

CANADIAN ANESTHESIOLOGISTS' SOCIETY



COMMITTEE & SECTION REPORTS 2025

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COMMITTEE REPORTS

ARCHIVES AND ARTIFACTS

Chair: Dr. Wesley Rajaleelan

It has been a privilege to serve as Chair of the Archives and Artifacts Committee this past year. Our mandate remains both simple and profound: to steward the memory of Canadian anesthesiology with accuracy, humility, and pride.

Preserving Our History

This year, our work focused on three pillars:

Preservation

Continued cataloguing and digitization of archival materials including early equipment photographs, personal correspondence, and past CAS presidential addresses.

Interpretation and Education

- Integration of historical narratives into contemporary programming.
- Development of short archival features for broader member engagement, highlighting milestones in training, patient safety, and advocacy.

Visibility and Future Planning

Strengthening collaboration with national and international partners to ensure our history is represented in upcoming global meetings and educational forums.

Educational Contributions

The Evolution of Anaesthesia in Canada

This year, I delivered a talk on the evolution of Anesthesiology in Canada titled “Pain, Progress and Practice, a historical review of Anesthesiology in Canada at the Société Française d’Anesthésie et de Réanimation (SFAR), French Congress of Anesthesiology in Paris, tracing our journey from ether demonstrations in small theatres to modern subspecialty practice grounded in physiology, pharmacology, and systems safety. This talk explored:

- The formalization of anesthesia training programs in the mid-20th century.
- The establishment of the Canadian Anesthesiologists’ Society as a national voice for advocacy, standards, and scholarship.
- The rise of patient safety culture and Canada’s influence on international anesthesia practice.
- The interplay between rural service, academic leadership, and global engagement.

Proposed Educational Programming

2026 CAS Annual meeting, Ottawa - Two of our proposed panel talks have been accepted:

- From Operating rooms to Combat Zones - The evolving mission of Canadian Anesthesiologists in Uniform
- Beyond the Mask - Women shaping the future of Anesthesiology in Canada **Recognition of Excellence: CAS 2026**

In preparation for Canadian Anesthesiologists' Society 2026 programming, the Archives Committee is collaborating to highlight past Gold Medal recipients as panelists. These awardees represent the intellectual and moral architecture of our specialty. The special featured panel discussion on *Striving and Thriving in Anesthesia: Lessons from Our CAS Gold Medalists* will feature at the CAS Annual Meeting in Ottawa hosted by our past chair Dr Mike Wong.

International Collaboration and WCA 2028

Looking ahead, we are exploring engagement with Société Française d'Anesthésie et de Réanimation (SFAR) in anticipation of programming linked to the World Congress of Anaesthesiologists (WCA) 2028 in Vancouver. Proposed collaboration includes:

- A historical symposium examining transatlantic influences in anesthesia development.
- Joint archival exhibits highlight innovation in perioperative systems.
- Opportunities for shared history initiatives.
- Positioning archival work within global forums ensures that Canadian anesthesia's legacy is contextualized within the broader evolution of the specialty.

Our goals for the coming year include:

- Expansion of digital access to archival materials.
- Structured interviews with past CAS leaders.
- Formal archival presence at CAS 2026.
- Development of collaborative programming leading into WCA 2028.

On behalf of the Archives and Artifacts Committee, I thank the membership for entrusting us with the stewardship of our shared professional heritage. The story of Canadian anesthesiology is still being written.



Wesley Rajaleelan MD FRCPC

Chair / Président

Archives & Artifacts / Archives et artéfacts

CLINICAL PRACTICE GUIDELINES

Chair: Dr. Gregory Dobson

Initiatives/ Projects:

- Publication of the Guidelines to the Practice of Anesthesia – Revised edition 2025 and the accompanying editorial.
- Initiated the process to review/revise the methodology for our guideline development strategy.

Events:

- Regular teleconference committee meetings.

