

Outstanding



2020

AMA/CMA

AWARDS RECOGNITION

Awards Program



ALBERTA
MEDICAL
ASSOCIATION



*“Believe you can and
you’re halfway there.”*


Theodore Roosevelt



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2020 *October 5* AMA/CMA Awards Recognition



Recognitions

AMA Long-Service Awards

AMA Member Emeritus Awards

CMA Honorary Membership Awards

Special Recognition

AMA honors the Public Health
and Preventive Medicine physicians
of Alberta

CMA President

Dr. Ann Collins

Installation of New AMA President

Dr. Paul E. Boucher

Message from AMA Past President

Dr. Christine P. Molnar



***“Persevere in virtue
and diligence.”***

Titus Maccius Plautus

AMA Long-Service Award

The 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. Whether on the Board of Directors, its committees, the Representative Forum or section executives within AMA, their work supports and encourages the association's development.

Recipients

Dr. Arun Kumar Abbi

Dr. Michael P. Bering

Dr. Earl Austin D. Campbell

Dr. Graham M.D. Campbell

Dr. John George Cinats

Dr. Kenneth James Corbet

Dr. Albert Stefanus de Villiers

Dr. Brian Edmond Dufresne

Dr. Howard Evans

Dr. Walter John Hader

Dr. Brian Adam Hauck

Dr. Jodi Lee Kashmere

Dr. Robert E. Korbyl

Dr. Peter Kwan

Dr. Jacqueline M. McCubbin

Dr. Rajdeep S. Padwal

Dr. Scott John Gordon Paterson

Dr. Jacques Samuel Romney

Dr. Douglas V. Scott

Dr. Nairne W. Scott-Douglas

Dr. Warren Stuart Thirsk

Dr. Stephen Wainer

Dr. William Dale White

Dr. Gerrit Bruce Winkelaar

Dr. John H. Wong

Dr. Clarence K. W. Wong

AMA Long-Service Award Recipients

Dr. Arun Kumar Abbi

Emergency Medicine, Calgary

Reflections on Service

I was treasurer for the Section of Emergency Medicine for seven years and then became its president. For the past five years, I have been a representative of the Section, and I have been nominated to be the president again starting in September.

Fee equity is an important matter, but more important is the quality of the medical care we provide and how we measure it. We need to give physicians effective performance feedback to improve the quality of care we provide.

I have enjoyed working with my excellent colleagues. Working with the AMA allows doctors to meet wonderful people who are trying to improve the quality of care we provide. Through AMA involvement, we can start to understand the different perspectives of various specialties and gain a broader understanding of the issues affecting us in medicine.

Personal Interests

I enjoy mountain biking, skiing and hiking with my family.

Dr. Michael P. Bering

Orthopedic Surgery, Medicine Hat

Reflections on Service

I have been part of our section executive for about eighteen years, the last three as its president. Early on, we were pleased to support and help launch Dr. Cy Franks' vision of the Alberta Bone and Joint Institute, which still serves Albertans with musculoskeletal care. We also piloted and launched central intake clinics for hip and knee arthroplasty, including a comprehensive evidence-based care map that has served as a model for other provinces.

The most important thing for me has been interacting with orthopedic colleagues from all over the province as part of my section executive. These interactions gave me perspective on different issues and concerns from all over Alberta, and they helped me stay up to date in my practice through initiatives like the Clinical Committees. Coming to the RF has also increased my understanding of all the different sections comprising the AMA and insight into their views and concerns.

Personal Interests

I have been in solo practice in orthopedic surgery in Medicine Hat since 1996, where my wife and I have raised two children. We enjoy mountain biking, golfing, and sitting on a beach with good books and cold drinks.

Dr. Earl A. D. Campbell

Plastic Surgery, Calgary

Reflections on Service

The most important thing about the AMA is the dedication, commitment, and wisdom of all the people involved with it. The membership cares passionately about the practice of medicine, the RF provides sage advice to the Board, the Board is full of thoughtful people offering steady stewardship, and the staff work tirelessly to bring ideas to life.

What has consistently occupied most of the AMA's time and caused the most acrimony among its members is financial matters. The most recent income equity initiative has been the most divisive issue for the AMA that I can remember. But despite all difficulties, the doctors of this province have always put patient care first, and we have never lost track of that core principle.

The AMA remains a committed voice for the doctors of Alberta. Its strength comes from the accumulated wisdom of thousands of doctors, representing all specialties but linked in a common purpose to support doctors so that we can provide patient care to the best of our abilities. Being involved with the AMA has given me the opportunity to meet people and cement friendships with doctors in other specialties and geographic areas whom I would otherwise never have met.

Personal Interests

I intend to launch a perfume.

Dr. Graham M.D. Campbell

Diagnostic Imaging, Calgary

Reflections on Service

Bringing forward to the AMA the views of a disparate community of medical professionals—whether as a Calgary Zone delegate to RF or as part of the Nominating Committee, the RF Planning Group, or the Government Advisory Committee—has been a challenge I have welcomed. I have particularly enjoyed my involvement in the Specialty Care Alliance and Forum as we work together to find ways to improve the provision and quality of care in Alberta.

The AMA is an essential voice for doctors in this province. It cannot be the vehicle through which one group “wins” at the expense of another. It gives us a forum where groups can hash out their differences, but a united voice at the end is paramount, and that means no section can be sacrificed. When we understand and appreciate those with whom we work, we can offer better services to our colleagues and our patients.

The AMA must speak unapologetically for doctors' interests. Doctors must have a role in the future direction of medicine. We are the professionals on whom our patients rely, so we have to be partners in the changes coming forward.

Personal Interests

My greatest love, and the chief occupier of my time outside my work, is my family. My wife and three children are a constant source of energy and fun, and as the children grow, their pursuits expand, with skiing, golf, swimming, and hockey occupying ever larger time blocks.

Personal Interests

I am a watercolour and acrylic artist. My wife, Cindy, and I enjoy travelling, yoga, Pilates, cycling, and daily home workouts. She and I created the Breast Impressions Calendar, which raised over \$100,000 for breast cancer research in Alberta. I am now enjoying my new role as Papa or Grandpa.

Dr. John George Cinats

Orthopedic Surgery, Edmonton

Reflections on Service

As Section head for Orthopedics Edmonton Zone (1998–2005), I met with provincial health administrators to improve orthopedic services in Alberta and helped establish an alternative to the resident program allowing the development of nonresident surgical assistants and clinical associates that continues to operate and is a model followed throughout the province. As president of the Alberta Orthopedic Society (2008–2011), I helped establish a province-wide process enabling optimal resource funding for orthopedic implants. By attending RF, I was able to bring orthopedic issues to the members and to improve dialogue between orthopedic-related sections. I am currently working with the AMA, as chair of the Alberta Orthopedic Fees Committee, on the revision of the relative value guide.

