

***A Stronger Voice for Women's Health***

**Ottawa – February 9, 2018** - The Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (SOGC) and the Association of Academic Professionals in Obstetrics and Gynaecology of Canada (APOG) are pleased to announce the integration of the two organizations, effective January 1, 2018. The alliance brings together about 4,000 health care professionals who are currently members of the SOGC and members of academic OB/GYN departments from medical schools across Canada.

"Together, we believe the united organization will provide a stronger voice to further common objectives and goals to improve the health of women and their families in Canada," says Dr. Michael Bow, President, SOGC. "With increased academic support, it will allow us to improve knowledge transfer from the genesis of ideas through to practical applications in clinical and social environments."

The SOGC Board has been expanded by four new directors to assist in the transition. As well, a new body called the Academic Council will direct the organization in support of strategic direction and academic and research goals for the improvement of reproductive health. The Council will be chaired by Dr. Graeme Smith, an obstetrician and professor at Queen's University.

"The SOGC/APOG alliance will enable us to build a seamless continuum of lifelong learning from undergraduate students to physicians entering retirement," says Dr. Smith. "We also believe that, in combining our efforts, we will be able to better promote ongoing education and advocacy on behalf of the public towards issues related to women's reproductive health."

**For more information or to arrange a media interview please contact:**

Anne Trueman, Director of Communications

Email: [atrueman@sogc.com](mailto:atrueman@sogc.com)

Telephone: 613-730-4192, ext. 228

-30-

**About The Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada**

The SOGC is one of Canada's oldest national specialty organizations. Established in 1944, the Society's mission is to promote excellence in the practice of obstetrics and gynaecology and to advance the health of women through leadership, advocacy, collaboration and education. The SOGC represents obstetricians/gynaecologists, family physicians, nurses, midwives and allied health professionals working in the field of sexual reproductive health. For more information, please visit [www.sogc.org](http://www.sogc.org)