Top 3 Achievements:

- Publication of the CAS Guidelines
- Invigorated collaboration with the Quality and Patient Safety Committee
- Handled multiple correspondence letters and inquiries to the CAS related to interpretation of the Guidelines providing written replies

Goals for 2026:

- Transition of leadership on committee with the appointment of a new chair and vice-chair
- Publication of the *Guidelines to the Practice of Anesthesia - Revised edition 2026* and the accompanying editorial
- Recruit new committee members with regional and subspecialty representation and perhaps an interest in guideline development methodology.
- Try and identify an FPA member to replace Dr. Rob Milkovich on committee
- Consider CPGC sponsorship of an event/presentation at the CAS annual meeting

Links:

[2026 GUIDELINES TO THE PRACTICE OF ANESTHESIA](#)

CPD Modules Planning Subcommittee

Chair: Dr. Kathryn Sparrow

Initiatives/ Projects:

The CPD Modules Program is a joint initiative by the Canadian Anesthesiologists' Society (CAS) and the Canadian Journal of Anesthesia (CJA), dedicated to delivering topical, clinically important continuing professional development to CAS members and CJA readers.

In 2025, the CPD Modules Planning Subcommittee continued to successfully plan, deliver, and evaluate the CPD Module program.

Collaboration & Quality Content

- Collaborated effectively with CAS and CJA leadership and worked closely with Editor-in-Chief Dr. Stephan Schwarz, supported by Ms. Cristina Mita, to streamline CAS CJA CPD Module initiatives.
- Effective peer-review process and the CEPD Committee review to ensure all CPD modules were accredited for RCPSC Section 3 credit requirements.

Committee Engagement & Upcoming Content

- Strong engagement from committee members in planning CPD modules, reviewing feedback, and assessing upcoming CPD Modules and future topics.
- 2026 CPD Modules topics include:
 - High-Flow Nasal Oxygen in Anesthesia
 - Anesthetic Considerations and Management of an Obstetric Patient with an Implanted Spinal Cord Stimulator
 - Liver Disease and Anesthesia
 - Neonatal Resuscitation for Anesthesiologists

New Initiatives & Growth

- **Successfully launched CAS/CJA CPD Module Webinars:** Introduced a new interactive format where authors present their recently published modules followed by an interactive question and answer session. The new webinars have seen excellent interest, drawing over 100 attendees for each webinar.

Events:

- National Webinar "Perioperative Anaphylaxis- is this really happening?" with Dr. Martin Ma on May 14, 2025
- National Webinar "Postdural puncture headache in obstetrics" with Dr. Valerie Zaphiratos, Dr. Lorraine Chow, and Dr. Wesley Edwards on November 26, 2025
- National Webinar "Obstructive sleep apnea in adult ambulatory anesthesia" with Dr. Donald Young on February 25, 2026

Top 3 Achievements:

- Creating unique and engaging CPD Module content for CAS members.

- CAS/CJA CPD Module Webinar launch in 2025.
- Increased enrollment and CPD module completion, reflecting strong module quality and positive reception from CAS members.

Goals for 2026:

- Member recruitment, including resident representation.
- Initiating a pre-review phase and expert reviewer identification before CJA submission to expedite CPD Module processing.

Links or Documents:

Ma M, Duncan D, Bartoszko J. Perioperative anaphylaxis: an update on pathophysiology, diagnosis, and management. *Can J Anesth.* 2025 Apr;72(4):649–74. doi:10.1007/s12630-025-02915-5

Edwards W, Chow L, Zaphiratos V. Postdural puncture headache in obstetrics. *Can J Anesth.* 2025 Jul;72(7):1163–78. doi:10.1007/s12630-025-03013-2

Young DJ, Swart PA. Obstructive sleep apnea in adult ambulatory anesthesia: navigating guidelines and evidence for safe home discharge. *Can J Anesth.* 2025 Oct;72(10):1558–83. doi:10.1007/s12630-025-03050-x

RESEARCH ADVISORY

Chair: Dr. Diem Tran

Research Program Grant Awards 2025

The 2025 Research Grant program received 35 applications which were reviewed by 20 members of the RAC. Scores for all the grants were reconciled to maintain a maximum 2 point spread between reviewers.

The CAS Grant Standing Subcommittee met on March 15, 2025, to review, adjudicate and recommend the following awards:

Resident Operating Grant

ONTARIO'S ANESTHESIOLOGISTS – CAS RESIDENTS' RESEARCH GRANT - \$10,000

Alex Bak

University of Toronto, Ontario

The impact of comorbid chronic pain and depression on cognitive impairment in aging Canadians: a population-based, retrospective cohort study

New Investigator Operating Grants

CANADIAN ANESTHESIOLOGISTS' SOCIETY RESEARCH AWARD - \$30,000

Jordan Leitch

Queen's University, Ontario

PRehabilitation In Advance of Major Elective Surgery: A Pilot Randomized Controlled Trial (PRIME Pilot)