I have always felt that our obligation to society and to our patients is to put patients first regardless of other problems. The AMA enables Alberta physicians to speak with a unified voice despite changes in government or other issues such as the current COVID-19 pandemic.

In my 34 years as an orthopedic surgeon, the AMA has provided resources for my continued medical education and has allowed me to collaborate with my orthopedic and non-orthopedic colleagues throughout the province.

Dr. Kenneth James Corbet

Occupational Medicine, Calgary

Reflections on Service

From 1991 to 1995, I acted as Fees Representative for the Section of Occupational Medicine, and I was chair of the ad hoc Committee on Return to Work after Illness or Injury (1993–4). The guideline that this committee produced was widely used by Canadian physicians and led to the CMA’s development of a more extensive guideline. I was president of the Section of Occupational Medicine from 2010 to 2014. It was always a challenge to engage members, to characterize their occupational medicine practice, and to assess their CPD needs and preferences.

Guideline development can be particularly satisfying, especially when physicians from different disciplines and practice settings tackle a project, meld different perspectives and experiences, and produce a guide that is simple and sensible.

Talking with our colleagues—whether face-to-face, electronically, or as a group with a whiteboard and a pot of strong coffee—is necessary for our ongoing clinical and professional development. The AMA provides many, many opportunities to get involved in something you feel is important.

Personal Interests

I am still working close to full-time and am busy battling COVID in corporate and health care workplaces. Working from home has been an adjustment and has reinforced for me the importance of daily exercise, fresh air, and sunlight.

Dr. Albert Stefanus de Villiers

Public Health and Preventative Medicine, Grande Prairie

Reflections on Service

I have been a member of the AMA’s Health Advisory Council and the RF planning committee, participated in TOP guideline development, and have acted as president of the Section of Public Health and Preventive Medicine since 2015.

I have helped to bring Public Health and Preventive Medicine to the forefront through RF motions and participation in committees, and I recently participated in RF planning for emerging public health issues presentations. In my various roles, I have dealt with issues such as vaccine hesitancy, pandemic planning, vaping, and supervised consumption services.

The AMA effectively advocates for physicians and for issues that affect us as frontline providers. RF and other committees are set up to enable participants to get to know colleagues from across the province in various specialties, something I have found extremely helpful in my daily work. The network formed over time is irreplaceable. AMA staff always treats physicians with the utmost respect, and many organizations can learn from them.

Personal Interests

Now that our boys are both married, my wife and I have invested more time in pursuing our joint passions—cross-country skiing, hiking, kayaking, scuba diving, dancing, and biking. Western Canada is the perfect place to live out those interests. COVID-19 has taken up most of my time in recent months. Getting ready for the impending second wave is the only pet project there is currently time for.

Dr. Brian Edmond Dufresne

Emergency Medicine, Fort McMurray

Reflections on Service

I would like to express my gratitude for this award and especially for the AMA’s continued commitment to Alberta physicians and the opportunity it has afforded me to be part of this organization. Over my many years as RF representative for Fort McMurray, the AMA has always been an advocate for all physicians, but especially for rural physicians who rely on its advice and guidance in isolated communities.

The most impressive aspect of RF is the commitment shown by every AMA president. I have always been impressed by how each president, year after year, has made an unwavering, selfless sacrifice to act on behalf of all Alberta physicians. They have made the AMA what it is today.

In particular, I was amazed by the incredible support the AMA gave to Fort McMurray during the fires. The provincial, regional, and local support, phone calls, and emails were astounding. Both Dr. Carl Nohr and Mr. Mike Gormley made personal trips to Fort McMurray to provide help and encouragement to the community.

The AMA is facing unprecedented challenges, but I am confident that it will remain cohesive, strong, and united. I encourage younger physicians joining our ranks to be active, supportive, and dedicated to the AMA. It offers a truly unified voice for Alberta physicians and remains a model throughout Canada.

Personal Interests

In my free time, I am an avid cyclist and a not-so-successful rancher and farmer.

Dr. Howard Evans

Urology, Edmonton

Reflections on Service

My AMA journey started as a RF member for the division of urology, where I enjoyed the interspecialty diversity and discussion. Later, as president of the section, I tried to bring the concerns of urologic members to the forefront. But as I spent more time on committees with other generalists and specialists, I discovered that it was the greater profession that I really cared about. I ran to be a member of the Board, where I found my true passion representing doctors as a whole.

As president of the section of urology, I was involved with fees committees and trying to improve the INRV system to create equity with my colleagues. I sat on IT committees, worked with the POSP program, and promoted the fair adoption of the IEL. As a Board Member, I now experience the daily battle with government in our attempts to bring about a negotiated contract that is secure and safe for physicians and provides economic control for Albertans.

In medical school we learn the basics of anatomy, physiology, pharmacology, and the importance of helping others. Being part of the AMA enables us to show our concern for our colleagues and our profession. There is not a stronger, more caring association out there. The more you give to the AMA, the more you will get back in return.

Personal Interests

My free time is spent with my wife, Deb, and my four incredible kids. We love to travel and to be active. I enjoy running and biking to try to stay healthy.

Dr. Walter John Hader

Neurosurgery, Calgary

Reflections on Service

Dr. Hader is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Clinical Neurosciences at the University of Calgary. His research focuses on the determinants of health in children with hydrocephalus, the surgical treatment of temporal lobe epilepsy in the intra-operative MR setting, and neuropsychological and visual consequences of selective amygdalo-hippocampectomies versus standard temporal lobectomies for intractable epilepsy. He is currently President of the Section of Neurosurgery, has served on Representative Forum and the AMHSP Negotiations committee and council, and was secretary-treasurer for the Section from 2004 to 2017.

Dr. Jodi Lee Kashmere

Neurology, Edmonton

Reflections on Service

For the past ten years, I have served as the vice president and secretary for the Section of Neurology. My major contribution recently has been planning the Annual Section of Neurology meeting.

The Alberta Medical Association represents the physicians of this province, and I think it is more important now than ever for young physicians to become involved with the AMA. Working with the AMA allows you to interact with many other physicians and to establish important networks and relationships.

Personal Interests

I work as a community neurologist in Edmonton, where I see general neurology patients and do nerve conduction studies and EMG in my office. My general neurology practice is mainly people with multiple sclerosis and Parkinson's disease. When I'm not working, I like to play tennis and travel.

