

CAS

ANESTHESIA NEWS

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CANADIAN ANESTHESIOLOGISTS' SOCIETY

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www.cas.ca

MESSAGE FROM THE

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND PRESIDENT



Dr Lucie Filteau
CAS President



Vanessa Foran
CAS Chief Executive Officer

The CAS has been a hive of activity, with initiatives stemming from both the national office staff and CAS physician leaders. Here is a brief review of the highlights:

Advocacy - With assistance from our government relations consultants, we have been holding meetings with various provincial healthcare leaders to discuss the anesthesia shortage and recommended strategies to address the surgical backlog. We are also in the final stages of developing a Position Statement to articulate CAS-supported approaches. These outreach efforts will continue under the guidance of the new Public Affairs Committee and you will find detailed updates in our new **Advocacy section** in this and future issues of the newsletter.

Education - we recognize the **importance of value for membership** and have been putting significant effort into enhancing professional development opportunities. **Our recent offering included:**

- National Neuroanesthesia Rounds (April 5): in the second installment of the Neuroanesthesia Section series, speakers explored the physiology of emergence and precision medicine in the setting of acute brain injury.
- Earth Day Webinar (April 22): the CAS Environmental Sustainability Section assembled a panel of international experts to explore the importance of ocean health and the environmental impact of various anesthetic practices.
- Recordings of previous educational events can be viewed using this [link](#).
- Section 3 credit **modules** are also available on our website (e.g. enhance your moderator skills, learn about anesthesia for acute ischemic stroke and explore perioperative use of tranexamic acid).
- The Chronic Pain and Perioperative Sections are planning webinars for the Fall, stay tuned!
- A CPD Module on Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, to coincide with the CJA's special issue on this topic, is also currently being developed.

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Annual Meeting – the CPD highlight of the year is, of course, our Annual Meeting, which will take place June 9-12th (both in person, in Quebec City, and virtually). There's still **time to register!** Some meeting highlights include:

- Opening Keynote: Dr Alike Lafontaine, Anesthesiologist and President of the Canadian Medical Association, will discuss "State of Play: CMA Advocacy and the Impact on Canada's Anesthesiologists".
- President's Symposium: Dr Lucie Filteau, CAS President, will explore "The Future of Anesthesia Delivery in Canada: The Good, the Bad and the Ugly".
- Several skill-enhancing workshops (regional, POCUS) and a wide variety of section events are also planned. Program details can be seen using this link: www.cas.ca/en/annual-meeting/cas-annual-meeting/program
- Do not miss our **social events!** Mingle with colleagues and friends at the President's Party (Musée de la Civilisation) and participate in the fundraising events hosted by CARF (Brasserie Inox) and CASIEF (Chez Murphy's Pub).

CJA - The CJA, under the leadership of its Editor in Chief, Dr Stephan Schwarz, continues to deliver quality content in its monthly and special issues. The April 2023 Special Issue centres around a new Canadian Clinical Practice Guideline on a brain-based definition of death and criteria for its determination. Read more about this **seminal issue in this newsletter**.

CAS Leadership Update

- Welcome to Dr Kathryn Sparrow, who has taken on the role of CPD Module Editor! We look forward to new educational offerings developed under her leadership.
- Dr Adriaan Van Rensburg has stepped down from his role as the Annual Meeting Chair. He has served in this position since 2016 and extended his term to navigate the challenges of meeting planning throughout the pandemic. The CAS sincerely thanks Dr Van Rensburg for his many years of dedication and commitment.
- The NEW Annual Meeting Scientific Program Committee will oversee the development of the Annual Meeting scientific program. We are looking for 4-6 CAS members to join this committee, to help shape our future meeting content. (Application deadline: June 30, 2023. [Link to more details.](#))
- Many more opportunities for national committee involvement (Awards, EDI, Wellness, Ethics, Finance, CEPD and COACT Committees) can be found [on our website](#).

We have more initiatives in the works that we look forward to announcing in future issues of the newsletter. We thank you for your support and **welcome your ideas** about how we can further enhance your membership experience.

Sincerely,



Lucie Filteau, MD, FRCPC
President



Vanessa Foran, CAE
Chief Executive Officer

BOARD OF DIRECTORS AS OF JUNE 2023

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Dr Lucie Filteau, President
Dr Giuseppe Fuda, Vice-President
Dr Andrew Nice, Secretary
Dr Hilary Grocott, Treasurer
Dr Dolores McKeen, Past President
Vanessa Foran, CEO (Non-Voting)

DIVISIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

Dr Joseph Desreux
Dr Dennis Drapeau
Dr Nikola Joly
Dr Rohit Kumar
Dr Tim Maxwell
Dr Melanie Orvold

Dr Jennifer Plester
Dr Saifee Rashiq
Dr Angela Ridi
Dr Annika Vrana

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS (Voting)

Dr Mateen Raazi, ACUDA President
Dr Joel Sardinha, Resident Representative

INVITED GUESTS (non-voting)

Dr Doreen Yee, CARF Chair
Dr Joel Parlow, CASIEF Chair
Dr Stephan K.W. Schwarz, CJA Editor-in-Chief
Dr Michael Cummings, RCPSC Representative

[CLICK HERE TO VIEW ONLINE](#)

