



SOGC News

The Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada

May 2004

Council Meeting Highlights

André B. Lalonde, SOGC Executive Vice-President

The SOGC Council met during the ICME on March 1, 2004. Highlights from this meeting, chaired by Dr. David Young, SOGC President, are as follows:

Nominations to Council: President Elect: Dr. Michael Helewa & Dr. Chui Kin Yuen, Vice President Ontario: Dr. Guylaine Lefebvre, Atlantic Regional Committee Chair: Dr. Scott Farrell, Atlantic Alternate Regional Chair: Dr. Terry O'Grady, MD Advisory Committee Representative: Dr. Owen Hughes, Ontario Regional Committee Chair: Dr. Catherine MacKinnon, Western Regional Chair: Dr. Nicole Racette & Western Regional Committee Alternate Chair: Dr. Sandra de la Ronde, were all approved by Council. The general mailing for nominations was sent to the membership on March 3 and nominations were accepted until the deadline date of April 5, 2004.

Membership renewal total as at March 1, 2004: 2,463, similar to last year at this time. We are still short of our goal of 3,000 members.

Council approved the recommendation that SOGC support the creation of the Federation of National Specialty Societies of

Canada (FNSSC), created to support better communication between national specialty societies, advocacy efforts at the government level and various administrative exchanges.

Council approved the addition of 2 CME events per year. The CPD Division will develop two new CME programs, one in Québec in conjunction with the AOGQ, and the other in Ontario. Further information will be published in upcoming newsletters.

Council approved an increase in CME registration fees for all membership categories, effective September 2004, to reflect the increase in expenditures in the delivery of our programmes. A financial policy was approved by Council, which includes conflict of interest and terms of reference for Board Members.

Council accepted the proposed new members to the Society from September 1, 2003 to February 12, 2004: 5 ob/gyn members, 33 medical students, 30 junior members, 2 junior family practice residents, 5 associate midwives, 10 associate RN members, 15 associate MD members and 1 PhD.

Nominations to committees: Committee Chairs must identify their committee membership before the end of May for approval at the June Council Meeting and Annual Business Meeting.

Council reviewed the SOGC Privacy Policy and approved it in principle. For more information and access to the Policy, please visit the member's site at www.sogc.org.

Council approved a National Office strategy for archives, which includes a part-time archivist, and highlighted Dr. Yves Lefebvre for his continued dedication and work as Chair of the History and Archives Committee of the Society and the editing of the 60th Anniversary SOGC History book.

Medical terminations of pregnancy in Nepal were legalized in 2002. As of October 2003, 40 women were still in prison for abortion related offences. Council ap-

(Continued on page 2)

ALARM International Programme India 2004

Ferd Pauls, Chair SIWH & ALARM International Sub-Committee



Dr. Das (left) and S. Plourde conduct a workshop in Lucknow

An International team of nine members, four Canadians, three from India and two from the Scandinavian countries provided two ALARM International Programmes in Pune and Lucknow, India from January 30 to February 6, 2004. This was the third Programme offered in Asia, sponsored by FIGO, SOGC and the local ob/gyn Association. The other two were

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The SOGC celebrates 60 years of excellence!

Please see pages 3 & 9 for a tribute to Past Presidents.

New Format for the SOGC News

(More on page 9...)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President	Dr. David Young IWK Health Centre Halifax, NS
Past President	Dr. Donna Fedorkow McMaster University Hospital Hamilton, ON
President Elect	Dr. Gerald Stanimir Royal Victoria Hospital Montreal, QC
Executive Vice-President	Dr. André B. Lalonde SOGC National Office Ottawa, ON
Treasurer	Dr. Douglas Black Ottawa Hospital, General Campus Ottawa, ON
Vice-Presidents	Dr. Michael Helewa St. Boniface General Hospital Winnipeg, MB
	Dr. David Wilkie B.C. Women's Hospital Vancouver, BC

REGIONAL CHAIRS, ALTERNATE CHAIRS AND OTHER REPRESENTATIVES

Western Region	Dr. Michael Bow Grey Nuns Hospital Edmonton, AB
	Dr. Nicole Racette Royal Columbian Hospital New Westminster, BC and Genesis Fertility Centre Vancouver, BC
Central Region	Dr. Ahmed Ezzat Royal University Hospital Saskatoon, SK
	Dr. Mark Heywood St-Boniface General Hospital Winnipeg, MB
Ontario Region	Dr. Guylaine Lefebvre St. Michael's Hospital Toronto, ON
	Dr. Catherine MacKinnon Brantford General Hospital Brantford, ON
Quebec Region	Dr. Claude Fortin Pavillon LaSalle LaSalle, QC
	Dr. Philippe-Yves Laberge Pavillon C.H.U.L. Ste-Foy, QC
Atlantic Region	Dr. Shelagh Connors Queen Elizabeth Hospital Charlottetown, PEI
	Dr. Scott Farrell IWK Health Centre Halifax, NS
Public Representative	Ms. Jane E. Caskey Toronto, ON
Junior Member Representative	Dr. Sukhbir Singh University of Western Ontario London, ON
Associate MD Representative	Dr. Carolyn Lane Foothills Hospital Calgary, AB
Associate RN Representative	Mrs. Karen MacKinnon University of Calgary Calgary, AB
Associate RM Representative	Ms. Eileen Hutton University of British Columbia Vancouver, BC
APOG Representative	Dr. William Fraser University of Montreal Montreal, QC
Corresponding Member	Senator Lucie Pépin Senate of Canada Ottawa, ON

From the EVP's Desk

Membership Renewal

André B. Lalonde, MD, FRCSC, FRCOG, FSOGC, FACS, MSc

At this time of the year, the SOGC has sent a third membership renewal notice. Most of you have already renewed your membership and the SOGC is thankful for this. I would like to ask every SOGC member to talk to their colleagues to verify that they have not forgotten to renew their membership. At this stage in the development of ob/gyn in Canada, it is imperative that we work together to have a strong association to represent our interests nationally and support our provincial initiatives. The crisis in obstetrics has become more acute in the last few years and we need your support to effectively lobby our provincial and federal governments to pay more attention to obstetrical care in Canada.

