please contact Jennifer McCombe, AMA Membership and Benefits Team Leader: 780-732-3359 | toll-free 1-800-272-9680 | email jennifer.mccombe@albertadoctors.org.

Apply today: Canadian Medical Association leadership opportunities

The Canadian Medical Association is looking for physician leaders to help build a better future of health, health care and a thriving health workforce.

The CMA has several leadership vacancies for an initial term starting in 2025. They include roles with the:

- CMA Board of Directors
- Awards Committee
- Committee on Ethics
- Nominations Committee

The deadline for eligible members to apply is December 31.

[Learn more](#) about these leadership opportunities and how to apply.

If you have any questions, please reach out to governance@cma.ca.

Got a minute? Thank a colleague through JPAC Shine On Gratitude Program
The JPAC Shine On Gratitude Program gives physicians the opportunity to thank their colleagues for their acts of kindness, big and small. The process is as quick and easy as sending an email.

Complete the [submission form](#) and we will make sure the message gets to the person you want to express your appreciation to.

[Section of Addiction Medicine](#)

Save the date – Section of Addiction Medicine Annual General Meeting (virtual)

Date: Tuesday, November 5, 2024

Time: 5:00 - 6:30 p.m.

Venue: Zoom

To reach the Section of Emergency Medicine President, Dr. Rahul Mehta, please email [AMA Section Services](#).

Section of Emergency Medicine

Save the date – 24th International Conference on Emergency Medicine

Date: May 24-28, 2025

Location: Palais des Congres, Montreal

Further information: may be found [here](#)

To reach the Section of Emergency Medicine President, Dr. Warren Thirsk, please email [AMA Section Services](#).

Section of Family Medicine

Member survey now open

The Section of Family Medicine will host a town hall on October 3, 2024, from 7 to 9 p.m. The Section of Family Medicine Executive has developed a survey to help us better understand you, your practice, and your plans. Please consider sharing your thoughts. The survey is confidential and should take roughly 5-10 minutes to complete. It will be available until 11:59 p.m. on Tuesday, November 5 and can be found [here](#).

Section of Internal Medicine

Update from Dr. Troy Pederson

It has been a difficult summer for members of our section. We highlighted the growing pressures that are collectively converging on our acute care providers across the province, creating a crisis that is difficult to measure but intensely painful to those who are working there. Thank you to those members of the section that shared videos, emails and other correspondence. I was struck by the asymmetry across the province, with several of our colleagues working in models that already have collapsed with gaps in coverage, workloads incompatible with best care, and escalating burnout. For those just approaching that cliff, the overflow from those centres will soon sink all our ships. The Acute

Care Crisis campaign from the AMA this summer was strongly promoted but was one of many medical crises the government was simultaneously fumbling with, so we have little action to show for it yet. The advocacy will continue.

SAVE THE DATE: Annual General Meeting is February 11, 2025

We will be looking to fill several positions in our executive committee so please don't hesitate to reach out if you would like to be involved. Further information to be sent to section members soon.

[Rocky Mountain Internal Medicine Conference](#): November 14-15 – still time to register.

To reach the Section of Internal Medicine President, Dr. Troy Pederson, please email **[AMA Section Services](#)**.

Section of Neurology

Save the date - Section of Neurology Annual General Meeting (in-person)

Date: Sunday, November 10, 2024

Time: 9:00 - 10:30 a.m.

Location: Rimrock Resort Hotel, Banff

Revised agenda package sent to section members on October 24.

To reach the Section of Neurology President, Dr. Lisa Rosenegger, please email **[AMA Section Services](#)**.

Section of Obstetrics and Gynecology

Save the date - Section of Obstetrics and Gynecology Annual General Meeting (virtual)

Date: Wednesday November 6, 2024

Time: 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Location: Zoom

Agenda package sent to section members on October 22.

To reach the Section of Obstetrics and Gynecology President, Dr. Cameron Sklar, please email [AMA Section Services](#).

Section of Palliative Care

Registration now open – Palliative Care Education & Research Conference

Date: Monday, October 21, 2024

Time: 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Virtual Event

Covenant Health is proud to continually support and provide delegates with the opportunity to gather, share experiences and exchange ideas about Palliative Care. Join us on our online platform this October to connect with colleagues representing many disciplines from all over Alberta, nationally and internationally.

Conference information and registration link [available here](#).

To reach the Section of Palliative Care President, Dr. Marisa Dharmawardene, please email [AMA Section Services](#).

Section of Pediatrics

Save the date - Section of Pediatrics Annual General Meeting (virtual)

Date: Tuesday, November 5, 2024

Time: 6 – 8:30 p.m.

Location: Zoom

Agenda package sent to section members on October 21.

To reach the Section of Pediatrics President, Dr. Sam Wong, please email [AMA Section Services](#).