ADVOCACY UPDATE

CAS continues to build on the advocacy work that began last year, starting with the creation of a Public Affairs Committee. The committee is currently focused on introductory meetings with provincial policy makers to ensure awareness of CAS, build collaborative relationships with policy makers and provide insight on some of the key challenges members face every day. It is hoped that this will lead to the CAS' involvement in further discussions to effectively address human health resource and surgical backlog issues. The strategic targeting of provinces is based on knowledge of specific initiatives underway as well as where governments are in their election cycle. CAS' government relations firm, Global Public Affairs, has been extremely helpful in setting up meetings and to date, we have met with:

Nova Scotia:

Jeannine Lagassé, Deputy Minister,
Department of Health and Wellness

Nicole Boutilier, Vice-President of Medicine,
Nova Scotia Health

Craig Beaton, Associate Deputy Minister,
Department of Health and Wellness

Ontario:

Teresa Buchanan, Assistant Deputy Minister,
Physician & Provider Services, Ontario Ministry
of Health

Nicole Williams, Director, Negotiations Branch

Julie Ingo, Associate Director, Provider Services

Alberta:

Paul Smith, Assistant Deputy Minister, Health
Workforce Planning and Accountability

Stacey Litvinchuk, Senior Program Officer,
Provincial Surgery Utilization and Alberta
Surgical Initiative Lead

Dr Gary Dobson, Chair, Department of
Anesthesia at University of Calgary, and
Alberta Health Services

Dr Dominic Cave, Zone Clinical Department
Head, AHS

Roberta Dubois, Provincial Practice Director,
Respiratory Services, AHS

British Columbia:

Mark Armitage, Assistant Deputy Minister
for Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary
Services Division

Miranda Mason, Executive Director for Health
Workforce Planning and Implementation

In preparation for these discussions, CAS has reached out to our provincial leads and included them in the conversation to gain insight on specific provincial challenges and successful models of care, to ensure collaboration and transparency, and to help build stronger connections between provincial CAS members and local policy makers.

Meetings with government are expected to continue throughout the fall. To support future advocacy efforts, the Public Affairs Committee is developing a position statement on addressing the health human resource crisis and surgical backlog, to offer clear solutions and acceptable strategies to maintain the quality and safety of patient care. CAS Board approval on the position statement is expected shortly and will be shared widely with members once it is finalized.

CAS invited to the National Provincial/ Territorial Table on Blood and Blood Products

In January, CAS was approached to provide a representative for the National Advisory Committee on Blood and Blood Products (NAC) on an ad-hoc basis for the NAC subcommittee on Leukoreduced Whole Blood (LRWB). Dr Justyna Bartoszko, UHN Toronto General Hospital, graciously agreed to represent CAS on this committee, and they are now in the process of developing an ethical framework for the potential introduction of leukoreduced whole blood to the Canadian environment. Through this working group, CAS members and the anesthesia community are well represented and will continue to be key stakeholders on these issues going forward.



CANADIAN ANESTHESIOLOGISTS' SOCIETY
SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE DES ANESTHÉSIOLOGISTES

CAS 2023
ANNUAL MEETING
Québec City
June 9-12



Plan to join us in
Québec City!



We're very excited to host this year's CAS Annual Meeting in beautiful, historic Quebec City! Our planning team has put together an excellent lineup of speakers and thought-provoking, interactive sessions. Our fun social events will allow you to unwind with old friends and make new connections along the way. Looking forward to seeing you in June 2023!

– Dr Lucie Filteau, CAS President

#CASAM2023

www.cas.ca/annual-meeting

2023 CAS ANNUAL MEETING PREVIEW

On June 9-12, CAS will host the 2023 CAS Annual Meeting (AM). The site of the meeting will be in historic Quebec City, Quebec, and we hope to see many of our colleagues there. For those who are not attending, a select program will be streamed virtually.

It's not too late to join us for what promises to be a great conference. Visit www.cas.ca/annual-meeting and hit the register button for options. Make sure to also follow us on social media, using the hashtag **#CASAM2023**. We'll be posting live from the conference, throughout the weekend, so make sure to chat with us!



Expansive Scientific Program

As every year, there is an extensive scientific program, featuring workshops and sessions from a wide variety of anesthesia streams, led by the latest innovative speakers and specialists in the profession. The AM provides an ideal opportunity to be on the cutting edge of anesthesiology best practice, hands-on learning experiences, research – and to network with some of the leading minds in anesthesia. The CAS Annual Meeting benefits are undeniable, offering an ideal opportunity to earn your CME credits. Seize the opportunity to connect with the brightest minds in the profession and build your own personal meeting agenda for the weekend.

The AM will launch with an opening keynote from Dr Alika Lafontaine, an anesthesiologist, leader, social innovator and the first Indigenous physician to become the Canadian Medical Association (CMA) President. Dr Lafontaine has served in provincial and national medical leadership positions for almost two decades and is a respected authority on health systems, change management, social innovation, anti-racism, and reflective practice. Join us for his opening keynote, "State of Play: CMA Advocacy and the Impact on Canada's Anesthesiologists."

Other highlights for the AM weekend include the annual President's Symposium, led in 2023 by CAS President Dr Lucie Filteau. The symposium will explore "The Future of Anesthesia Delivery in Canada: The Good, the Bad and the Ugly". There are also several sessions in a large number of anesthesia streams, including neuroanesthesia, pediatric, obstetric, regional, environmental, cardiovascular and thoracic, ambulatory, patient safety, chronic pain and more.

CHECK OUT THE FULL PROGRAM ONLINE



Dr Alika Lafontaine, 2023 CAS Keynote Speaker

Hands-on Workshops

Are you interested in improving your technique and hands-on skills? Then the AM workshop format is just the thing for you, as you get instant access to the help you need from your peers and instructors, and sharpen your skills. We still have **several options available**. Spots are limited, so don't delay in registering.