Dr. Brian Adam Hauck

Obstetrics & Gynecology, Calgary

Reflections on Service

I first became a member of the executive of the Section of Obstetrics and Gynecology in 1999 when I began serving as treasurer, a position I have held ever since. At that time, our section was working with the provincial government to increase funding for obstetric services in Alberta. The executive participated in some intense negotiations between the AMA and the government. I was the one in contact with the press, and the coverage we got helped our cause. Later I became heavily involved in the fee equity process.

As a long-time executive member of the AMA, I feel that my contributions have strengthened as I've gained experience. Having dedicated physicians willing to spend time and effort on behalf of all physicians is critically important for our profession and will be even more important in the next few years. We need leaders to step up to this challenge.

Personal Interests

I have been an avid hunter of mountain animals for as long as I have been an executive member of our section. My first mountain sheep hunt was in 1999, and since then I have hunted 73 mountain animals, putting me among the top fifteen mountain hunters in the world. Hunting has taken me to many countries, mostly in Europe, Asia, and the Middle East. I have seen parts of the world very few people have seen. Having a passion outside of medicine makes us better physicians.

Dr. Robert E. Korbyl

Orthopedic Surgery, Red Deer

Reflections on Service

I never meant to get involved in leadership, but Dr. Don Dick, an orthopedic surgeon and former professor of mine, urged me to consider it. I first experienced RF as president of the Alberta Orthopedic Association, and I quickly realized the crucial role the AMA plays in the delivery of health care in Alberta. I am still amazed by the strength and vision of our organization.

My introduction to the AMA so impressed me that I felt a need to become more engaged, so I ran for a position on the Board of Directors. I take pride in representing all Alberta physicians, knowing that my colleagues trust me to represent their concerns and help guide our profession through troubled waters. As an orthopedic surgeon, the concept of the medical home or neighbourhood was new to me. Promoting this and Healthy Working Environments has been a focus of my time on the Board.

Representing peers satisfies the soul. There's always more work than you expect, but more rewards, too, and you get to view medicine from different perspectives. Get involved. You won't regret it.

Personal Interests

In winter, I help coach my kids' hockey teams, and I've been part of the medical staff of the Red Deer Rebels in the Western Hockey League since 2010. In summer, I love to golf with family and friends. I enjoy working outside on my acreage, doing the many chores "suggested" by my wife, Loire. Any other spare time is spent learning basic woodworking techniques in my shop.

Dr. Peter Kwan

Emergency Medicine, Lethbridge

Reflections on Service

When I started practising in Lethbridge in 1998 at the Chinook Regional Hospital Emergency Department, I became involved with the AMA Section of Emergency Medicine. I have had the privilege of working alongside my emergency colleagues from across the province on matters related to emergency medicine at the section level; I have served as a member-at-large, as president-elect, as president, and as past-president. Over the years, our group has dealt with a multitude of issues, including emergency room overcrowding.

I would like to acknowledge and thank my colleagues, past and present, who have participated with me in the Section of Emergency Medicine. The knowledge and experiences we have shared have been invaluable.

We have had some challenging times, and more are ahead. The Alberta Medical Association represents the physicians of this province with our best interests in mind. Stay united and strong. Our strength is as a unified group.

Personal Interests

I enjoy photography and being with my family on various adventures; travel, time outdoors (especially climbing), and biking have been lifelong passions. In my spare time I get to help out at a local bike shop as a mechanic. When I retire, I hope to keep this as a side gig.

Dr. Jacqueline M. McCubbin

Obstetrics & Gynecology, Edmonton

Reflections on Service

I started with the Section of Obstetrics and Gynecology as Fees Representative twenty years ago, and we were able to fundamentally overhaul the way that Obstetrics was compensated. We have worked collaboratively with the Sections of Family Medicine and Rural Medicine to update how the care of women in Alberta is recognized.

The committee that stands out most for me is the After Hours Working Group. It was important to me to have the AMA and other sections try to understand how after hours work is fundamental to our specialty. It was also a great learning exercise seeing the perspectives of others when trying to reach consensus.

I would love to see new physicians get involved in the AMA and combine their new energy and enthusiasm with the experience of those of us who have worked in the AMA for years. Fresh ideas can help us to continue to innovate with our programs and policies.

Personal Interests

My main interests are my children and my family, who have been incredibly understanding of my love of my profession and the long hours that sometimes mean missing out on family time. I hope in the future they will find professions that bring them as much joy and satisfaction as I have found in mine.

Personal Interests

I'm CEO of a digital health company, mmHg Inc., that makes software solutions to enable best practice for hypertension and cardiovascular disease. I have many interests outside medicine and not enough time! I collect fine wine and fountain pens, enjoy reading classics, practising yoga, watching ballet with my daughter, and gardening (in the two weeks that winter is absent in Edmonton).

Dr. Rajdeep S. Padwal

General Internal Medicine, Clinical Epidemiology, and Hypertension, Edmonton

Reflections on Service

I am an academic general internal medicine specialist practising at the University of Alberta and have served in various capacities, including Section of Internal Medicine President, Representative Forum member, and Medicine North AMHSP Committee representative. I've tried to keep a balanced view and advocate for patients, for best practice, and for the good of the profession.

My most important accomplishment was to help introduce a fee code for ambulatory blood pressure monitoring. Ambulatory blood pressure monitoring is the gold standard method for diagnosing hypertension. Because office blood pressure measurement is inaccurate in many patients (usually spuriously high), no one should be labelled as hypertensive and started on medications without having an ABPM study. Hopefully, this fee code will be used to increase access and use of this important test.

Physicians are lucky to be in a profession that allows us to care and advocate for our patients every day. We affect people's lives. Working within organizations like the AMA allows you to amplify your efforts for the greater good. It also allows you to meet and work with great people!

Dr. Scott J. G. Paterson

Anesthesia, Edmonton

Reflections on Service

My involvement with the AMA was triggered by the development of the RVG Atkinson Report. I heard John Atkinson speak in 1998, describing a process that I felt was flawed. This gave me the impetus for my involvement in the AMA, which has continued ever since. The Atkinson Report was completed but never adopted. It made me feel like I needed to be engaged and involved in my section, as well as with the AMA.

I have served on the Section of Anesthesia executive and with the AMA, including many committees, on a continuous basis since 1999. After all these years, the thing that stands out the most in my mind is how difficult and anti-doctor our current government has become. In my twenty-year tenure with our section and the AMA, I cannot remember anything like what physicians are enduring from this government. Thinking about twenty years of work, it's hard to isolate any single accomplishment, but I know that many positive things have been accomplished for our Section and for the medical profession as a whole.

This award has great value and meaning to me. I would encourage all young members of the AMA to become engaged in their section and to participate in AMA committees when given the opportunity.