Membership benefits include the receipt of the JOGC, the only peer-reviewed journal of ob/gyn in Canada, the communication of clinical practice guidelines that are developed by your colleagues, the presentation of scientific programmes at regional and national meetings, along with the SCOPE, ALARM and MORE^{OB} programmes.

This year, we are celebrating the 60th Anniversary of the SOGC. Without the collaboration and devotion of every member, the Society would not exist today and would not fulfill an essential role in the provision of reproductive health care in Canada. Please join me in asking your colleagues to renew their membership or to become a member of the SOGC.

Council Meeting (Continued from page 1)

proved that a resolution be forwarded to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Minister of State (Multiculturalism and Status of Women) and the Minister for International Cooperation encouraging them to advocate for the release of the imprisoned women through all possible means.

Council identified 2 key members to attend the CMA Leaders' Forum: Drs. Michael Helewa, Winnipeg, MB and William Mundle, Windsor, ON.

The FIGO document on "Professional and Ethical Responsibilities Concerning Sexual and Reproductive Rights" was discussed. Council endorsed it as approved at the 2003 FIGO meeting in Chile. For copy of the text in English, French or Spanish, visit www.sogc.org.

Wireless text messaging, an initiative from pharmaceutical companies to be used as a reminder for contraceptive users, was not endorsed or supported by Council.

SOGC representation at various affiliate organization meetings: A 3-year period of rotation was identified for the Past President, President and President Elect, allowing for consistent representation over a 3-year period.

Council and Executive approved the recommendation that all Past Presidents have complimentary registration to all CME events. A decision was made to reduce CME registration fees for life members.

New fee structure:

	Membership Fee*	CME's 2004	ACM 2004
Life Member 65-70	\$60	\$50	\$50
Life Member 70+	Free	\$50	\$50
Honorary Member	Free	\$50	\$50

* effective in 2005.

There was also a motion to recognize the leadership and contribution of Dr. Art Leader with respect to representing the SOGC on Bill C-6 issues.

Emergency Contraception: Two provinces indicated that they were not in support of EC without a prescription at this time. SOGC will continue to work with various organizations to ensure that this medication is kept on the formulary in all provinces.

The Tibet Canada Women's Foundation brought to the SOGC's attention the lack of reproductive rights for Tibetan women. Women and young girls living in Tibet have undergone forced sterilization. After discussion, Council agreed that the SOGC would support the Foundation's request to publicize, at the 2004 ACM, the cruel practices in Tibet that limit women's sexual and reproductive rights.

The next Council meeting will be held June 24, 2004 at the ACM in Edmonton.

The Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada: Celebrating 60 Years of Success

SOGC Past Presidents (1968-1974)

1 - Dr. D. Nelson Henderson was the SOGC's twenty-fifth President (1968-1969). His legacy of contributions began before the Society's creation. He first served as a member of the Canadian Gynaecological Society (CGS), helping it to establish the SOGC, and as the SOGC's first Treasurer. During his term as President, two important measures targeting young doctors were adopted. Fearing that the membership's two-year waiting period between certification and membership might dissuade young doctors from joining the SOGC, the Junior Membership category was created. Secondly, Council accepted an offer made by the Charles E. Frosst Company to support a program allowing three or four young researchers to attend SOGC Annual Meetings and present their reports. Dr. Henderson also took the means to advise government officials to endeavor measures to protect and respect the privacy of patients undergoing abortion. In 1968, the SOGC presented a motion to the Council on Hospital Accreditation Survey Committee, in response to an action involving a Québec hospital, stating that it should consult with the Society before assuming actions of importance to the speciality. The motion was accepted and the Survey Committee agreed to modify its standards with respect to mandatory consultations.

2 - Dr. Fred L. Johnson served as the twenty-sixth President of the SOGC from 1969 to 1970. Since the creation of the "Association des Obstétriciens et Gynécologues du Québec (AOGQ)", the relationship between the two bodies had become more complicated. Members of the AOGQ felt that there were no real advantages to joining the SOGC, which they felt to be passive towards their specific needs. The Development Committee was created in 1969 in order to resolve these issues. During Dr. Johnson's term, the bond between French-speaking obstetricians and gynaecologists of Québec was reinforced and based on collaboration as opposed to competition. Also in 1969, an amendment to the Criminal Code received Royal Assent, rendering the provision by which the sale of contraceptives was illegal and punishable obsolete. Dr. Johnson was also appointed as Chairman of the SOGC Joint Action Committee.

3 - Dr. Kenneth M. Grant was the SOGC's twenty-seventh President (1970-1971). During his tenure, the SOGC felt that it should include an average of 80% of practicing specialists. Statistics showed that in 1970, there were 913 Ob/Gyn Fellows and Certificants of the Royal College in Canada, but less than 50% were SOGC members. Modifications brought to the membership policies proved to be beneficial. The membership rose to 599 in 1971, a 50% increase. At the time, the SOGC Joint Committee expressed the need to clarify its relationship and responsibilities to organizations such as the Royal College and the CMA. In response to current developments in the fields of scientific investigation and social responsibility, a Coordinating and Advisory Council (COAC) was formed, with members from the SOGC, the Royal College, the Canadian Fertility Society, the research group in Obstetrics and Gynaecology and the Association of Professors of Obstetrics and Gynaecology of Canada. Also during his tenure, a state-

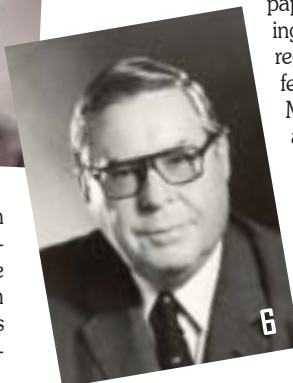
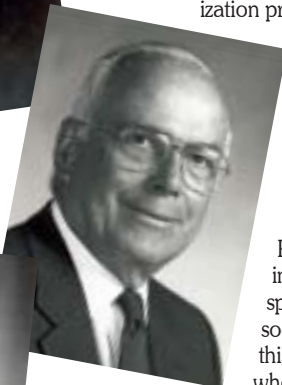
ment was prepared by SOGC Council and presented as a joint report in collaboration with the CMA, explaining that while the use of oral contraceptives could be hazardous, the benefits outweighed the inherent risks.