What's in store for the future of CAS Annual Meetings?

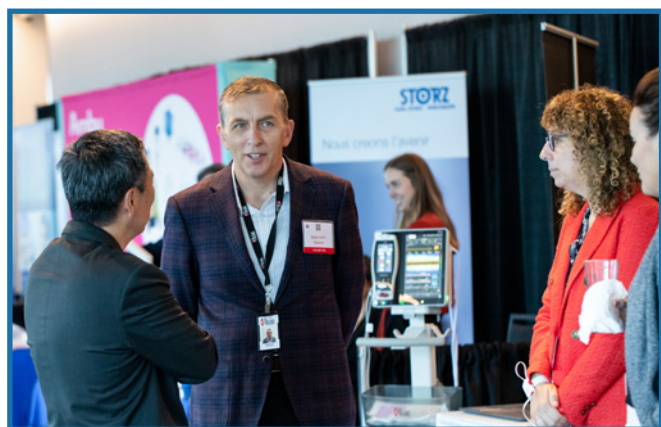
Join our new Annual Meeting Scientific Program Committee and help shape the AM Program, and ensure that our scientific program is up to date with the latest trends in our profession. We are looking for 4-6 members to join us. Deadline to apply is June 30, 2023. [Link to more details and how to apply.](#)

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Problem-based Learning Discussions – PBLDs

Also returning in 2023 are the popular Problem-based Learning Discussions (PBLDs). Enjoy a more engaging and engaging learning experience with our problem-material approach. Uncover different paths in the evolution of a case and use your knowledge and experience to make more informed decisions and think at a higher level.



Competitions

There are several competitions happening on-site at the CAS Annual Meeting. This includes the Richard Knill Competition, the oral presentation of the top-rated abstracts submitted to the Annual Meeting of the Canadian Anesthesiologists Society, as assessed by its Scientific Affairs Committee. The Residents' Competition awards the best Resident abstract, and is designed to encourage scientific excellence in those physicians training in the specialty of anesthesia in Canada. Come out and support your colleagues!

Annual Business Meeting (ABM) – Sunday, June 11, 12:00 pm ET

The Annual Business Meeting is open to all members. Stay up-to-date with the Executive Committee's progress and be in the know on the association's latest initiatives with our reports. Get insight into our financial condition and understand the impact of our accomplishments for the year. Hear from the Canadian Journal of Anesthesia, CARF, CASIEF, ACUDA and the World Federation of Societies of Anesthesiologists. This year we will be electing we are electing three new Divisional Reps for Ontario, New Brunswick and Newfoundland & Labrador.



(from left to right) CJA Editor-in-Chief Dr Stephan Schwarz, CAS Past President Dr Dolores McKeen, CAS President Dr Lucie Filteau, CAS Treasurer Dr Hilary Grocott, CAS Secretary Dr Andrew Nice and CAS Past President Dr Daniel Bainbridge.

CAS AM Closing & Awards Ceremony- Monday, June 12, 11:35 am ET

Give your colleagues and friends the recognition they deserve with the CAS Awards Ceremony. Get the chance to celebrate and recognise the hard-work and dedication of your colleagues. Make the most of your weekend and join us for our annual meeting finale.



Dr Dolores McKeen, CAS Past President (center) with CAS Outstanding Volunteer Award winners, Dr Jim Kim and Dr Doreen Yee.

Exhibitors

Annually, CAS offers an informative and engaging opportunity to learn of new initiatives, services and programs from a wide variety of medical partners. If you're looking for the latest in anesthesia innovation, the Exhibitor area is the place for you. The Annual Meeting significantly benefits from the both the financial and in-person participation of these partners, and we ask that you please assist in ensuring that they have an opportunity to interact with you and your colleagues at the meeting.

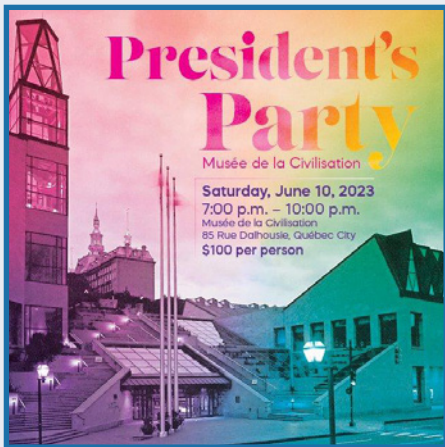
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Social Events

Our beautiful host city, Quebec City, will provide the perfect backdrop to get to know your colleagues in a social gathering like no other. Experience the best of Quebec City and make sure to be part of this incredible journey – join us this year, support our wonderful foundations and be part of something exciting.



CAS President's Party
Saturday June 10
7:00 pm - 10:00 pm ET
Musée de la Civilisation

REGISTER

Located in the spectacular Musée de la Civilisation, the President's Party will feature live performances from jazz greats Productions Musicales Guillaume Renaud, delicious food and drinks. Attendees will have the chance to explore the **'This is Our Story'** exhibition and experience the Aboriginal history of Quebec through art, and storytelling.



CARF Kick-Off Party
Friday June 9
7:30 pm - 10:00 pm ET
Brasserie Inox

REGISTER

Join us for an evening in support of CARF at **Brasserie Inox**, located on the iconic 655 Grande Allée E in Old Quebec. Guests can expect to enjoy locally produced beer and casual yet classic French fare as they mix and mingle with colleagues.



