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Innovative leadership and excellence in anesthesia, perioperative care, and patient **safety**



Canadian Anesthesiologists' Society

ANESTHESIA NEWS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Colleagues,

It is indeed an honour and a privilege to serve as President of the Canadian Anesthesiologists' Society (CAS). By way of introduction, I completed my anesthesiology residency training at the University of Saskatchewan then undertook a one-year fellowship in cardiothoracic anesthesia at Duke University, Durham, North Carolina. Since returning to Canada, I have worked in London, Ontario and am currently a Professor of

Anesthesiology and Perioperative Medicine at Western University. Prior to becoming President of CAS, I served as Vice-President for two years, and was Annual Meeting Chair for four years. I have been happily married to my wife, Monica, for 24 years and we have two sons.

The CAS Annual Meeting held in Montreal this year was a big success with over 1,000 delegates attending. For the second year, we held pre-meeting workshops including a leadership workshop and POCUS workshop, and feedback from both these events continues to be excellent. We continue to develop PBLD workshops, the meeting app, and the live stream webinar that allows anesthesiologists with work commitments or travel difficulties to "attend" the Annual Meeting electronically. Special thanks to Dr Adriaan Van Rensburg, Annual Meeting Chair, for his expertise in organizing the meeting, and Dr Jordan Tarshis, Chair of the Continuing Education Professional Development Committee, for his help in education and accreditation.

This is an exciting time to be an anesthesiologist with dramatic changes occurring in healthcare delivery creating numerous opportunities and challenges. We have all witnessed the dramatic expansion of ambulatory anesthesia, Anesthesia Assistant services, and the perioperative use of ultrasound to name but a few. We face challenges with the safe delivery of these services, given the constrained resource setting we now all find ourselves in, the rise of an opioid epidemic, and the concomitant increase in oversight of these high-risk medications we administer every day. CAS continues to advocate on your behalf to both government and regulatory bodies to have the voice of Canadian anesthesiologists heard, and I will continue this advocacy during my term.

We will also continue to support the progression and use of our newly launched CAIRS (Canadian Anesthesia Incident Reporting System) program, and encourage all members to view and test the system online at www.cairs.ca. This project has been in development for many years under the leadership of Dr Scott Beattie, and we are extremely

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grateful for his contribution. I would also like to thank Dr Alain Deschamps who recently stepped forward to chair the CAIRS Management Committee. We need members to champion the use and adoption of CAIRS across the country and are counting on you to provide us with your feedback and experiences in the coming months. We can't do it without you!

As with all transitions, we have individuals who will be leaving the CAS Executive or changing roles. I would like to express a special "thank you" to Dr Susan O'Leary who will be stepping down as CAS Past President. One of Susan's strengths lies in her clear concise communication skills and she will be missed on the Executive Committee. Dr Doug DuVal will be moving into the role of Past President. Doug had a busy two years having taken on the issue of sedation by non-anesthesiology physicians for endoscopic procedures and providing consultation to regulatory bodies looking to increase oversight for high-risk medications to name but two complex issues. I would like to thank them both for their effort and dedication over the last two years.

Many of you will have noticed several new names at the National office and I would like to warmly welcome them to the CAS team. I would also like to thank our Executive Director, Debra Thomson, for leading this transition and for her ongoing work to strengthen and improve the Society for our members. Our membership has increased

by over 10%, and we have moved our past financial deficit to a surplus position. I know that Debra and her team will continue to make positive strides to ensure that CAS is a society that we can all support and take pride in.

Finally, a reminder that the CAS is your society, and while we advocate on your behalf, we need your involvement! I strongly encourage all members to take an active role: give us your feedback! Put your name forward to become a member of a CAS committee, section, or division—it is our goal to encourage new leaders to step forward. Nominate deserving members for the annual awards so we can honour the best and brightest of our colleagues. Submit your abstracts to the Annual Meeting so we can hear about the great work you are doing at your own hospitals. Submit your grant proposals so we can support the best research from researchers asking innovative questions in support of patient outcomes. And join us at the Annual Meeting so you can ask the speakers the important questions you may have about anesthesia, provide feedback on your learning needs, and interact and share your ideas about innovations in anesthesia with your colleagues. I look forward to working together with all of you to shape the future of anesthesia in Canada.

I welcome comments and suggestions from members and encourage you to contact me directly at president@cas.ca.

Dr Daniel Bainbridge
President

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AS OF SEPTEMBER 2018

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