Personal Interests

Outside of my hospital life and anesthesia section work, I enjoy spending time with my family, working out (it's an uphill battle to stay in shape), road biking, surfing, and skiing.

Dr. Jacques Samuel Romney

Endocrinology, Edmonton

Reflections on Service

It has been a pleasure to be a longstanding executive member of our AMA Section of Endocrinology. I have served as our Section's president, but most of the time I have acted as treasurer.

As part of our Section's executive, I've helped to organize the annual meeting and have been able to provide information and gather feedback on issues regarding endocrine care in our province. Participating in the Representative Forum has also been a highlight of my activity with the AMA.

The AMA has provided me with great value over the years, not only with its advocacy on behalf of physicians in general, but also with our Section and with the formation of the Specialist group. Access to other services through the AMA, such as Adium Insurance and MD Management, certainly makes membership worthwhile!

Personal Interests

Free time this summer has mostly been spent raising our new puppy, who has provided excellent distraction.

Dr. Douglas V. Scott

Diagnostic Imaging, Calgary

Reflections on Service

As vice-president for special projects in information technology and management for the section of diagnostic imaging, I worked on the integration of IT systems between the AHS and communities in Alberta.

One thing that involvement with the AMA has taught me is that no one knows as much as all of us!

Dr. Nairne W. Scott-Douglas

Nephrology, Calgary

Reflections on Service

In 1997, as a young nephrologist, I worked with the CPSA to define the standard for free-standing hemodialysis units in Alberta. I subsequently chaired the Fees Committee and served as a Nephrology representative at many AMA forums, where I was instrumental in the recognition of the new Section of Nephrology, of which I was president for many years.

Members serve the AMA in many ways outside of RF and Section meetings—when we lobby government for more resources, undertake Quality Improvement cycles, or educate other physicians and our health care colleagues.

I am most proud of the many quality improvement projects I've been involved with to improve the lives of people at risk of kidney disease or struggling with the burden of chronic disease—standardizing the educational program for patients needing dialysis, increasing the uptake of home dialysis therapies, and improving the kidney care of Indigenous Albertans. I am also proud of the work I've done co-chairing the first four years of Alberta Kidney Days. Even now, as I contemplate my retirement, I know that I will remain involved as a volunteer for many more years.

Young physicians need to know that they can make a difference in the health care of Albertans by engaging with the AMA. We are working for patients; in order to help them, specialist physicians must strongly support our primary care colleagues, who are the key to excellent health care.

Personal Interests

My family and my community are the most important things in my life. I love to cook, walk my dog and talk endlessly with my wife. In winter I spend time skiing and travelling and skiing some more.

Dr. Warren Stuart Thirsk

Emergency & Sports Medicine, Edmonton

Reflections on Service

My time with the AMA has mostly involved working behind the scenes on the Section Executive to play multiple roles as required over the years. My major accomplishment over the past decade has been ongoing advocacy around emergency department overcrowding and making others aware of the negative effects this has on patients.

Now, more than ever, our profession and our patients need to hear the voices of physicians. The AMA provides a united voice and support for the patient care advocacy all of us are called to.

Personal Interests

My Sports Medicine subspecialty provides ample excitement and opportunities, including working for the NHL and serving Canada as a team physician for the Para-Alpine Ski Team at the past two Paralympics.

Dr. Stephen Wainer

Community Pediatrics, Calgary

Reflections on Service

I have attended Representative Forum meetings over the years, but my main involvement with the AMA has been through my membership on the Executive Committee of the Section of Pediatrics. This has allowed me to participate in numerous activities and initiatives important to the field.

I was particularly pleased to be involved in the Section's support for a strong position on childhood immunizations. This initiative led to an AMA resolution recognizing this as a fundamental right of the child.

I would strongly encourage our younger physicians to take active roles in the AMA. This organization is crucial to our ability to advocate as a united front for a wide variety of health, policy, and professional issues. During these very difficult days, it is vital for the profession to be resolute and cohesive.

Personal Interests

My passions are golf and wildlife photography. Swimming and cycling are keeping me fit.

Dr. William Dale White

Psychiatry & Addiction Medicine, Calgary

Reflections on Service

I joined the Section of Addiction Medicine straight out of my psychiatry residency training in 2004, was immediately nominated to serve as an Executive Member-at-Large, and have continued in various roles. I served on the Physician and Family Support Program (PFSP) Advisory committee, with a particular interest in advocating for fellow physicians suffering with addiction. It's been gratifying to see the Section grow, in part as more of our junior colleagues see the effects of addiction and the effect that we can have as clinicians and advocates.

In many areas of medicine, we encounter patients where something is broken or malfunctioning, and we consider outcomes successful if we can get them back even close to "factory condition." In addiction medicine, with motivation and good care, patients often surpass that goal and become "new and improved." I'm happy to think that my involvement with the Section of Addiction Medicine and PFSP may have helped make this a reality for more of our patients and colleagues.

My service with the AMA has consistently put me among colleagues filled with altruism and dedication, who inspire, energize and enrich me professionally and personally.

Personal Interests

Recently my interests in philosophy and religion have become focused on the history of Christianity, biblical scholarship, Christian mysticism, and the role of spirituality and religious belief and practice in mental health. I stay connected to my Southern American roots through regional culinary and musical traditions. I have two young adult daughters who keep me from getting too stale. I love being in nature, and I geek out on identifying plants, birds, and animals. I also love travelling with my wife. Maybe one day that will be possible again!

Dr. Gerrit Bruce Winkelaar

Vascular Surgery, Edmonton

Reflections on Service

For four years, I served as president of the Section of Vascular Surgery, during which time the AMA launched the INRV program to update the SOMB. It was a challenge and a privilege to lead the modernization of the fee schedule to reflect both inter- and intra-section relativity. The process of collaborating with my colleagues throughout the province to develop an accurate, mathematically based fee guide was a very rewarding experience. The support given our section by the AMA was invaluable in working through it. As an ongoing member of the section executive, working through our annual section meetings, we worked to establish significant collaborative educational and clinical partnerships between the two major vascular centres in Alberta.

The AMA serves as a forum to advocate for delivery of the best care for our patients. We are stronger together, building common principles through the Representative Forum to advance our concerns to government that benefit our colleagues and our patients.

Personal Interests

I enjoy outdoor activities such as high altitude trekking, mountain climbing, running, cycling, and golf. Indoors, I play guitar and piano.