In 1970, a specific definition of the term "stillbirth" was formulated and accepted by the SOGC.

4 - Dr. Maurice Caouette served as the SOGC's twenty-eighth President (1971-1972). He had been a member of Council for 3 years (1964-66) and of the Scientific Programme from 1966-1968. His efforts resulted in 60 Québec memberships during his term. Despite a lack of growth in the West, the total membership stood at 750, an increase of 25% from the previous year. During his term, there were concerns about the rising number of abortions, tubal ligations and the growing popularity of hysterectomy as a sterilization procedure. A Liaison Committee was created to discuss current issues of interest with the AMC, ACOG, APOG and SCP, namely women's health issues, contraception, at-risk pregnancies, neonatology and hormone disorders, to name a few. The relationship with the AOGQ became restrained. The SOGC was criticized for its inadequate CME programmes. Communications between the Regional Committees and Council had to be improved. In 1971, two anaesthetists with a special interest in obstetrics were elected as Associate Members of the SOGC. It appeared that this category would be reserved for individuals who were not ob/gyns, but whose field of expertise exerted a major impact on the speciality.

5 - Dr. T. Merv Roulston served as SOGC's twenty-ninth President (1972-1973). Renowned both nationally and internationally, he was a pioneer in the area of family planning. He also devoted ob/gyn consulting services to remote areas in northern Canada where perinatal morbidity and mortality were very high; opposed the amalgamation of the SOGC and the Canadian Fertility Society (CFS) in the late 1960's; and argued that the National Office would best serve the members if it were located in Ottawa. When the Canadian Paediatric Society (CPS) made recommendations to the government regarding the regionalization of neonatal units, Dr. Roulston stated that obstetricians were concerned about the lack of advice from the SOGC. Since half of the issues brought up by the CPS concerned obstetricians, recommendations had to include the Society's insights. His intervention resulted in the SOGC's collaboration on a position paper on "Maternal and Fetal Care", providing information and professional leadership in regional high-risk perinatal care for mothers, fetuses and newborns. At the 1972 Annual Meeting, Dr. Roulston lobbied justice officials and presented a motion to reduce the age of consent for a person being treated on her own consent from 19 to 16 years of age. He was also involved in changes to the university curriculum in regards to the teaching and clinical practice of contraception.

6 - Dr. John L. Harkins became the SOGC's thirtieth President (1973-1974) after serving as Honorary Secretary for



(Continued on page 9)

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May

2004



MAY DAY... MAY DAY!

60th ANNUAL CLINICAL MEETING

June 25-29, 2004, Edmonton, Alberta in conjunction with the 60th Diamond Anniversary Celebration of the SOGC

Chantale Wall, Director, Events Management, CPD Division

We invite you to join 900+ delegates and presenters from across Canada, the United States and internationally, who will participate in this milestone event charting the future of the next 60+ years of the SOGC.

The theme for the 2004 ACM, "**For Women as Precious as Diamonds**", emphasizes dialogue and reflection of SOGC's 60 years of success in Women's Health. The ACM is sure to be enriching and invigorating, promoting excellence in optimal women's health education. Outside of the Scientific Programme itself, a number of activities have been planned to encourage networking and to allow participants to enjoy an exciting social programme planned by the Host Committee.

This will take place in the beautiful city of Edmonton, a great place for visitors to explore, take riverside walks, golf, cycling tours, and most of all, enjoy the world famous Western hospitality. Edmonton is well known as an active arts and drama centre with more than 2000 restaurants and as well as many shopping centers, including



North America's largest indoor shopping mall – the West Edmonton Mall.



A special evening event has been planned to celebrate SOGC's 60 Years of Excellence. **The 60th Anniversary Gala evening** will be held on Saturday, June 26th. This event will include a decadent gala dinner, entertainment, prizes and surprises to enchant you and your companion. Gala proceeds will be donated to the Canadian Foundation for Women's Health (CFWH). Junior Members pay a special (half price) rate. So share this enjoyable evening with us, and register immediately as space is limited!

Highlights

Scientific Programme Sessions

- 9 International Symposia
- Breakfast Symposia
- Luncheon Symposia
- 20 Best Practice Sessions
- 7 Sub-Specialty Meetings
- 2 Concurrent Sessions: International Women's Health Day or Abstract Day
- 2 days of GOC Sessions
- 2 Exhibit Days
- Annual Business Meeting
- Stump the Professor
- Cannell Lecture
- Awards Ceremony

Social Activities available in the Edmonton Area

- Dining Out Experience: Madison's, Chance, La Ronde
- Edmonton attractions: West Edmonton Mall, Fort Edmonton Park & Odysseum Museum
- Golf Clubs (with 18 holes)
- Companion Activities: Botanical Trip & Ukrainian Village visit
- Resident Fun Night
- 10 days of Jazz City Music Festival (June 25-July 4)
- 6 Museums: Alberta Aviation, Alberta Railway, Edmonton Art Gallery, John Walter, Reynolds Alberta, Provincial Museum of Alberta
- Queen Riverboat tour
- Valley Zoo family activity
- Strathcona Historic Area visit
- Jog, hike or bike the River Valley Park trails





DON'T MISS THE

MAY 14TH DEADLINE!

**BOOK YOUR HOTEL
BEFORE MAY 14TH !**

Reserve your hotel accommodations directly with the property of your choice:

Westin Edmonton – Host Hotel

- Standard Room: \$139 S/D occupancy
- Deluxe Room: \$189 S/D occupancy
- Toll-free #: 1-800-937-8461
- Group Code: SOGC

Fairmont Hotel MacDonald – Limited rooms

- Fairmont: \$145 S/D occupancy
- Fairmont View: \$165 S/D occupancy
- Deluxe: \$185 S/D occupancy
- Deluxe View: \$195 S/D occupancy
- Toll-free #: 1-800-441-1414
- Group Code: SOGC

Sutton Place (was Sheraton Grande) – Limited rooms

- Deluxe Room: \$129 S/D occupancy
- Club Floor Level: \$164 S/D occupancy
- Toll-free Number: 1-866-378-8866
- Local Phone Number: 780-428-7111
- Group code: SOOG062104

TRAVEL

SOGC's official travel agency, **Carlson Wagonlit-Madison Travel** will, in one phone call, check all the lowest applicable airfares available on all carriers, including Air Canada convention fares for all SOGC members. Call Carlson Wagonlit-Madison Travel at 613-238-4040 or (800) 465-4040 ext 236. Visit their Web site at www.madisontravel.ca. Tanya Dugal, their bilingual dedicated SOGC agent will be more than happy to assist you with all of your travel arrangements.