DR JAMES BECKSTEAD AWARD - \$20,000

Michael Verret

Universite Laval, Quebec

Optimizing Patient-centred outcomes Using opioid minimization Strategies (OPUS) Anesthesia: a pilot randomised controlled trial

Open Operating Grants

DR R A GORDON RESEARCH AWARD - \$30,000

Naheed Jivraj

Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre, Ontario

Perioperative Physicians in Canada: Evaluating Equity in Access to Surgical and Anesthesia Services

Section Operating Grants

DR EARL WYNANDS CVT SECTION RESEARCH GRANT - \$30,000

André Denault

Montreal Heart Institute, Quebec

Combined inhaled milrinone and inhaled epoprostenol for the prevention of difficult separation from cardiopulmonary bypass (CPB)

EDUCATION AND SIMULATION IN ANESTHESIA SECTION RESEARCH GRANT - \$10,000

Curtis Nickel

University of Ottawa/The Ottawa Hospital, Ontario

Where is the Trust: The Development of a Trustworthiness Assessment Tool to Determine Readiness for Independent Call

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY SECTION RESEARCH GRANT - \$10,000

Anita Rao

Trillium Health Partners - Mississauga and Toronto, Ontario

Reprocessing Single Use Video Laryngoscope Blades: A Proof-of-Concept Study

OBSTETRIC ANESTHESIA SECTION RESEARCH GRANT - \$20,000

Mrinalini Balki

Mount Sinai Hospital, University of Toronto, Ontario

Effect of co-administration of carbetocin and calcium chloride on uterine tone in patients undergoing elective cesarean delivery: a double-blind, randomized controlled trial

THE SU GANAPATHY REGIONAL ANESTHESIA RESEARCH AWARD - \$10,000

Jonathan Bailey

Dalhousie University, Nova Scotia

The impact of communication delays on provision of regional anesthesia and response to medical emergencies: A prospective cohort study

Subspecialty Operating Grants

BCAS DR PIETER SWART PERIOPERATIVE RESEARCH AWARD - 10,000

Alana Flexman

UBC Department of Anesthesiology, Pharmacology and Therapeutics, Vancouver, British Columbia

RESPonsive Nature-Driven Imagery to Reduce Delirium afTEr Cardiac Surgery: A Pilot Randomized Controlled Trial (RESPITE Trial)

PERIOPERATIVE BLOOD MANAGEMENT RESEARCH AWARD (PBM) - 20,000

Teresa Skelton

Clinical Associate Professor, Anesthesiology, Pharmacology & Therapeutics, UBC; Investigator, BCCHRI; Staff anesthesiologist, BCCH, British Columbia

Nutritional optimization in pediatric varus-derotational osteotomy: an observational pilot study investigating the impact of perioperative management of iron deficiency anemia on surgical outcomes

Grant Standing Subcommittee (GSS)

The annual adjudication and awarding of research grants is held in March-April of each year before the Annual Meeting. Both the main Research Advisory Committee and the Adjudication Subcommittee have excellent linguistic and geographical diversity as well as a roughly even gender balance.

The following CAS members comprised the GSS for the grant adjudication meeting:

Diem Tran (Ottawa, EN)

Imelda Galvin (Queen's, EN)

Véronique Brulotte (Montréal, FR/EN)

Albert Moore (McGill University, FR/EN)

Harsha Shanthanna (McMaster University, EN)

Donald Griesdale (Vancouver, EN)

Gregory Hare (Toronto, EN)

Melissa Shears (Fellow, Boston, EN)

Committee Membership

In 2025, the committee consists of 20 members nominated by the academic university departments across the country, resident representatives and individuals invited by the chair to ensure subspecialty representation. The committee meets annually and invites the Chairs of PACT and CARF to attend. On May 30 2025 the RAC had our annual general meeting virtually.

We would like to thank committee member, Dr. Don Griesdale (UBC since January 2022) for his time and service. A warm welcome to our new members: Dr. Jason Chui, Dr. Arnaud Mbadjeu Hondjeu, Dr. Sarah Flaherty and Dr. Narinder Singh.

At the general meeting we reviewed the research program award process and presented the results for 2025. We also confirmed that the new BCAS grant would remain in the open grant category.

