



Dear Colleague,

The Board of the BC College of Family Physicians met recently. At the meeting the Board reviewed:

- Pharmacist Medication Management Project – There are ongoing meetings occurring with involvement of BCMA, SGP, Ministry and College of Pharmacists. The College wishes to affirm its strong concern and has conveyed this to our representatives. A motion was passed to develop an information sheet for family physicians that can be used in response to this project.
- Development of an electronic, web-based calendar of BCCFP Mainpro accredited courses is well underway. A draft version, allowing ‘filtering’ by community, health authority, type of program, etc. was reviewed. This process is led by the Rural Coordinating Committee and is targeted to serve all physicians and perhaps other health disciplines.
- Support for residents attending the ‘Practice Survival Skills’ program on June 4th was confirmed. Additional support for College members in the ‘first five years of practice’ will be provided, within the approved budget, in keeping with the CFPC plan to focus support for early career family physicians.
- The Board agreed to explore an opportunity for a Visioning meeting with senior representatives of the other medical organisations.
- A Communications consultant is being hired to develop a recommended Communications Plan for the College

For the first time, the Board took an hour of their meeting to break-out into groups, which addressed: Visioning for the Future; Communication; Chronic Disease Management and ideas for the Annual Scientific Assembly.

The Board heard reports from its representatives: CFPC Executive – Dr Nirvair Levitt; Research and Education Foundation – Dr Patricia Mirwaldt; Society of General Practice – Dr Peter Barnsdale; UBC Family Practice Head – Dr Martin Dawes; UBC Medical Student and Resident – Serena Siow and Dr Olivia Tseng; UBC Family Practice CPD and Community Partnerships – Dr Christie Newton; and CFPC Advisory Committee on Family Practice – Dr Jim Thorsteinson.

The ‘Dinner with the Docs’ events took place in Vancouver, Victoria and Prince George. These are sessions where medical students can meet with family physicians in small groups to ask any questions about family medicine as a career. These have been greatly appreciated by the medical student participants – and all stated that it increased their interest in family medicine.

The Board approved the transfer of \$24,750 to the *Research and Education Foundation*, to be allocated to the *BCCFP Research Fund*, to enable continued support to this activity.

Planning for the 2011 Annual Scientific Assembly, to be held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Vancouver, October 15 & 16, is well underway.

The annual process of seeking **nominations** for the **Awards of Excellence** has begun. Members are reminded to consider nominating colleagues that they believe have demonstrated Excellence as family physicians, or have made some other noteworthy contribution to community health or in the discipline of Family Medicine. Categories include: Community (anywhere), Rural, Researcher, Teacher, or other 'Exceptional Contribution'; your candidate will fit one of these!

Awards are also available for medical students and residents

(see under Membership → Honours and Awards → BCCFP Honours and Awards at www.bccfp.bc.ca)

The Board also endorsed the BCMA initiative, "Walk with your Doc", May 9 – 13. The goal is to emphasise the importance of being physically active by having physicians take a symbolic walk with their patients. "WalkwithyourDoc can be organized at any time during the week of May 9 – 13 – whatever works for you. An easy one kilometer walk can start from your office, the local park, or community centre, and a number of physicians can join forces to walk as a large and impressive group."

Dr. Lisa Gaede
President