CASIEF Fundraising Pub Night
Sunday June 11
Starts at 6:00 pm ET
Grande Salle, Chez Murphy's Pub

REGISTER

Enjoy a casual evening of socializing, great local music, delicious bites and beverages at **Chez Murphy's Pub**. All proceeds from this event go to supporting CASIEF.

SPOTLIGHT ON MEMBER BENEFITS – EDUCATION 2023 RECAP AND UPCOMING EVENTS

Education is a key component in how CAS advances the specialty, serving both the broader anesthesia community and our members for the last 80 years. CAS offers a range of educational offerings year-round, from the high-quality programming at the Annual Meeting to online education via CPD modules and webinars.

CAS members also benefit from preferential fees on publicly offered education, as well as participation in member exclusive education. Did you know that CAS members can take part in 3 to 5 member-exclusive offerings annually (often at little to no cost), and are able to realize thousands in savings through member rates on the Annual Meeting, CPD modules, webinars and more? The Annual Meeting provides significant discounts (more than the cost of membership), and is the largest anesthesiology conference in the country. There is still time to attend!



CAS ANNUAL MEETING

QUEBEC CITY, QC June 9-12, 2023

We invite you to join us June 9-12 in beautiful Québec City, a place well known for its historic attractions. The CAS Annual Meeting is not an event to miss, with an engaging scientific program and plenty of networking opportunities. For those unable to attend in-person, there will be a selected program streamed virtually.

[REGISTER](#)

Archived Events Available for Member Access

The start of the 2023 year has been a busy one at CAS, with several education and event opportunities released to date. In addition to the publicly available CPD modules, members also benefit from access to recordings of webinars – including the education offered for 2023 to date.

CAS NATIONAL VIRTUAL ROUND # 1



February 1, April 5

[View video on the CAS member portal](#)

The CAS Neuroanesthesia Section continued its popular National Round series in February and April. Moderated by Chair Dr Tumul Chowdhury, the round covered several important topics. Full details are available at www.cas.ca/neuro-events. The round series continues in September and November – full details will be emailed to members closer to the date.

CAS MEDICATION SAFETY WEBINAR



February 16, 2023

[View video on the CAS member portal](#)

In February, CAS addressed the drug shortage and medication errors facing anesthesia departments across Canada in a webinar. The event served as both a high-level discussion led by senior representation from national organizations such as Health Canada, the Institute for Safe Medication Practices Canada, HealthPRO Procurement Services and CAS, and as an 'icebreaker' introduction to future strategic directions pertaining to medication safety within CAS.

EARTH DAY WEBINAR



April 24, 2023

[View video on the CAS member portal](#)

The CAS Environmental Sustainability section hosted a webinar on Earth Day. The webinar aimed to raise awareness of ocean sustainability and what it means for healthcare.

We are also excited to welcome members and non-member alike to the 2023 Annual Meeting (significant discounts for members), and our team is hard at work to bring you education throughout the year, so stay tuned as our program expands.

CJA SPECIAL ISSUE – DEFINING AND DETERMINING DEATH IN CANADA

The *Canadian Journal of Anesthesia (CJA)* proudly announced its **April 2023 Special Issue**, dedicating, for the first time, an entire Special Issue to a “critical care” topic and initiative spearheaded by Canadian Critical Care Society (CCCS) members. The issue, titled *A Brain-Based Definition of Death and Criteria for its Determination After Arrest of Circulation or Neurologic Function in Canada: a 2023 clinical practice guideline*, was published along with 28 supporting manuscripts. The project was a partnership between the Canadian Critical Care Society, Canadian Blood Services, and the Canadian Medical Association, made possible through a financial contribution from Health Canada. A 60-person multidisciplinary panel consisting of critical care nurses and physicians (adult and pediatric), radiologists, neurologists, neurointensivists, anesthesiologists, ethicists, lawyers, patient families and public partners, as well as methodologists from across Canada used a rigorous process to develop a unified brain-based definition of death and update the criteria for its determination after devastating brain injury or circulatory arrest.

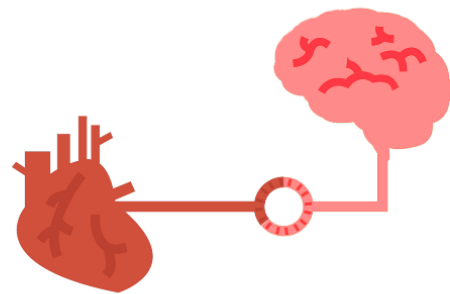
The definition of death applies to all persons in all circumstances, and it occurs when there is permanent cessation of all brain functions as defined by the absence of consciousness and brainstem reflexes including the ability to breathe independently.

The guideline includes recommendations for medical, legal and ethical practices as well as guidance for how to compassionately communicate with families during the tragic loss of a loved one. The guideline replaces previously published Canadian recommendations for defining and determining death.

[Click here to access the CJA on the CAS member portal](#)

A Brain-Based Definition of Death and Criteria for its Determination After Arrest of Circulation or Neurologic Function in Canada

- Updated clinical practice guidelines for death determination
- Publication in special edition of CJA, May 2023
- 25+ supplemental manuscripts



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ASSOCIATION

A PROFILE ON THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS OF CANADA APPLIED EXAMINATION BOARD

By Dr Dolores McKeen

This past April I participated in the 2023 Royal College's Anesthesia Board examination and it marked my 6th and final year as a member of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada Applied Examination Board (also known as an "oral examiner"). It was four days of intensive in-person meetings, where 70 plus Board members we were responsible for not only the for the administration of the spring applied "oral exams", but also the planning and development of next years' examination.