Dr. John H. Wong

Neurosurgery, Calgary

Reflections on Service

My professional service has centred on bringing the AMA and the Section of Neurosurgery closer together. As Section President, I've helped to align professional groups in Edmonton and Calgary and enhance the visibility and contributions of our relatively small group of specialist surgeons. We've played an outsize role in educating other sections in the nuances of non-traditional compensation structures. With the AMA's help, I was able to modernize the neurosurgical fee codes in the Schedule of Medical Benefits and re-balance the relative value guide to permit accurate shadow billing and proper reporting of data. Linkages between the Edmonton and Calgary neurosurgical groups have strengthened, so that specialty-specific initiatives and responses (clinical, academic, educational, administrative, and financial) are now collaborative and better coordinated.

Effecting change can be daunting in a large, bureaucratic organization, but it's doable by communicating directly with people who have similar goals. Take the first step and volunteer in your personal and professional communities. Collaboration and organization are key!

Personal Interests

Without new professional challenges, dissatisfaction can permeate from the work sphere into one's personal life. I believe that people should re-invent themselves periodically to remain motivated. My first decade in clinical and academic practice was dedicated to building a multidisciplinary program to facilitate neurovascular care and combat stroke. After that, I focused on organizing Neurosurgery, in Calgary as Division Head and in Alberta as AMA Section President. Most recently, I graduated with an MBA from the Wharton School of Business and co-founded a medical device start-up company. Success is not guaranteed, but the road ahead is exciting!

Dr. Clarence K. W. Wong

Gastroenterology, Edmonton

Reflections on Service

I started my medical association activity while in residency with PAIRO (Professional Association of Internes and Residents of Ontario); after moving to Alberta, I became Education Chair of the Section of Gastroenterology in 2006, then went on to other executive positions, including president. I've enjoyed advocating on behalf of gastroenterologists and physicians in Alberta. I helped to establish the Alberta Digestive Diseases Summit (ADDS), one of the largest educational meetings for Digestive Health in Canada.

During my term, we established relative fee codes for gastroenterology and presented on the value of our endoscopy codes and how well balanced they were when compared nationally. I helped modernize our Section's bylaws and established a permanent Secretariat. I also helped in the formation of many clinical guidelines, including colon cancer screening and anemia.

To my new colleagues—get involved! Advocating for your specialty and physicians in general is one of our most important responsibilities. Despite challenges, becoming part of the solution is a great opportunity for physicians. Involvement with the AMA has helped advance my academic career and the development of provincial networks for quality and patient care. Physicians are truly strongest when we work together.

Personal Interests

I am grateful for the support of my wife, Dr. Karen Louie, and my two children. We are avid hikers, and we have taken in the beauty and variety Alberta has to offer. Our favorites include Skoki Lodge, Mt. Assiniboine, and backpacking in the Rockies. We were lucky to visit the Galapagos and Barcelona a few months before the global pandemic. In Edmonton, I enjoy cycling through the river valley, enjoying our vibrant theatre community, and finding new microbreweries.

“The value of achievement lies in the achieving.”

Albert Einstein



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 Edward Ashenhurst

Dr. Charlotte Ann Foulston

Dr. David Bryan Hogan

Dr. Duncan J. McCubbin

Dr. Paul Lok Toye

AMA Member Emeritus Award Recipients

Personal Interests

I am honoured by this recognition. I can only assume that I am supposed to retire now. I am trying to learn how to play the guitar.

Dr. Michael Edward Ashenhurst

Ophthalmology/Oculoplastics, Calgary

Reflections on Service

My earliest involvement with the AMA was as president of our section, which, among other things, featured airplane trips to the old Edmonton City Airport for meetings. I very much enjoyed working on the Overhead Working Group with Michael Gormley way back when. I was also interested in uninsured services and chaired that committee for a time. I am particularly proud of the work done by that committee to emphasize the value of physicians' time and effort. Being the Fees representative for Ophthalmology for many years allowed me to indulge my love of spreadsheets.

My experience with the AMA subsequently proved very useful during my five-year tenure as the Chair of the Ophthalmology section at the University of Calgary.

I have often said that the AMA is the only organization that is on the side of physicians. I sincerely hope that the AMA will continue to advocate for all physicians equally in the future, and I hope that we can find innovative ways to improve efficiencies and achieve cost savings. The existing governance is not working, and we all need to think outside the box to effect real change.

Dr. Charlotte Ann Foulston

Pediatrics, Medicine Hat

Reflections on Service

I was encouraged to become involved in the AMA by Dr. Ruth Collins-Nakai when I was a newly graduated MD. I have participated as a member of the AMA Fees Committee and of the Committee for Uninsured Services, was co-creator of the Guide for Child Sexual Abuse, worked on improving communication and mandated medical assessments for children in care. I further served on the Section of Pediatrics with an amazing group of pediatricians from across the province who give voice to issues affecting children and youth and their medical caregivers. I am passionate about optimizing rural and regional medical life and collaborative practice.

I fondly recall attending Fees Committee meetings with my baby; my colleagues helped make this possible, even listing him as an attendee.

The AMA is composed of dedicated colleagues who look out for each other. Our association has responded to challenges in our professional and personal lives with programs for rural and regional specialists, parental programs, and physician supports. The regional and rural perspective has been sought and respected. In these challenging times, the AMA amplifies our voices.

Get involved with the AMA as early in your career as your work-life balance will allow, and help identify community needs and opportunities for collaboration and improvement. Prepare to be amazed by the skills and professionalism of your colleagues, and by how we take care of each other.

Personal Interests

I enjoy curling, cross country skiing, swimming, golfing, tennis, pilates, working out, hiking, and my book club. I had to stop playing hockey, but it has been a joy to put on skates again to teach my granddaughter. Grandparenting is a beautiful gift. I enjoy travel and doing international medical work and teaching Helping Babies Breathe, Helping Babies Survive, and various pediatric clinical topics in medically underserved areas in Kenya, Tanzania, and Bolivia.

Dr. David Bryan Hogan

Geriatric Medicine/Internal Medicine, Calgary

Reflections on Service

I've been a member of the AMA since my permanent move to Alberta in 1990. I was on the editorial team of *Drug Use in the Elderly (DUE) Quarterly*, a joint publication of the AMA and the Alberta College of Pharmacists that ran from 1994 until 2012. Its objective was to promote better stewardship of medications prescribed to older Albertans. I've been consulted by the AMA over the years on clinical topics such as medical fitness to drive. I feel that my major contribution in this area was the Toward Optimized Practice (TOP) clinical practice guidelines on cognitive impairment. I also served as President and on the Board of the Alberta Medical Foundation (AMF), an AMA charitable foundation dedicated to promoting research, study, and appreciation of Alberta's medical history.