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to Our Proud
Sponsors**

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and Aventis Pharma

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Diane A. Gagné Financial Services

For complete details or to register immediately, refer to the Preliminary Programme and Registration Form which was mailed to you or visit the SOGC Web site at www.sogc.org/conference/acm/index_e.shtml **Don't miss the May 14th deadline for hotel reservations, early bird registration, registration for social/leisure and companion programmes!**

Continuing Professional Development (CPD)

The SOGC is committed to providing Continuing Professional Development in accordance with standards of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada in the Maintenance of Certification® Program.

SOGC CME EVENTS

PROGRAMMES

60th Annual Clinical Meeting
Edmonton, Alberta
June 25-29, 2004

17th Québec CME (offered in French)
Fairmont Tremblant, Mont-Tremblant, Québec, September 23-25, 2004

1st OBS Conference
Ritz Carlton Hotel
Montréal, November 18-19, 2004

23rd Ontario CME
Marriott Eaton Centre, Toronto, Ontario
November 25-27, 2004

COURSES

SCOPE 2004

- **Vancouver, BC** - May 14-15
Centre of Excellence for Surgical Education & Innovation,
Vancouver General Hospital
- **Toronto, ON** - September 10-11
Surgical Skills Centre,
Mt. Sinai Hospital
- **Toronto, ON** - December 10-11
Surgical Skills Centre,
Mt. Sinai Hospital

ALARM -2004

- **Edmonton, AB** (in conjunction with ACM) - June 23-24
- **Midland, ON** - October 15-16
- **Abbotsford, BC** - October 29-30
- **Toronto, ON** (in conjunction with ON CME) - November 28-29

**Register online at:
www.sogc.org or at
1-800-561-2416**

**ACM
Annual Business
Meeting**

**June 29, 2004, 7-8 a.m.
All voting members
welcome!**

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May

2004

INTRODUCING
sexualityanduc.ca
YOUR LINK TO SEXUAL WELL-BEING



Contraception



Sexually Transmitted Infections



Pregnancy



Sexual Diversity



Women's Sexual Health



Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health



Teen Sexual and Reproductive Health



Sexual Well-Being



Healthy Beginnings

The most complete pregnancy handbook, from pre-conception to coming home with your baby.

You can order your copy by calling our toll-free number 1-877-519-7999 or visit our Website at www.sogc.org/healthybeginnings/

SEX SENSE

CANADIAN CONTRACEPTION GUIDE

A complete source of information on protection against sexually transmitted infections. This comprehensive handbook will help the individual choose a contraception method that best suits his/her health and lifestyle.

You can order a copy by calling our toll-free number 1-877-519-7999. Or visit our Website at: www.sogc.org/sexsense/



SOGC

Advisory

Caesarian Section on Demand – SOGC's Position

Ottawa – The Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada does **not** promote Caesarean sections on demand. The Society has always promoted natural childbirth and believes that the decision to perform a Caesarean section during labour and delivery should be based on medical indications.

During the past few years, the Society has worked with women's groups and other health care professionals to ensure that women are offered choices in obstetrics and gynaecology. The Society endorses and promotes evidence-based medicine.

At this time, there is no indication that a Caesarean section carries less risk than a vaginal delivery for mother and baby. The Society is concerned that a natural process would be transformed into a surgical process and that elective procedures would create added pressure on health care resources that are already overextended in Canada. At a time where Canadian men and women are waiting weeks if not months for proper treatment of serious conditions such as cancer, it would be irresponsible to promote an elective procedure that would require the increased use of limited resources.

The SOGC, along with other health care providers such as nurses and midwives, have made a strong recommendation that women during labour and birth be accompanied by a trained health care professional and that adequate resources be given to hospitals to fulfill our pledge to offer continuous support during labour and birth.

Internationally, the promotion of Caesarean sections on demand would be a tremendous disaster in countries where resources are scarce. The current trend of increased demands for Caesarean sections in many developing countries is a grave concern given the increased limitations of health care resources in these countries. The World Health Organization also doesn't support C-sections on demand.

The SOGC believes that each individual woman should receive the best information available on her options for labour and birth. The final decision rests between the woman and her health care provider as to the safest route for the birth of the baby. The SOGC will continue to promote natural childbirth and make a strong representation to have adequate resources available for women in labour and during childbirth in Canada.

Information: Andrée Poirier, Director of Communications and Public Relations
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SOGC
News

The **SOGC News** is produced and published by the SOGC.

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May

2004

The 17th Québec CME Programme

September 23 - 25 at Hotel Fairmont Tremblant
(in collaboration with the AOGQ)

Scientific Programme - The scientific programme is being developed with the specific goal to meet the needs of specialists, family physicians, nurses and midwives who offer healthcare services to women. The topics to be presented are being chosen from members' needs assessments, completed at previous SOGC CME meetings.

Details of the scientific programme will be outlined in the Preliminary Programme which will be sent to you in June. You will also be able to review this information on the SOGC Web site at: www.sogc.org/conferences/quebec/index_e.shtml at that time.

For hotel reservations at the Hotel Fairmont Tremblant, please call 1-800-441-1414. Remember to quote SOGC Group Code: SOGC 4

Rates - Fairmont Room: \$199.00 S/D occupancy / Fairmont Deluxe Room: \$249.00 S/D occupancy

Hotel cut-off date: August 16, 2004

Hotel cancellation policy - Cancellation of individual reservations up to 72 hours prior to arrival is accepted.