As a Canadian trained academic anesthesiologist, I knew the pathway to become a Board member. I personally joined the Board as a medical educator, eager to contribute to the education and training of the next generation of specialist anesthesiologists, particularly knowing of the dire critical need for new Canadian certified anesthesiologists. It had been three years since we had in-person exam boards and as with many of the CAS events I participate in, I took

opportunity to meet with many of the Royal College Board members. I was amazed to hear their very diverse experiences, backgrounds and training and what motivated them to be on the exam Board.

I reflected with Board Co-Chairs Dr Alayne Kealey and Dr Michel-Antoine Perrault on the conversations and the important role that Royal College's volunteer Anesthesia Board examiners play to our specialty. I wanted to share some of these personal stories, particularly for those anesthesiologists who may not see themselves in this critical role nor know of this opportunity to contribute to the specialty of anesthesia here in Canada. I would like to thank the Examination Board on behalf of the CAS and the entire Canadian anesthesia community. This work supports the validity and fairness of this rigorous certification process and contributes to the next generation of critically needed physician specialty anesthesiologists.



Dr Chiawling Chiu, Anesthesiologist. Surrey Memorial Hospital, Greater Vancouver, BC

How did you become or learn about becoming an exam Board member?

I did my training in the UK. When I immigrated with my family in 2014, I spent some time as a fellow. The staff there were very kind and helped me prepare for the exam. Seeing my frustration of having to take another professional exam after 20 years of clinical practice, one staff member told me to wait five years after passing. Then, I could apply to be an examiner and be on other side of the table!

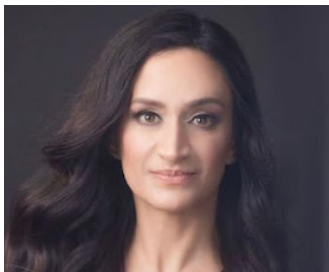
What do you see are the benefits for you (personally or to your practice) in doing this Board work?

Firstly, CME points can be claimed for the College MAINPORT, both for the hours spent preparing questions and scenarios, as well as conducting the exam. I have been impressed with the amount of work the Board is committed to make a fair and comprehensive exam. Canada is a compassionate and equal opportunity country, and I have been touched with the help I received when I took my own exam. Once I step down from the exam board I will be able to provide practice and feedback to potential candidates. I am hoping I can be of help in the future.

The other main benefit to me is the opportunity to connect with examiners from all over Canada. The diversity has been impressive. I get to re-connect with previous colleagues who now practice in different provinces as well as making new friends. It also gives me legitimacy on the international scene if I were to be invited as external examiner.

There are benefits to my practice too. I think having a Royal College examiner on site helps my practice be more visible and highlighting the teaching commitment of our site. I think this is particularly important for BC, which has seen an increased intake of anesthesia residents the past few years.

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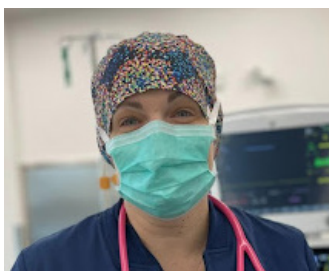
Dr Sujata Sikka, Anesthesiologist. Trillium Health Partners, Mississauga ON

How did you become or learn about becoming an exam board member?

I became a Royal College Board member in 2020. A colleague and mentor of mine, who worked in the community, was a Board member and he encouraged me to get involved. The Chair of the Board at the time was my senior resident from residency, so I reached out, applied and a few years later I was appointed to the Board.

What do you see are the benefits for you (personally or to your practice) in doing this Board work?

Being a member of the Anesthesia Examination Board as a Royal College Examiner has been an great experience for me. The role involves evaluating the knowledge and skills of anesthesiology trainees who are pursuing Royal College Fellowship. It has allowed me to stay up-to-date with the latest advancements and collaborate with other anesthesiologists, which has been critical in my ongoing professional development. As someone who works in a community hospital where many residents and clerks rotate through, serving on the Board has helped me to refine my skills in assessing and evaluating trainee work, ultimately making me a better and more relevant teacher. Additionally, it has given me the chance to build a network of colleagues nationwide, creating avenues for collaboration, mentorship, and employment. Serving as a Royal College Examiner is an excellent way to give back to the profession, helping to maintain the high standards of the profession.



Dre Caroline Nadeau, Anesthésiologue. Region Saguenay Lac-St-Jean QC

Qu'est-ce qui t'a amenée à devenir membre du jury d'examen?

Quitter mon université d'attache à la fin de mon programme de formation a été riche en émotion. J'y ai gardé de précieux amis qui m'ont parlé de la possibilité d'être examinatrice aux examens oraux, quand j'aurais effectué 5 années de travail après l'obtention de mon diplôme d'anesthésiologue. C'est sans aucune hésitation que j'ai accepté et rejoint

le comité du jury d'examen dès que cela a été possible. Je dois avouer que je conserve un souvenir de satisfaction intense des examens oraux. En étant examinatrice annuellement, je m'efforce de donner mon 100% durant la création des questions, lors des séances de brainstorming et aux journées d'examen. Je crois qu'un examinateur peut faire la différence dans le vécu d'un candidat.

Selon toi, quels sont les avantages, personnellement et/ou professionnellement de faire ce travail auprès du Conseil?