I hope that my work on the *DUE Quarterly* and the TOP clinical practice guidelines has contributed to improving the care of elderly patients in Alberta. My AMF work speaks to the importance of preserving and celebrating the history of our profession.

All physicians should be willing to contribute to organizations like the AMA. Because of the wide range of activities that the AMA is engaged in, there is always something of interest you can throw your weight behind. With a strategy of steady persistence, you'll be amazed at what can be accomplished.

Personal Interests

I am very interested in the history of medicine. With Dr. Robert Lampard, Dr. Frank Stahnisch, and Dr. Jim Wright, over the last few years I've been working on a history of the Cumming School of Medicine called *Creating the Future of Health* that will be published shortly by the University of Calgary Press.

Dr. Duncan J. McCubbin

Obstetrics & Gynecology, Medicine Hat

Reflections on Service

In my 11 years with the Section of Obstetrics and Gynecology (including service as both secretary and president), I have advocated for safe obstetrical care. On a local level, I worked with the AMA to create an Alternate Relationship Plan (ARP) for the Obstetrician and Gynecologists in Medicine Hat; I have been our ARP representative since 2009 and was part of the AMA ARP Working Group as a way to stay involved between terms representing my section.

In the fall of 2019, I became part of the Specialty Care Alliance and the Specialty Care Alliance Task Force, where I voiced my section's concerns while also looking out for the needs of other physicians. My lengthy involvement with the AMA has given me a broad understanding of the issues important to Alberta physicians. We are a unified profession of individuals all trying to improve care for our patients. The goal of this committee is to keep the AMA unified and operating as a trustworthy organization that we can all feel honoured to be members of.

Attending meetings over the years has allowed me to advocate for maternal care in our province and to understand the views of other physicians. I have learned the value of collaboration and trying to solve issues within our system to improve care for Albertans. I have trained many medical students and residents over the last 20 years, and I always emphasize the importance of becoming involved with the AMA. I feel proud when I see young physicians at RF.

Personal Interests

If I have free time I like to work out, golf, and spend time outdoors. I appreciate having the time to read a good book, which does not happen often enough. My four parasites, aka my grown-up daughters, keep me both busy and entertained. I have been fortunate in my professional career to be able to give back to the community in which I live.

Dr. Paul Lok Toye

Family Medicine, Calgary

Reflections on Service

My involvement with the AMA was initially as a representative to the Section of General Practice (now Family Medicine) for Fort McMurray. I eventually served as Secretary/Treasurer of the Section for over 15 years. Later my involvement at the AMA included being a Representative Forum Delegate for the Section of General Practice and serving on the WCB/AMA Advisory Committee. Through the Section of General Practice, I worked on the Relative Value Guide.

I fully realize the importance of being involved with this organization; it has given me invaluable experience. I am proud that we remain united and that we speak with a single voice for our profession. My involvement has helped to create balance and diversification in my career. Getting involved with the AMA allows you to advocate for the care of your patients.

Personal Interests

I love spending time with my wife, Barb, and we are looking forward to travelling in the future. I very much enjoy golfing and cooking.

CMA President – Dr. Ann Collins

For three decades, Dr. Ann Collins ran a full-time family practice in Fredericton, New Brunswick, which she started after serving three years with the Canadian Armed Forces in Kingston, Ontario. In addition to providing office and hospital care, she also provided nursing home care for over 20 years and was a family medicine residency teacher at Dalhousie University from 1998–2019. Dr. Collins graduated from Dalhousie University in 1985.

Dr. Collins has served as president of the New Brunswick Medical Society (NBMS) and spent five years as chair of the NBMS Board of Directors. She has led two NBMS governance reviews and served on the 2008 CMA Governance Review Committee Task Force. Prior to taking on the role of CMA president, she spent seven years serving as the New Brunswick representative on the CMA Board of Directors.

Her community involvement has been highlighted by a six-year term (two years as chair) on the board of governors of St. Thomas University, a leading liberal arts school in Fredericton.



“Cherish your visions and your dreams as they are the children of your soul, the blueprints of your ultimate achievements.”

Napoleon Hill

CMA Honorary Membership Award Recipients

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. William Walter (Bill) Anderson

Dr. Daniel Jacob Barer

Dr. Steven William Chambers

Dr. Rowland Therol Nichol

Dr. Ernst Paul O. Schuster

Dr. Linda Maeford Slocombe

CMA Honorary Membership Award Recipients

Dr. William Walter (Bill) Anderson

Diagnostic Imaging, Edmonton

Reflections on Service

I was President of the Alberta Association of Radiologists (1994–96), President of the AMA (1997), CMA Board member (1998–2001, 2006–2009), Chair of the Government Affairs Committee for the AMA (2002–2008), and Chair of the Political Action Committee for the CMA (2006–2009). I have served on numerous provincial government committees, such as the Standing Policy on Health Review, Bill 37 (private hospital) Review Panel, and numerous IT committees, most notably the Governance Council for IM/IT that allowed for the digitization of diagnostic images across the province. I have been recognized by my peers as one of the 100 Physicians of the Century in Alberta and received the Sir Charles Tupper Award from the CMA for my work in political advocacy.

When I was President of the AMA during a tumultuous time (eerily similar to today), significant job action was needed to bring the Klein government back to negotiations. Later, during my first term on the CMA Board, I thought we discussed important things but saw little progress; when I returned five years later, I saw results. Yes, things move slowly in Ottawa, but the CMA was there throughout, and much of the wording in legislation such as the New Health Care Accord came straight out of motions from the CMA Board. My experience validated the work we do in health care advocacy across the country.

Advocacy has always been part of my life, but to advocate for health care and the medical profession has been an honour. Until the recent change of government, we had a stable and generally excellent health care system in Alberta, largely driven by physicians' job action in 1997. It is sad that this may have to be repeated in 2020, particularly in a COVID world.

Personal Interests

I have been extremely fortunate to have such an understanding spouse, Diane, and daughters, Alexandra and Hannah, who have allowed me time to do this work and were always happy to see me come home. Now I am home more and happy to spend time with my family in Edmonton and, whenever possible, in our cabin in Jasper. With COVID, I find I have more free time as clinical work has slowed considerably, allowing my exercise regime to improve as well!

Dr. Daniel Jacob Barer

Emergency Medicine, Edmonton and North Saanich, BC

Reflections on Service

As an emergency physician for 40 years, I saw the interface between community and hospital medicine. As the system evolved, especially with the early-'90s cuts to the public health care system, I decided to become involved with the AMA through service in the Section of EM, the Representative Forum, and two terms on the Board. Section work enabled a small team to help our colleagues throughout the province in their work on the front lines. On the Board, I worked with a group of dedicated physicians from across the province and various specialties to shape our collective political destiny and chart a path forward when the way was unclear.