Be sure to check your mail in June for the programme and mark your calendars!



ICME 2004 Scores High ...

Chantale Wall, Director, Events Management,
CPD Division

Judging from the smiles and positive comments from the ICME participants, the conference was an enormous success. The delegates brought their families to the tropical paradise of Punta Cana, where they experienced an excellent blend of business and pleasure. A total of 179 "registered" delegates attended the conference. In addition, there were 86 companions and 64 children.

Overall evaluation results for the conference reveal that a high majority of those who attended found it relevant to their work, with many acknowledging the quality of the speakers. For the speakers themselves, the conference provided benefits as well: "It was an excellent opportunity to learn and connect with other individuals inside the health sector."

The Meliá Caribe Tropical "all inclusive", 5-star resort, presented an array of colours to compliment the tropical landscapes that stretched from one end of the resort to the other (124 acres), breathtaking at any glance. The staff worked diligently to provide "Dominican" service to the SOGC people. For delegates who could not speak the local language, the communication with the Meliá staff posed a gentle barrier at the beginning. But fortunately for some of us who are native to the Spanish language, we would assist the delegates and the Meliá staff to better communicate with each other. The resort provided unmatched service of comfort and a functional working environment for our conference. A continual feast of flavors was made possible by the 12 restaurants and 9 bar alternatives including the Dine-Around program.

We can honestly say, "The ICME 2004 in Punta Cana, was truly a meeting in paradise!" With this in mind, I would like to thank the following people for their dedication and participation in the planning and success of this international conference: the ICME Planning Committee, SOGC staff dedicated to ICME, Meliá Caribe Tropical Resort staff, and Carlson Wagonlit-Madison Travel staff.

Please visit our Web site (www.sogc.org) to view the 2004 ICME pictures!

ICME Annual Tennis Tournament

Charmaine Roye and Michael Bow,
Tournament Facilitators

The 2004 ICME at the Meliá Caribe Tropical Resort was a welcome respite to this very long, cold Canadian winter. With the support of Duchesnay (shirts and trophies) and the encouragement of the SOGC, the Annual Tennis Tournament got underway smoothly (no lost luggage, no painting of the tennis courts, no hurricane warnings...)

After getting accustomed to the luxury of ballboys (no ballgirls!), gritty clay courts and the unpredictably windy conditions, the finals of all divisions were played on Thursday, March 4. Some games featured perennial rivals, others showcased new talent. Charmaine Roye from Brantford defeated Edmonton's Kelly Anderson in an evenly matched struggle, with the wind conditions helping to decide the final outcome. ICME newcomer Shalinder Arneja defeated Ahmed Ezzat in the men's finals (Shalinder is an Orthopedic resident encouraged to play by his Winnipeg-based Obs/Gyn mother. We gave his number to our recruiting committee: perhaps he will switch residency programs.....).

Mike Bow and Kelly Anderson successfully defended their Mixed Doubles title, defeating Hamilton's Donna Fedorkow and Edmontonian Simon Bow (Simon's parents demonstrated the tough love concept, and gave no quarter). Kelly Anderson then teamed up with Maritimer Shirlene Young to defeat Toronto's Martha Bridges and Donna Fedorkow in Women's Doubles in front of an interesting cheering section (President's spouse playing Past-President: perhaps Dave will play next year??). In an exciting Men's Doubles final, the Saskatchewan team of Ahmed Ezzat and Phil Clark won over the Edmonton father-son team of Mike and Simon Bow.

A great time was had by all and the trophies were presented on the last day of the conference. We are trying a more social than competitive format next year to try to



get more players on to the courts, so as long as you own a tennis racquet, please bring it along to the 2005 ICME! Many thanks to the players, the organizers, the SOGC and Duchesnay.

60 years! (Continued from page 3)

6 years (1965-1970) and Chairman of the Resolutions Committee in 1969. Dr. Harkins believed that it was the Society's responsibility to determine the role of ob/gyns in the future of health-care. The changing patterns of health-care emphasized the care and prevention of disease rather than solely its cure. When the Federal Government set up the Requirements Committee of Physician Manpower, it felt there were too many doctors in Canada at the time. Dr. Harkins asked the Ad Hoc Committee on Allied Health Personnel to meet with them. The results demonstrated that while there was sufficient manpower, larger numbers of physicians would be needed in the future.

TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL MEETING
Friday June 13 - Sunday June 15, 1969.
Inn on the Park, Toronto, Ontario

Council 1968-1969

President D.Nelson Henderson (Toronto)
President-Elect..... Fred L. Johnson (Hamilton)
Vice-Presidents T.Merv Roulston (Winnipeg)
..... M.J. Bérard (Montreal)
Secretary John L. Harkins (Toronto)
Treasurer J.C. Whyte (Ottawa)
Councillors J. Lorne Macarthur (Montreal)
..... John L.M. Bean (Toronto)
Guest Speaker..... Dr. T.N. Evans (Michigan)

TWENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL MEETING
Friday June 12 - Sunday June 14, 1970.
Jasper Park Lodge, Jasper, Alberta

Council 1969-1970

President Fred L. Johnson (Hamilton)
President-Elect..... K.M. Grant (Halifax)
Vice-Presidents M.J. Bérard (Montreal)
..... D.C. Ritchie (Edmonton)
Secretary John L. Harkins (Toronto)

Treasurer J.C. Whyte (Ottawa)
Councillors John L.M. Bean (Toronto)
..... P.G.R. Harding (London)
Guest Speaker..... Dr. Jack Pritchard (Texas)

TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING
Monday June 14 - Thursday June 17, 1971.
Nova Scotian Hotel, Halifax, Nova Scotia

Council 1970-1971

President Kenneth M. Grant (Halifax)
President-Elect..... Maurice Caouette (Quebec City)
Vice-Presidents D.C. Ritchie (Edmonton)
..... Otto A. Schmidt (Winnipeg)
Secretary John L.M. Bean (Toronto)
Treasurer J.C. Whyte (Ottawa)
Councillors P.G.R. Harding (London)
..... Pierre Audet-Lapointe (Montreal)
Guest Speaker..... Dr. J.G. Moore (Los Angeles)

TWENTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL MEETING
Thursday June 15 - Sunday June 18, 1972.
Château Frontenac, Quebec City, Quebec

Council 1971-1972

President Maurice Caouette (Quebec City)
President-Elect..... T. Merv Roulston (Winnipeg)
Vice-Presidents Otto A. Schmidt (Winnipeg)
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Quebec J. Lorne Macarthur (Montreal)
Maritimes M.G. Tompkins (Halifax)
Guest Speaker..... Dr. René Musset (France)

TWENTY-NINTH ANNUAL MEETING
Thursday June 14 - Sunday June 17, 1973.
Bayshore Inn, Vancouver, British Columbia

Council 1972-1973

President T. Merv Roulston (Winnipeg)

President-Elect..... John L. Harkins (Toronto)
Vice-Presidents S.C. Robinson (Halifax)
..... Lise Fortier (Montreal)
Secretary John L.M. Bean (Toronto)
Treasurer W.H. Allemang (Toronto)
Regional Chairmen:
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Ontario..... Walter Jones Hannah (Toronto)
Quebec R. Groulx (Montreal)
Maritimes G.H. Flight (St. Johns)
Guest Speaker..... Mr. Ian Donald (Scotland)

THIRTIETH ANNUAL MEETING

Thursday June 20 - Sunday June 23, 1974.
Manoir Richelieu, Murray Bay (Malbaie), Quebec

Council 1973-1974

President John L. Harkins (Toronto)
President-Elect..... D.C. Ritchie (Edmonton)
Vice-Presidents Lise Fortier (Montreal)
..... H.H. Allen (London)
Secretary John L.M. Bean (Toronto)
Treasurer W.H. Allemang (Toronto)
Councillors V.D. McLaughlin (Moncton)
..... G.A. Cram (Chilliwack)
Regional Chairmen:
West C.R. Bradford (Winnipeg)
Ontario..... M.L. Robinson (London)
Quebec Pierre Audet-Lapointe (Montreal)
Maritimes G.H. Flight (St. Johns)
Guest Speaker..... Dr. Keith P. Russell (Los Angeles)

References:

- *SOGC: The First Fifty Years, 1944-1994*, Harry Oxorn, MD FRCS (C), The Parthenon Publishing Group, New York, 1994.
- *SOGC Minutes Vol 4*, January 21, 1968 to Mid-Winter 1971.
- *SOGC Minutes Vol 5*, Annual Council and Business Meeting June 1971 to Annual Council and Business Meeting 1972.
- *SOGC Minutes Vol 6*, Mid-Winter Council 1973 to Mid-Winter Council 1975.

ALARM International

(Continued from page 1)

presented in Indonesia and the Philippines in September, 2003. These were the 27th and 28th Programmes offered around the world since the introduction of ALARM International in 1999.

The three Indian faculty members had attended the June, 2003 Annual Clinical Meeting of the SOGC where they were introduced to the Canadian ALARM Programme. The Scandinavian members were observers to the Programme to determine if there could be a future collaboration between the Nordic Society of ob/gyn and SOGC.

The faculty met as a group the day before the first programme in Pune to get to know each other and to clarify roles and responsibilities. Dr. Pauls (SOGC) and Dr. Gupte (FOGSI) were the co-chairs. It became apparent that the group was adapting quickly to the local situa-

tion and to each other. As the 29 participants in the first programme and the 31 participants at Lucknow indicated in their evaluations, the faculty and the programme were much appreciated, especially the workshops and the time spent in discussion. One even indicated that the best part of the programme was the OSCE exam. The participants used mnemonics from the programme to describe the faculty: four C's: confident, cordial, comprehensive and co-operative. They did the same when asked about the programme by using three E's: effective, educative and excellent.

For the faculty, this was a unique opportunity to be part of the worldwide efforts to reduce maternal mortality and morbidity. We are awaiting the response of the Indian Ob/gyn Federation as to the next steps to bring this tool to areas where there is a high rate of maternal deaths and severe morbidity. The SOGC has committed itself to ongoing involvement.

New Format (From page 1)

The English and French versions of the May 2004 issue of SOGC News were printed separately, with members receiving their issue in their preferred language, according to our records. This new method is not only more cost-effective, but also environmentally friendly. Not to worry, however, the News still contains all your favourite columns, from CPD initiatives to Junior Member news, From the EVP's Desk, etc.

We want to know what you think of the new format: Do you like it? Did you receive it in your preferred language or do we need to modify our records? Do you prefer receiving a French/English tumble format, as in the past? Thanks in advance for your feedback. It will help us determine whether we keep this new format or return to the old one. Please forward your comments to lbray-levac@sogc.com.

14th West Central CME Programme - An Extraordinary Meeting!

Linda Kollesh, CME Program Officer, CPD

Back by popular demand, the 14th West Central CME Programme was held once again at the Rimrock Resort Hotel in Banff, Alberta from April 1-3, 2004. The cooperation of beautiful spring weather, excellent presenters, well-planned scientific programme, networking opportunities for both delegates and sponsors, all contributed to a successful conference. Winners of the Exhibit Passport System were: 1st place, Wendy Goodman, Flin Flon, MB; 2nd place, Ruth Abrahams, Langley, BC. Congratulations!

This year, the meeting was held in early April, rather than the customary month of February. This proved to be an ideal month to hold the CME, with not only the weather contributing to enjoyable and relaxing skiing, but the record-breaking total of 234 participants were

pampered with the breathtaking views of the mountains and Banff scenery.

The SOGC extends its appreciation to the Western & Central Regional Committee members, faculty members, sponsors and participants for their continued support of the CME programmes.

We invite you to join us next year for the 15th West Central CME to be held in Banff (date TBC). We have received suggestions from this year's participants for exciting and relevant new topics, which we plan to implement for the 2005 West Central CME. This will be your opportunity to continue to exercise your mind and tantalize all your senses in an outstanding Western location!

Please continue to visit our Web site (www.sogc.org) for updates of new CME events!