SECTION REPORTS

CARDIOVASCULAR AND THORACIC

Chair: Dr. Tarit Saha

Initiatives/ Projects:

1. **National and International Collaboration:** The CVT Section strengthened national and international partnerships throughout 2025. Key collaborations included ongoing engagement with the European Association of Cardiothoracic Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care (EACTAIC), the International Association of Cardiothoracic Anesthesiologists (IACA), and the Canadian Society of Cardiac Surgeons (CSCS). These collaborations focused on educational exchange, interdisciplinary dialogue, and expanding global engagement for Canadian CVT anesthesiologists.
2. **Educational Program Development:** The section delivered a comprehensive and high-impact educational portfolio at the CAS 2025 Annual Meeting in St. John's, NL. This included workshops, plenary sessions, panels, and problem-based learning discussions (PBLDs) with strong attendance and engagement. Particular emphasis was placed on perioperative echocardiography, point-of-care ultrasound (POCUS), thoracic anesthesia, and resuscitative TEE.
3. **POCUS and Echocardiography Leadership:** Under the leadership of the POCUS Co-Leads, the CVT Section continued to advance POCUS education nationally. The POCUS Basic and Advanced Workshop, Echo Jeopardy, and multiple plenary sessions reinforced the section's leadership role in perioperative ultrasound education.
4. **Financial Stewardship and Sustainability:** The CVT Section maintained strong financial health throughout the year. As of March 31, 2025, the section held a total fund balance of approximately \$202,000, including unrestricted equity and the Earl Wynands Fund. Careful fiscal oversight ensured sustainability while supporting educational activities and research grants.
5. **Earl Wynands Fund and CARF Partnership:** The section continued to support the Earl Wynands Research Fund, including collaboration with CARF toward a sustainable, recurring research grant model. Discussions focused on transparency, long-term viability, and potential expansion of funding opportunities.

Events:

- **CAS 2025 Annual Meeting (St. John's, NL)** – POCUS Basic and Advanced Workshop – CAS Expert Insights: Decoding Echo Reports for Non-Cardiac Anesthesiologists – Plenary Sessions: Echo Jeopardy; Sounds that Save Lives – POCUS in Anesthesiology; Perioperative

and Critical Care Resuscitative TEE – Panels and PBLDs, including Thoracic OR challenges, pulmonary hypertension, and sustainability in anesthesia.

- **CVT Section Business and Planning Meetings** – Virtual and in-person executive meetings held in March, April, June, and October 2025 – Strategic planning for CAS 2026 (Ottawa)

Top 3 Achievements:

1. Delivery of a highly successful and diverse CVT scientific program at CAS 2025, with strong member engagement and national visibility.
2. Strengthening of international and interdisciplinary collaborations (EACTAIC, IACA, CSCS), positioning the CVT Section as a globally connected and forward-looking group.
3. Maintenance of excellent financial health, with a robust fund balance supporting education, grants, and future initiatives.

Goals for 2026:

- Deliver an innovative and clinically relevant CVT program at CAS 2026 in Ottawa, including workshops, symposia, and PBLDs.
- Formalize and launch a sustainable Earl Wynands Research Grant framework with CARF collaboration.
- Expand member engagement, particularly among early-career anesthesiologists.
- Continue to grow POCUS and perioperative echocardiography education nationally.
- Support transparent and inclusive elections for CVT Section leadership positions.

Links or Documents:

CVT Section Newsletters ([November 2024](#), [October 2025](#)).

CRITICAL CARE

Chair: Dr. Imelda Galvin

Initiatives:

Call for Volunteers and Executive Expansion

A national call for volunteers was issued in March 2026 to strengthen engagement and leadership capacity within the Section. We are pleased to welcome:

Sabri Soussi – Vice Chair

Dr. Soussi (University of Toronto) is a clinician-scientist focused on shock phenotyping, biomarkers, and precision critical care.

Stephen Su Yang – Secretary-Treasurer

Dr. Yang (McGill University) is a clinician-epidemiologist and research leader specializing in perioperative hypotension and ICU outcomes.

We extend our sincere appreciation to Faisal Siddiqui, who transitions to the role of Past Chair. His leadership strengthened the Section's national profile and provided important continuity during this period of development. These appointments enhance the Section's academic leadership, research capacity, and national representation.

Section Member Survey

A Section survey was conducted to assess practice patterns, academic engagement, and priority areas for the membership.

Key findings:

- The majority of respondents are fellowship-trained in Critical Care Medicine.
- Most practice in hybrid anesthesia-ICU roles, with 26–50% of clinical time spent in ICU.
- Strong engagement in postgraduate teaching and quality improvement activities.