Il est évident que les avantages sont multiples. D'un point de vue professionnel, c'est une excellente source d'heures de formation continue officielle reconnue et c'est un moyen très efficace de garder nos connaissances à jour. D'un point de vue personnel, c'est l'occasion de rencontrer et de revoir des examinateurs de tous les horizons du Canada. Puisque je travaille dans un petit milieu, l'exercice est souvent uniforme avec peu de remise en question. Il n'y a rien de mieux qu'un large changement de perspective afin de réaliser des changements à notre pratique, pour le mieux-être et la sécurité du patient.



Current Co-Chairs – Dr Alayne Kealey and Dr Michel-Antoine Perrault

Dr Alayne Kealey and Dr Michel-Antoine Perrault are the current Co-Chairs, English and French respectively, of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada's Anesthesiology Examination Board. Dr Kealey is an assistant professor at the University of Toronto and staff anesthesiologist at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre, joining the Board in 2013, and co-Chair in 2021. Dr Perrault joined the Board in 2018 after completing his position as postgraduate program director. He is an assistant professor at l'Université de Sherbrooke.



The Co-Chairs note the Board totals over 70 members and includes anesthesiologists from academic and community centres. The Board members are purposely diverse, with varied practice types, serving different patient populations, from various geographic locations, and with a wide range of clinical interest. They all are Fellows of the RCPSC in good standing, have been certified and licensed to practice anesthesiology for at least five years. Appointments to the Exam Board are for two years, renewable twice -

examiners generally commit to being on the Board for the full 6 years. Examiners participate in the spring applied oral examinations, and contribute to exam development by creating multiple choice questions and an oral scenario. While they are not remunerated for their work on the Board, the Royal College does cover expenses for travel to the applied exams.

Opportunities for new community examiners on the Board occur every few years. The Board will be looking for community-based anesthesiologists from the Prairies and Maritime area in the next few years. If you are interested in or want more information on becoming an examiner, please email alayne.kealey@sunnybrook.ca, or Michel-Antoine.Perrault@USherbrooke.ca.

ANESTHESIA HISTORY CORNER – IN THE BEGINNING THE HISTORY OF THE CANADIAN ANESTHESIOLOGISTS' SOCIETY



In the Beginning

By Dr Michael Wong

Eighty years ago, the future of Canadian anesthesia was uncertain. Renumeration for anesthetic services was poor and the practice of anesthesia was relatively unpopular. With some reluctance, the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada had finally identified Anaesthesia as a specialty in 1942, though these specialists were not yet recognized as proper Fellows and only held the lesser Certificate status. Furthermore, nurse anesthetists maintained a presence in Canadian hospitals, including in certain major metropolitan centers – indeed, the American Association for Nurse Anesthetists held its 1939 annual meeting in Toronto, with a view to promote that practice in Canada.

One major challenge of this era was a lack of national representation. The Canadian Society of Anaesthetists was the first attempt at organizing nationally but it had folded in 1928. After that, the Anaesthesia Section of the Canadian Medical Association was the primary forum for anesthesiologists to present on scientific progress and meet about issues relevant to the specialty. However, there was some discontent with this arrangement, as stated by Dr Harold Griffith, who wrote, "...it seemed increasingly clear to some of us that we were lost in the anonymity of the larger Association [CMA], and that the special interests could be looked after better in an organization of our own."

It was with this mindset that Griffith, along with some motivated colleagues in the Montreal Society of Anaesthetists, embarked on forming a new national society to represent Canadian anesthesiologists and advance the state of their clinical practice. These contemporaries included Drs Roméo Rochette, George Cousineau, Digby Leigh, and the esteemed Wesley Bourne, who was finishing his term as president of the American Society of Anesthesiologists. A memorandum of agreement was finalized May 27, 1943, which established the bylaws and objectives of the new Canadian Anaesthetists' Society, with the above anesthesiologists serving as its original five members.

From 1943 to 1946, Griffith served as the president of the CAS, while Cousineau later took the helm from 1952 to 1953. During the early years of the society, the office of the CAS was humbly headquartered in the personal residence of Digby Leigh in the Montréal enclave of Westmount, and the original yearly dues were \$5 – same as a typical rate for anesthetizing a "minor operation."

The membership of the CAS grew by about a hundredfold over its first decade, and now includes over 3 000 members, comprising anesthesiologists, family practice anesthetists, anesthesia assistants, and trainees. Facing new challenges and opportunities in the twenty-first century, this venerable organization continues to be the voice for anesthesia in Canada, as its current mission statement affirms, "Serving members and advancing the specialty through leadership, advocacy, education, and research."

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Announcements

In commemoration of the 80th Anniversary of the founding of CAS, the Archives & Artifacts Committee has been interviewing its past presidents, to document the recent history of the CAS and present biographical vignettes of our society's esteemed leadership. The transcripts will be made available for perusal on the CAS website before the Annual Meeting, stay tuned!

- Follow us on social media for updates and interesting glimpses from yesteryear!
 - Twitter ([@CAS_History](https://twitter.com/CAS_History))
 - Instagram ([cas_history](https://www.instagram.com/cas_history))
 - Mastodon ([@CAS_History@med-mastodon.com](https://mastodon.social/@CAS_History))
- If you have suggestions on future History Corner topics, please contact history@cas.ca

FIRST-EVER ENHANCED RECOVERY RESOURCES FOR CESAREAN DELIVERY

Led by Healthcare Excellence Canada and partners, including the Canadian Anesthesiologists' Society, Enhanced Recovery Canada (ERC) is launching the world's first comprehensive resources for enhanced recovery after cesarean delivery. These include a Canadian clinical pathway with physician orders templates and data collection resources. These materials are supported by complementary patient resources, including a downloadable booklet and animated video to help guide patients before and after surgery.