SOGC Book Collection

Dr. Bob Kinch

Dr. Yves Lefebvre, Chairman, History and Archives Committee of SOGC, is working on increasing our collection of historical books by Canadian authors on obstetrical and gynaecologic subjects. Books can be sent to the attention of Ms. Sylvie Séguin, Coordinator, History and Archives Committee, SOGC, 780 Echo Drive, Ottawa, Ontario, K1S 5R7.

The Canadian Foundation for Women's Health may be able to offer an income tax receipt for donations of valuable, antique books, the value of which will have to be independently assessed.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this initiative.

American Medical Directory

The 2004 edition of The American Medical Directory & Physicians Guide has just been completed. During this introductory offer, the cost of the new directory (available exclusively on CD-Rom) is \$375.00 (reg. \$795). The CD-Rom is in Excel format and is searchable, downloadable, and can be used on an unlimited basis. For more info or to order your copy, call 905-751-0919.

Canadian Medical Foundation

Created by the Canadian Medical Association (CMA), the Foundation is a physician-led national charity committed to supporting the health of the medical community and of all Canadians. At this time, it is focusing on four targeted initiatives:

- **The Medical Education Program** provides scholarships, bursaries and leadership opportunities to nurture excellence in Canada's next generation of physicians.
- **The Physician Health and Well-being**

Program helps fund crucial resource materials and initiatives in support of fellow practitioners.

- **The Medical Outreach Program** provides professional physician-volunteer resources for communities in need in Canada and around the world.
- **The Builders of Medical Excellence Fund** provides physicians and their families the opportunity to create customized health care legacies.

2004 Canadian Symposium on Prenatal Screening - June 4, Delta Chelsea Hotel; Info: 416-586-4800 x2489; E-mail: egan@mtsinai.on.ca; Website: www.mtsinai.on.ca/seminars/ce

Biomarkers and Preterm Delivery June 5, Hotel Comwell, Middelfart, Denmark; Registration: www.ptdmeeting.org; E-mail: jm@soci.au.dk

The 11-14 Week Scan Course - June 5, The Hospital for Sick Children - Main Auditorium; Info: 416-586-4800 x2489; E-mail: egan@mtsinai.on.ca; Website: www.mtsinai.on.ca/seminars/ce

Nordic Federation of Societies of Obstetrics and Gynecology - XXXIV Congress - Helsinki, Finland - June 12-15; Info: www.nfog2004.com Congress office: Tel.: + 358 9 5840 9344; Fax: + 358 9 5840 9555; E-mail: nfog2004@congreszon.fi

30th British Congress of Ob-Gyn - July 7-9, Glasgow, UK; Tel: +44 (0) 141 331 0123; Fax: +44 (0) 141 331 0234; E-mail: info@bcog2004.co.uk; Web Site: www.bcog2004.co.uk

5th Meeting of the European Society for Chlamydia Research - September 1-5, Budapest, Hungary; Tel. / Fax: +36 62 545959; E-mail: cong@mlab.szote.u-szeged.hu

XIX European Congress of Perinatal Medicine, Athens, Greece, Athens Hilton Hotel, 14-16 October; Tel. (+) 30 210 68 89 100; Fax (+) 30 210 68 44 777; E-mail: perinatal2004@cnc.gr; Web site: www.cnc.gr

FIGO-IFFS Joint Conference on Recent Progress in Reproductive Medicine - November 5-6, Barcelona, Spain; Registration: www.eventsintl.com/figo-iffs2004; Info: (514) 286-0855; E-mail: info@eventsintl.com

Canadian Fertility and Andrology Society 50th Anniversary Annual Meeting - Fairmont Jasper Park Lodge, Jasper, Alberta, November 24-27; Info: 514-524-9009; Fax: 514-524-2163; E-mail: info@cfas.ca; Web site: www.cfas.ca

These programs give Canada's physician community an immediate opportunity to help where it is needed most. The Foundation welcomes your donations, which will allow it to further this important work.

For more information, visit www.medicalfoundation.ca or call 1-800-663-7336, ext. 2291.

Junior Member News

The Junior Member News section of SOGC News is funded by a grant from Wyeth Pharmaceuticals

University of Ottawa Update

Roxana Geoffrion

Greetings from Ottawa, where interest in our residency program continues to rise. After a careful selection process, which only emphasized the excellence of the candidates, we recruited three new residents through the Canadian match as well as two residents from Saudi Arabia and one international medical graduate. We will therefore have a record number of PGY1's in July. We are also welcoming Dr. Dragana Matanovic, an Ob/Gyn trained in Eastern Europe, among our PGY-3's. No lack of bodies for the call schedule... actually, this is perfect timing, since two of our residents will be away on maternity leave during summer! Congratulations to Yaa and Roxana who thoughtfully conceived a boy and a girl (respectively) to balance out the world population. Congratulations also to Dr. Khalid Khadawardi, whose wife recently delivered a wonderful baby boy holding a Mirena IUD... and to Dr. Yasir Katib and his wife for their precious little one after a rocky pregnancy!

Continuing on a social note, many of us appreciated the annual curling event hosted by Dr. Kevin Baker at the Ottawa Curling Club. There were no concussions among the participants, however Dr. Glenn Posner's pride was seriously injured since he was on the losing team. Better luck next time! Some of us also delighted in the Fashion Show, a new fundraiser for the eagerly anticipated Women's Health Center, which is scheduled to open at the Riverside Campus later this year. The mega center, Dr. Elaine

Jolly's vision, will bring menopause clinics, colposcopy, urogynecology and many benign elective surgeries under one roof.

Dr. Michael Fung Kee Fung is acting chair of the Ottawa Ob/Gyn Department in Dr. Carl Nimrod's absence. Dr. Nimrod is receiving treatments for an aggressive disease, which has been undermining his exceptional energy and enthusiasm for his profession. We miss you Dr. Nimrod and hope you can return soon!

The Gynecology Oncology service is as busy as ever, with the two new staff oncologists who replaced Dr. Wylam Faught. Not only are Drs. Hopkins and Le excellent surgeons and teachers, but they are also generously donating their time and experience as clinical epidemiologists to help us with our residency research projects. Together with Drs. Eason and Walker, they have organized a new and extremely useful statistics and research course for us. Tireless Dr. Le is also hosting a new monthly journal club for Gynecology, yet another opportunity to teach us those critical appraisal skills...