Principal challenges identified:

- Balancing OR and ICU responsibilities (strongest signal)
- Lack of protected academic time
- Competition for ICU positions and burnout concerns

Members expressed interest in stronger Section visibility, clearer positioning of anesthesia–critical care training pathways, and expanded Critical Care programming within CAS.

Events:

CAS Annual Meeting 2026 – Critical Care Section Session

Session Title: Psychological Safety in Critical Care and Perioperative Practice

Moderator: Imelda Galvin

Speakers:

- Dr. Lucie Filteau – Physician Advisor, Canadian Medical Protective Association and Past CAS President
- Dr. Peter Dodek – Professor Emeritus, University of British Columbia

This session integrates medico-legal, ethical, and clinical perspectives on psychological safety, team culture, and crisis leadership. It builds directly on priorities identified through the survey and reflects the importance of quality and safety to the membership.

Top 3 Achievements:

- Successful national call for volunteers and expansion of the Section Executive.
- Completion of a national member survey to inform Section priorities.
- Delivery of survey-informed Critical Care programming at annual CAS meeting

Goals for 2026:

Disseminate Survey Findings and Define Section Priorities

- Develop a concise 2–3-page executive summary of survey findings.
- Identify the top three Section priorities.
- Circulate to Section membership.
- Deliverable: Survey brief distributed by September 2026.

Host One Section Virtual Engagement Event

- Organize one 60-minute virtual session aligned with survey priorities.
- Deliverable: One virtual event held in 2026.

Plan 2027 CAS Session Based on Survey Priorities

- Review survey topic suggestions.
- Select one priority topic.
- Submit one survey-informed session proposal for the CAS annual meeting in 2027.
- Deliverable: One session proposal submitted.

Explore Member Perspectives on Anesthesia–Critical Care Training Pathways

- Circulate a brief follow-up questionnaire to better understand the extent of member concern regarding training pathway alignment.
- Review findings with the Section Executive to determine whether further action is warranted.
- Deliverable: Follow-up survey completed and summarized in 2026.

Improve Section Communication

- Distribute two Section updates (mid-year and pre-CAS).
- Deliverable: Two communications issued in 2026.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Chair: Dr. Joanna Fifen

The Environmental Sustainability Section advanced national leadership in climate-responsible anesthesia practice throughout 2025. This year focused on federal engagement, national advocacy, and strengthening collaboration across Canada to support greener operating rooms and climate-aligned perioperative care.

Initiatives/ Projects:

- **Federal Engagement Under CEPA** — Completed a formal request to Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) for regulatory action on desflurane under the Canadian Environmental Protection Act. Established ongoing dialogue with federal officials to support national policy alignment on anesthetic gas emissions.
- **Letters to Regional Health Authorities** — Distributed a national communication package, *Supporting Greener Operating Rooms in Canada*, outlining evidence-based recommendations for sustainable anesthesia practice and perioperative waste reduction.
- **Transitional Accelerator Taskforce for Net-Zero** — Received an invitation to join this national taskforce, contributing anesthesia expertise to health-system decarbonization and net-zero planning.
- **World Day of Regional Anesthesia** — Delivered a national presentation on environmental sustainability in regional anesthesia, highlighting low-emission analgesia pathways.
- **Earth Day Webinar (April 22, 2025)** — Hosted a national webinar focused on anesthesia-related emissions and practical clinical interventions. Planning is underway for the 2026 Earth Day event.
- **CAS Annual Meeting 2025** — Contributed to scientific programming and led the CASES symposium on decarbonizing perioperative care.

Events:

- **CASES Symposium at CAS 2025** — Featured national and international experts on sustainable perioperative care, with strong interdisciplinary participation.
- **Earth Day 2025 Webinar** — Delivered a national educational session with broad engagement from anesthesiologists, perioperative leaders, and trainees.
- **World Day of Regional Anesthesia Presentation** — Highlighted the environmental benefits of regional anesthesia and opportunities for low-emission practice.
- **Planning for Earth Day 2026** — Early development of next year's national webinar and educational materials.