I was privileged to be invited to CMA annual meetings and hear the voices of physicians on the national stage and to meet colleagues from across the country. Our local issues were often reflected nationally, and the strength of our numbers was evident. One area of ongoing work and frustration was the efforts to deal with fee inequities; I observed several attempts to deal fairly and transparently with that issue without great success, despite the honest efforts of so many.

I became involved in management and medical politics at a fairly early stage in my medical career, and I have enjoyed the added perspective afforded by those opportunities. While clinical practice is what I trained for, contributing to organizational decision-making and helping to guide the system towards better outcomes for our patients adds meaningfully to the practice of medicine. Involvement beyond clinical practice also allows one to interact with practitioners from various walks of life and adds enjoyment and camaraderie to a medical career.

Personal Interests

Before, during, and now after my medical career, I have maintained other interests beyond medicine, especially my wife and kids, and now grandkids, and extended family; music and group performance; fitness routines, including jogging, cycling, swimming, and many years of participation in the Jasper-Banff Relay on a team of Alberta doctors sponsored by the AMA; and volunteer work with my congregation. I am now in retirement, which will undoubtedly bring new adventures and challenges, as I have moved from Edmonton to North Saanich, B.C.

Dr. Steven William Chambers

Family Medicine, Edmonton

Reflections on Service

My time on the AMA Board, including my term as President, stand out for me particularly strongly. I enjoyed being the AMA Co-chair for the inaugural Primary Care Initiative Committee, and later serving on the Secretariat and the Compensation Committee. I also valued my time on the CMA Board, having the opportunity to serve as Vice Chair, Chair of the Appointments and Review Committee, and on the Strategic Planning Steering Committee.

Among my most important achievements were improvements to primary care, through helping to bring about the 2003 Master Agreement that led to the creation of Primary Care Networks. Initially there were nine, and now they cover the province and help deliver team-based care, working toward the Medical Home Model, on which Alberta leads the way.

Participation in AMA and CMA activities has been a very rewarding aspect of my career. I have developed great friendships with physicians and staff around Alberta and across Canada and have gained a tremendous appreciation for the excellent patient care provided by different specialties in all types of places.

Personal Interests

We enjoy travel, hiking, cycling, skiing, and winter escapes to warmer places. We have an amazing daughter and son, each with wonderful partners, and enjoy our young grandchildren.

Dr. Rowland Therol Nichol

Family Medicine, Calgary

Reflections on Service

I became a member of the Board at a time of transition as the province was dealing with the implications of regionalization. Physicians were experiencing challenges in morale, and the relationship with the government was not good. The AMA Board managed the issues strategically with an eye to the future and a perspective that supported system integration. The AMA helped to create a period of legitimate engagement and partnership with the regions and the government.

As President of the AMA I was involved with the development of the Physician On Call program and the Relative Value Guide (RVG) Project. The On Call program demonstrates the value of physician availability in service to Albertans when they are most in need. The RVG did not produce the hoped-for short-term results but did transform discussions within different AMA sections with a principle-driven allocation. It also led directly to the current conversation on Income Equity.

Collaboration and an orientation towards the future—values central to the AMA's culture—are necessary if we wish to influence the direction of Alberta's health care system. Every physician who joins the AMA in its work quickly realizes how critical these values are. The LEADS framework for leadership had not been developed when I was engaged in a leadership role with the AMA, but it is currently the best way of understanding what is needed to be an effective leader inside the AMA or in any other position in our health system.

Participating in the AMA/CMA offers opportunities for personal leadership development as you become part of a supportive culture with a strong common purpose and an extensive network of like-minded colleagues.

Personal Interests

Any physician in Alberta or Canada who aspires to effective leadership should consider the value of membership in the Canadian Society of Physician Leaders. As a Certified Executive Coach, I can speak to the relevance of networking and reflective practice as they relate to physicians as leaders. Leadership is a skill that needs to be learned and practised, and it is my personal hope that our current cohort of developing leaders will accomplish what I have only dreamed of.

Dr. Ernst Paul O. Schuster

Family Medicine, Edmonton

Reflections on Service

For the AMA, I served as Speaker of the Representative Forum, as Board member, as Chair of Government Affairs, and as President of the Edmonton Zone Medical Staff Association. For the CMA, I was part of the Political Action Committee and the Resolutions Committee GC, and acted as Deputy Speaker of the CMA GC. I am currently the Speaker for the CMA GC and AGM. I was instrumental in creating Primary Care Networks in Alberta.

It is very important to get involved with medical leadership. In addition to the clinical work we do, involvement in leadership, medical associations, and system improvement broadens our horizon and our perspective. Clinical work is enhanced by system improvement, and that requires engagement and leadership.

Personal Interests

I have a quarter section of land, which we call the Farm. There is always something to do outdoors, gardening or playing with toys, such as tractors and side-by-side vehicles. Our grandchildren come out very often, and it is nice to share that life with them. Our family also enjoys sailing, hiking and biking together.

Dr. Linda Maeford Slocombe

Family Medicine, Calgary

Reflections on Service

My involvement with the AMA began with the Representative Forum, and I went on to serve on the AMA Board and as AMA President, where I represented and advocated for our profession at a provincial level. My involvement with the CMA began as one of the Alberta representatives on the CMA Board. National involvement taught me that our challenges as physicians might differ between provinces, but our passion for improving patient care knows no provincial boundaries. At the CMA, I was Vice-Chair and served on the Appointments, Governance, and Human Resources and Compensation Committees.

Working in the AMA with physicians from all specialties, it was important to speak with a common voice in order to improve health care for our patients. At Representative Forum, on the Board, and as President, I was proud to be part of such a dedicated team representing all physicians in Alberta. Whether dealing with negotiations as AMA President or physician compensation on the Physician Compensation Committee, the profession remained united despite major challenges.

My time at the CMA was one of significant change, including many governance changes and financial restructuring. A new mission was developed that supports all physicians and their patients in Canada and gives the CMA the ability to advocate at a national level for us all.

Learning from colleagues, facing challenges together, and trying to improve the system both provincially and nationally is truly an honour. I owe a debt of gratitude to all those I had the pleasure to work with at the AMA and the CMA. I truly believe that involvement with the profession as a whole enables one to see the bigger picture in health care and to feel compassion for all despite our differences. It is also a humbling experience to realize how much you have to learn.

Personal Interests

I enjoy my garden, walking my dog, and looking after grand-dogs. Advocating for physicians and primary care remains my passion, and I look forward to serving on relevant Boards in the future.