Learn more by [visiting the ERC website](#).

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INVITE TO CAS ANNUAL MEETING FROM CANADIAN PEDIATRIC ANESTHESIA SECTION

On behalf of the CPAS executive and scientific committees, it is my pleasure to invite you to attend the pediatric anesthesia sessions at the annual CAS meeting in beautiful Quebec City.

The scientific committee has done a tremendous job of putting together two panel sessions comprised of well-known pediatric anesthesiologists from across the nation. Whether you're a physician, trainee or an allied health professional, these sessions are for you.

Here is a quick overview of the CPAS pediatric sessions that we are planning to have at the June meeting:

- 1 Common Challenges for the Community Pediatric Anesthesiologist - moderated by Dr Papu Nath (Montreal)
 - A Challenges with Perioperative URTIs and Asthma - Dr Tanya Santella (Montreal)
 - B Anesthetic Essentials for Pediatric Trauma - Dr Duncan McLukie (Victoria)

- 2 Triple "A" Pediatric Anesthesia Care for Anxiety, Agitation and Algesia - moderated by Dr Susan Goobie (Boston)

- A The Anxious Child - Dr Papu Nath (Montreal)
- B Dexmedetomidine as an Adjunct for Pediatric Anesthesia: Panacea or Pain - Dr Deborah Mervitz (Ottawa)

You will have a chance to learn something new as well as have interesting discussions with peers.

We're looking forward to seeing you in Quebec!

Papu Nath, MD, FRCPC (Anes)
CPAS Vice President



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RESIDENTS REPORT

Dear CAS Residents,

We hope you are all doing well and congratulations to our newest FRCPC colleagues!

Registration is currently open for the CAS Annual Meeting in Quebec City on June 9-12, 2023. There will be several sessions aimed at the Residents' Section. We are particularly excited for our panel talk titled "Life Beyond Residency: An Exploration of Career Paths". It is a 90-minute session featuring current fellows and staff anesthesiologists working in both academic and community settings. There will also be opportunities for some Q&A and informal networking.

This year, we are pleased to provide complimentary tickets to the Presidents' Party for residents attending the full annual meeting (limited number, first come first serve). This will take place on Saturday evening, June 10th 7 pm at the Museum of Civilization.

We hope you can take some time from residency and join us at the conference to network and learn from residents and anesthesiologists from all over Canada. Hope to see you all in Quebec City!

Yours sincerely,

Adam & Melissa



Adam Hsieh, MSc MD
PGY3 Anesthesia Resident
University of Toronto
Co-Chair, Residents Section



Melissa Liu, MD
PGY3 Anesthesia Resident
University of Toronto
Co-Chair, Residents Section

CANADIAN ANESTHESIOLOGISTS' SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION FOUNDATION (CASIEF) JUNE UPDATE



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Our overseas education projects are back in full swing!

The Canadian health care system certainly has its challenges. Beyond our borders, five billion people in the world do not have access to safe, affordable surgery, obstetrical and critical care. CASIEF's goal is to help train new anesthesiologists in areas of the world that need assistance the most, so that they can provide sustainable education and expert work for the future.

Volunteer Canadian anesthesiologists have resumed trips to our partner programs in Ethiopia, Rwanda and Guyana. We are also funding Global Health fellows to help train residents in Ethiopia. In addition, CASIEF supports overseas faculty and trainees to visit Canadian centres to hone their knowledge and skills. If you would like to contribute your time with in-person or virtual teaching, please contact us at info@casief.ca!

CAS Annual Meeting

Two exciting CASIEF events are planned for CAS Quebec City, June 9-13. The CASIEF Symposium on Saturday afternoon will include two dynamic speakers addressing the global impact of climate change and the adverse effects that health care systems may play. On Sunday evening, please support CASIEF by joining us for a social evening of networking, food, drinks and stories of our work overseas. Tickets can be purchased [HERE](#).

We need YOUR help to improve access to safe anesthesiology in areas in need!

CASIEF thanks all of our generous donors in the past and present! Please consider a gift to CASIEF on our [monthly program](#). You can even give [CASIEF charity gift cards](#) to colleagues, friends or family on special occasions. In addition, it is worth exploring gifts of [securities](#) and [legacy donations](#) - these provide large tax advantages, as well as helping improve the lives of so many.

Please click [HERE](#) to donate, and for further information!

If you haven't yet seen the fantastic [videos](#) about CASIEF's partnerships, produced just before and during the pandemic, please visit our YouTube channel [HERE](#).

Through CASIEF and its partners, Canadian anesthesiologists are known around the world for their charity and dedication to promote safe anesthesia for all. Thank you for continuing or considering supporting YOUR charity!

Joel Parlow, MD, FRCPC

Chair, CASIEF Joel.Parlow@casief.ca



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Equity: The Forgotten Element



Originally published
in March 2023 issue
of Anesthesia News

The 6 domains of healthcare quality include:
Safety, Effectiveness, Patient-Centeredness,
Timeliness, Efficiency and *Equitability*



What is Equity?

Equity in healthcare is defined as “care that does not vary in quality because of personal characteristics such as gender, ethnicity, geographic location, and socioeconomic status.”*

Quality = Equity, is this a balanced statement?