Top 3 Achievements:

1. **Working to achieve near-complete elimination of desflurane across Canada** National progress continued through coordinated advocacy, federal engagement under CEPA, and communication with Regional Health Authorities to support greener operating rooms.
2. **Publication of the CAS Environmental Sustainability Position Statement in the *Canadian Journal of Anesthesia*** This national reference document outlines evidence-based, actionable strategies for climate-responsible anesthesia practice and supports departments in implementing sustainable perioperative pathways.
3. **Strengthened Federal and National Partnerships** Formal engagement with ECCC, Regional Health Authorities, and national sustainability networks positioned anesthesiology as a leader in healthcare decarbonization.

Goals for 2026:

- **Deliver the 2026 Earth Day national webinar** with updated clinical and policy content.
- **Support continued national progress on desflurane elimination** through follow-up communication and collaboration with health authorities.
- **Planning on a climate resiliency project.**

Links:

- Walker M, Sondekoppam R, Filteau L, Rao A, Williams S, Ip VHY; Canadian Anesthesiologists' Society. Canadian Anesthesiologists' Society position statement on greening the operating room. *Can J Anaesth*. 2025 Oct;72(10):1475-1488. English. doi: 10.1007/s12630-025-03053-8. Epub 2025 Nov 26. PMID: 41299110.

OBSTETRICS

Chair: Dr. Lorraine Chow

Executive Committee Membership:

The Executive committee membership remains unchanged this year. Dr. Lorraine Chow (Calgary, AB) continues as Chair of the obstetric section for one more year. Dr. Anton Chau (Vancouver, BC) is Vice Chair and Dr. Allana Munro (Halifax, NS) is Secretary/Treasurer of the section. Dr. Wesley Edwards (Ottawa, ON) continues his role as past chair of the section.

Section Membership:

Our section membership remains stable in 2025. Our section's finances remain stable.

OB Section Research Grant (\$20,000)

Dr. Mrinalini Balki (Mount Sinai Hospital, University of Toronto, ON) *Effect of co-administration of carbetocin and calcium chloride on uterine tone in patients undergoing elective Cesarean delivery: a double-blind, randomized controlled trial.*

Events:

The OB section hosted several events for the 2025 Annual meeting, including:

1. An engaging lecture on Population study: autism and pediatric development by Dr. Rachel Kearns, OAA executive committee member
2. 2 PBLD: Practical approach to failed neuraxial anesthesia (Dr. Lindsay MacKensie, Calgary, AB) and Cardiac arrest and resuscitation in pregnancy (Dr. David MacLean, Toronto, ON).
3. A panel on Navigating high-stakes emergencies in Obstetric Anesthesia, moderated by Dr. Allana Munro (Halifax, NS) with talks on eclampsia (Dr. Wesley Edwards, Ottawa, ON), post-partum hemorrhage (Dr. Rachel Kearns, Scotland), and the failed obstetric airway (Dr. Dolores McKeen, St John's, NF).
4. A panel on Complications in Obstetric Anesthesia, with talks by Dr. Ron George (Toronto, ON) and Dr. Lesley Bautista (St. John's, NF),
5. A test-enhanced learning session on Anesthetic Considerations for the Breastfeeding patient by Dr. Valerie Zaphiratos (Montreal, QC).
6. A panel on Dexmedetomidine use in obstetric anesthesia, moderated by Dr. Anton Chau (Vancouver, BC) and talks by Dr. Valerie Zaphiratos, Dr. Lorraine Chow and Dr. Paul Wiczorek (Montreal, QC).
7. A collaborative panel on Neuro-Obstetrics Clinical Conundrums: Expert Panel discussion with speakers Dr. Kan Ma (neuro, Toronto ON), Dr. Ibe Adedugbe (neuro, Halifax NS) and Dr. Ron George (OB, Toronto, ON) discussing their management of the complex neuro-obstetric patient.

Top 3 Achievements:

1. Publication of the CPD module on the topic of Post-dural puncture headache in the Canadian Journal of Anesthesia.
2. CAS webinar on PDPH in Obstetrics.
3. Collaboration with the CAS neuroanesthesia section for the panel presentation at the CAS 2025 meeting.

Goals for 2026:

- Collaboration with other international obstetric anesthesia societies, including Society for Obstetric Anesthesia and Perinatology (SOAP).
- To increase the section's educational offering by presenting high-yield and impactful CPD modules, webinars and CAS Pinnacle rounds.
- To support research in obstetric anesthesia through our continued partnership with CARF for the obstetric section research award.

REGIONAL AND ACUTE PAIN

Chair: Dr. Ahtsham Niazi

Section Membership:

Section membership has remained stable in 2025, at 85 members country wide. Section finances are likewise stable.