*“Spend life for something
which outlasts it.”*

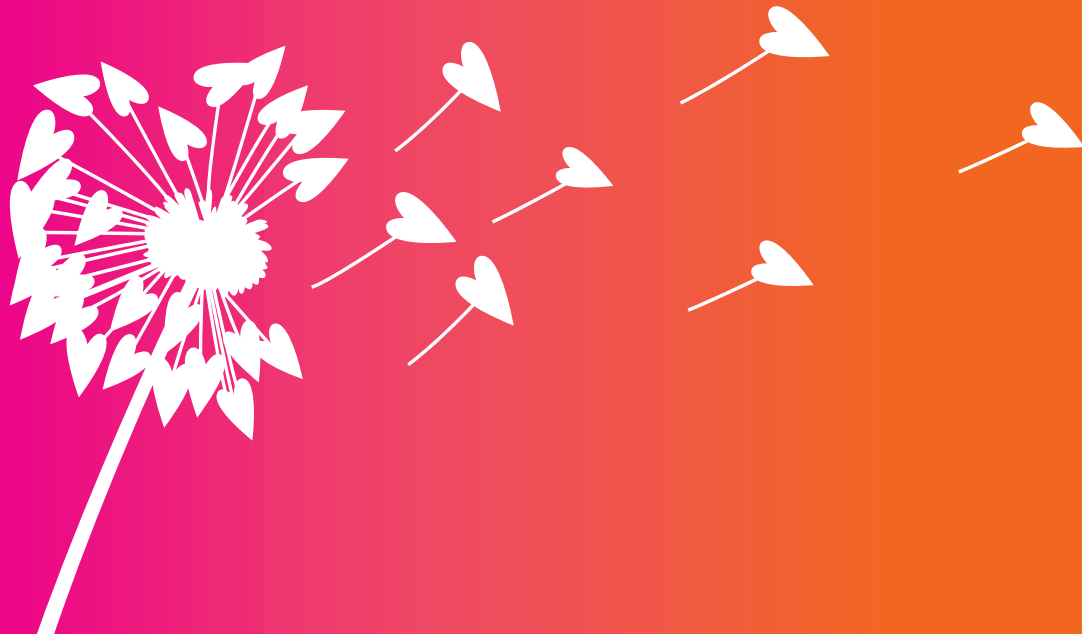
William James

Special Presentation



AMA Honors the Public Health and Preventive Medicine Physicians of Alberta

The AMA wishes to recognize the Public Health and Preventive Medicine Physicians of Alberta for their hard work during the COVID-19 pandemic. Their dedication to protect Albertans in such a crisis and under such pressure is remarkable and worthy of our respect and gratitude. We also wish to acknowledge their leadership contributions not only in wake of the pandemic but also in the continuous collaborative efforts to promote health and the wellbeing of Albertans through various public health initiatives, projects, and programs.



Installation of new AMA President

Dr. Paul E. Boucher

Dr. Boucher has a long history of service with the AMA, having served on the Board of Directors for eight years and on many internal and external committees such as Nominating Committee, Executive Committee and the Provincial Physician Liaison Forum. He also served a term as president of the Section of Intensive Care.

Dr. Boucher has provided his expertise as a member/co-chair/chair on numerous hospital, university and provincial committees and working groups. He has presented locally, nationally and internationally and has contributed to journal and newspaper articles. Dr. Boucher was recognized with the AMA's Long-Service Award in 2017.



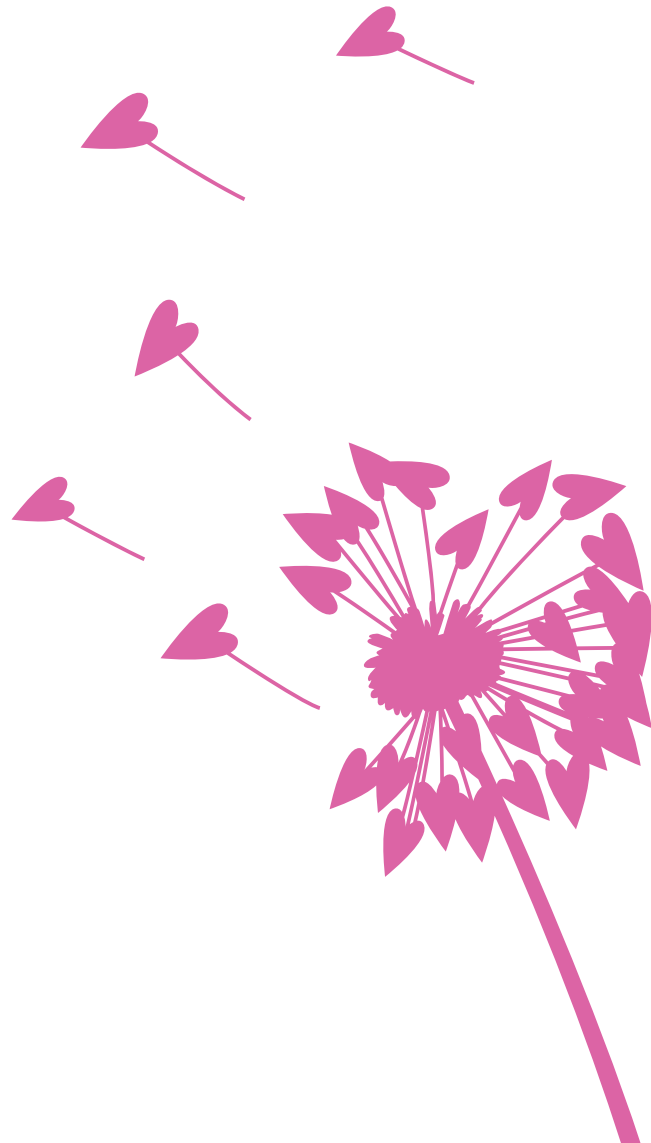
Immediate AMA Past President

Dr. Christine P. Molnar

Dr. Christine P. Molnar is a diagnostic radiologist and nuclear medicine specialist based in Calgary. She has practiced in Calgary since 1985 and has taught as a Clinical Associate Professor of Radiology at the University of Calgary for over 34 years.

Dr. Molnar has been an AMA member since 1985. She has a long history of service with the AMA, having served on the Board of Directors, the Representative Forum and the Nominating Committee.

She has been actively involved with the Section of Diagnostic Imaging, taking on leadership roles as President and Fees Representative. She served as the Vice-President, Special Projects, Breast Imaging and Intervention. Dr. Molnar is currently the AMA's 2020–21 Immediate Past President.



*“Great things are done when
men and mountains meet.”*

William Blake





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