When we improve quality of healthcare we also expect to close the the disparity gap.

Unfortunately, despite our well-intended efforts often the gap remains, and sometimes worsens (see examples below).

...continued from page 19



Gaps in Application

For example, QI initiatives significantly improved time to diagnosis and management of autism using the novel "arena" model. However, for non-English-speakers, the wait time remained the same or longer due to delays with interpreters.*

Gaps in Methodology

According to a secondary analysis of a systematic review, less than 1/3 of diabetes quality improvement trials included considerations for equity.*

Lapse in Accessibility

Similarly, new initiatives for bilirubin screening in newborns brought modest improvement in follow-up time. But this changed occurred primarily in families of higher SES, and little to no change was seen in lower SES families. This is likely due to competing demands which prevented them from attending the more frequent follow-ups.*

...continued on page 21

How do we bridge the difference?



BUILD A BETTER BRIDGE

A functional bridge overcomes an obstacle to bring two communities together

We know we cannot improve what we do not measure, but *why do certain metrics go repeatedly unmeasured?* In order to 'build a better bridge' we need to model **Recognition, Acknowledgement, and, Engagement**, as part of our foundational work

Language-capabilities and socio-economic status can no longer be 'exclusion criteria', instead, such inequities should be considered **opportunities to include**

We also know there is a paucity of data around the extent of disparities, both known and unknown. Moving forward, we should aim to bridge those known paucities through inclusion, while identifying, clarifying and addressing new unknowns whenever we discover them; in doing this we will ...

...tend the bridge

Through active close listening, reflective consideration and critical forward thinking we can commit to address the neglected domain in Quality Care by identifying areas that need strengthening and actively seeking opportunities across all of our communities

Our Quality Improvement interventions, and the way we implement them, should be routinely re-examined to ensure the bridges we build reach the people who need them most: equitable interventions begin with inclusive recruitment, and implementation is not complete until all patients have equal opportunity and access to all improvements

★ Develop & Evolve the Landscape

"Guideline Recommendations" should not be direct results of exclusion criteria
"Unexpected gaps" are an opportunity to do better next time around
By placing equity central to the primary objective,
we improve quality in healthcare across Canada for all

CAS QPSC Commitments:

- QPSC is hosting workshops at 2023 Annual Meeting in Quebec which address equity considerations when designing QI projects
- Collaborative efforts between QPSC and CAS Ethics committee will foster conversation, collaboration and healthcare development
- Increased focus on promotion & support of remote-community QI projects which address under-resourced departments & patients



*REFERENCES



Developed by: Drs. Esther SH Kang (QC) & Conor Mc Donnell (ON)

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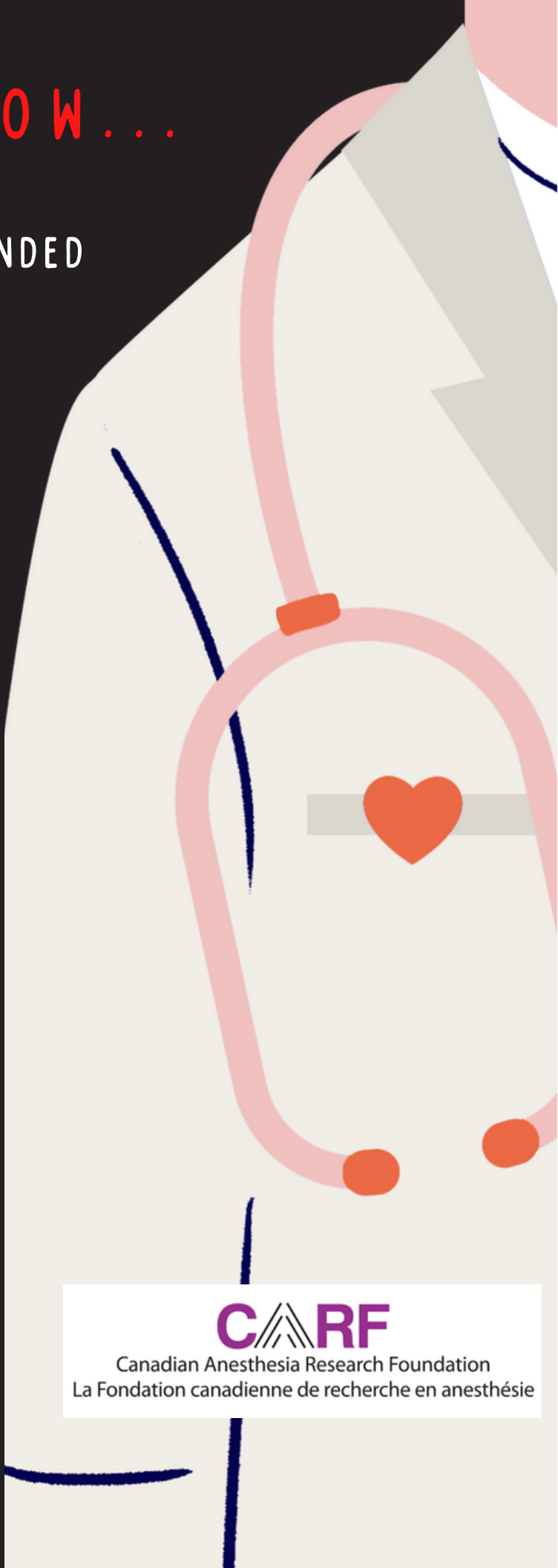
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