Initiatives/ Projects:

In 2025, the Regional Anesthesia and Acute Pain Section continued to drive meaningful change through targeted initiatives that fostered education and collaboration with other regional anesthesia societies. These efforts led to increased member engagement and enhanced clinical practice standards, demonstrating the effectiveness of the initiatives and reinforcing the value of collaborative education.

In collaboration with ASRA, members of the committee published their work on remote teaching of regional anesthesia in under resourced countries titled “A Canadian Perspective of Remote Teaching of Ultrasound-Guided Regional Anesthesia: Providing Equity of Medical Care Around the World”.

In 2025, we took part in the “2nd World Day of Regional Anesthesia and Pain Medicine” in partnership with CAS and ESRA under the global theme of “Joining Hands for a Pain Free Future Worldwide”. The event featured presentations on optimal regional anesthesia education methods, strategies for preventing rebound pain, approaches to nerve injury management, and advancements in regional anesthesia techniques—demonstrating Canadian expertise at an international level.

Events:

Joining Hands for a Pain Free Future Worldwide, 2nd World Day of Regional Anesthesia and Pain Medicine in collaboration with ESRA on January 25, 2025.

At the Annual Meeting in St John’s, Newfoundland we successfully held panel sessions, a pro and con debate and workshops to teach new and upcoming techniques in regional anesthesia and acute pain. Furthermore, the best abstract award as well as the Research Grant award were presented at the Annual Meeting held in St John’s, Newfoundland on June 20–22, 2025.

Top 3 Achievements:

1. Publication of the ASRA newsletter article on the Canadian perspective of remote teaching for ultrasound guided regional anesthesia. Preparing further CPD modules for our CAS and section membership.
2. To be able to collaborate with an important and well recognized regional anesthesia society, such as ESRA, to host a global event such the “World Day of Regional Anesthesia

and Pain Medicine” for broader reach of our education material and put CAS into the global arena.

3. To collaborate with CARF and be able to present a research grant award which elevates the value of our section to our members.

Goals for 2026:

The Regional Anesthesia and Acute Pain Section aim to further integrate evidence-based regional techniques into enhanced recovery pathways, expand research output through the Su Ganapathy Award for Regional Anesthesia Research, and continue fostering a collaborative and inclusive team culture as new members join and contribute to the sections ongoing success. We are also continuing to contribute to CPD modules, and we hope to publish a new one in the upcoming year.

Links:

[A Canadian Perspective of Remote Teaching of Ultrasound-Guided Regional Anesthesia: Providing Equity of Medical Care Around the World.](#)

RESIDENTS SECTION

Chair: Dr. Kyra Moura

Initiatives/ Projects:

1. SIM Olympics
2. RCE Prep Course
3. Annual Meeting presentation
4. Ambassador program

Events:

Annual Meeting resident stream content.

Top 3 Achievements:

1. **Ongoing success of the SIM Olympics at the 2025 AM in St. John's.** SIM Olympic programming was again successful for the second time since hiatus following the COVID-19 pandemic. Through supportive partnership with Memorial University simulation lab we were able to expand the format to include several challenges and “escape-room” style stations for residents competing from across the country. Planning for SIM Olympics at the 2026 AM is underway.
2. **Launch of the Ambassador program.** Our Ambassador Program launched this fall with the aim of increasing resident engagement with CAS. We recruited a representative resident from most ACUDA universities across Canada to assist in sharing of CAS promotional material directly with their cohorts.
3. **First Royal College Prep course.** In partnership with CAS members, Dr. Kan Ma and Dr. Alex Rotstein, our section helped with the development of the first RCE prep course offered at this year's AM in St. John's. Our section will continue to be involved this year as the program is further refined and improved with resident feedback.

Goals for 2026:

Increasing resident engagement. Ongoing focus on increasing resident awareness of the vast amount of programming and resources available to them through CAS. Our ambassador program aims to be bidirectional; both providing residents with CAS promotional material and gaining further inspiration from our Ambassadors for what our next initiatives can be that would provide value to our resident members.

Expand programming outside of the AM. Our section now has several well-established initiatives that primarily occur at the AM. As a section we now have the resources to try to provide programming outside of the AM, though we acknowledge our limitations with the geography of our membership. Currently exploring several possibilities including webinars and social media posts that target our young and digitally-connected resident membership.