Best wishes to our PGY-5's who are juggling with the unknown in the next year of their careers as well as with the mounting anxiety caused by the upcoming Royal College exams. Jessica, Nathalie, Glenn and Khalid, you have all delivered stellar performances over your five years... no reason to doubt of your competence now!

You are all invited to the annual Ottawa Tulip Festival, which may be delayed this year because of arctic temperatures and small frequent April snowstorms. All the best!

University of Calgary Update

Andrew Li, PGY

It has been a very exciting year for the Calgary residency program. First off, we would like to extend our warmest welcome to the newest members of the Calgary family: Michelle Suri, Simrit Brar, Sam Miremadi, Nicolas Half, and Sarah Glaze will be our new residents this upcoming year. In addition, Laurie Ross will be joining the R2's after recently switching into our program from Family Medicine. Congratulations and welcome to Calgary!

Our program has prospered over the last few years, and has resulted in progressive growth from three positions to the current five CARMS positions that we now enjoy. Part of the success of the program has been a proactive approach to getting medical students interested in the specialty. We held our annual pool nite 'meet the residents' at The Garage in downtown Calgary. This event has always been well attended and received, and this year was no different.

We also have to give credit to our wonderful staff which will be expanding by three next year. Aisling Mahalingham and Sue Baranowski who will be U of C graduates, will be joining the Foothills Obstetrical Group; while earlier in the year, Viviana Cheng from McMaster started working at the Rockview Hospital.

Some other exciting developments over the past year include a new Maternal-Fetal Medicine fellowship position, in addition to our current Urogynecology and Gyne Oncology fellowships. There is also a proposed move of the entire Obstetrical and Gynecology department at the Foothills Medical Centre to the new Children's hospital that will be completed in 2008. The evolution of this transition will be difficult but hopefully beneficial to the residency program. We would also like to congratulate two of our third year residents, Pauline Ekwalinga and Stephanie Cooper on receiving 1st and 2nd

60th Anniversary Gala Evening

Junior Members are invited to attend the annual fundraising dinner to benefit women's health research supported by the Canadian Foundation for Women's Health. This year, the Gala Evening, *For Women as Precious as Diamonds*, is hosted by SOGC to commemorate its 60th Anniversary. A special ticket price of \$62.50 is offered to all Junior Members. Register soon as seats are limited!

APOG Launches New Educational CD Initiative

Bianca Nadeau

APOG, supported by an unrestricted educational grant from Wyeth Canada, will be launching a new educational initiative for Canadian residents in Ob/Gyn. Series editor Dr. Robert Reid, Professor Ob/Gyn and Head Division of Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility at Queen's University, describes the project as a series of CDs [2 per year] containing Quiz "pattern recognition" pictures similar to those presented on the Royal College final examination for Ob/Gyn. Each picture is accompanied by a question that tests recognition and comprehension of the subject matter and is followed by an answer slide that answers and explains the quiz picture.

Clinicians with extensive collections of intriguing slides showing some common and some unusual findings as well as pictures of rare complications have been invited to prepare CDs for this project. The first CD, authored by Dr. Reid, will be distributed to Ob/Gyn residents in May 2004 with the next CD by Dr. Greg Davies, Head of Maternal Fetal Medicine at Queen's, due to appear in the fall of 2004.

place prize for the 7th Annual Organon writing contest. Lastly, Don Wilson (R3) is currently completing an elective in Haiti. We wish him well and look forward to hearing about his experiences there.

This marks the first year our resident retreat will be held in Calgary. Traditionally, our retreats are held in the Banff area. By holding the retreat in town, we hope to improve staff attendance and concurrently save money that can benefit the residents. Our retreats are dedicated to residency issues during the day and entertainment at night. During our last retreat, we hired a hypnotist who was more than convincing. We also had a successful golf day at the Valley Ridge Country Club, and ski day at Sunshine Village Ski Resort earlier this year.

Hopefully next year will be equally successful and memorable. We look forward to another exciting year.



Please Leave a Living Legacy

You can make a difference in the lives of those who follow by leaving a gift in your will to the Canadian Foundation for Women's Health.

Support women's health research today

Every day, the Canadian Foundation for Women's Health strives to improve the lives of women through medical research. Financial assistance is essential to support this work. By making even a small gift in your will or through life insurance, the Foundation can continue to fund necessary research in Canada. And there are tax benefits to these gifts.

With the financial support of charitably-minded individuals, the Canadian Foundation for Women's Health supports all areas of women's health, including ovarian cancer, meno-

pause, maternal-fetal medicine, and women's overall well-being. With your support more important research projects can be funded.

Leave a gift that will last for eternity

A gift is also a wonderful way to recognize someone who has made a difference in your life. This kind of memorial gift can be arranged. You just need to make it clear that the gift is given in memory of a particular person.

Leaving a legacy provides a unique opportunity for you to support the Canadian Foundation for Women's Health. Your donation will support research that will provide a cornerstone for the discovery of treatments that may prevent deadly illnesses from affecting someone close to us. Please contribute today and know that

your gift will be gratefully received and specially acknowledged.

Can we count on your support?

Together we can improve women's health so that fewer women in Canada suffer life-threatening or debilitating illnesses.

For further information please consult your professional advisor or lawyer and speak with him or her about making a gift, or contact the Canadian Foundation for Women's Health.

Canadian Foundation for Women's Health - Supporting research for the health of all women

780 Echo Drive, Ottawa, Ontario K1S 5R7
Telephone: (613) 989-3121 ext. 238 or
1-800-561-2416

The Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada's 60th Anniversary Gala Evening For Women as Precious as Diamonds

The Canadian Foundation for Women's Health is honoured to be this year's beneficiary of the Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada's 60th Anniversary Gala Evening.

The night will be one to remember as music fills the air and we commence the evening with cocktails and hors d'oeuvres. A scrumptious meal will follow and musicians will play as we celebrate the night away.

Purchase your tickets today through your ACM registration form, the SOGC Website, or by calling Joanne Brown at 1-800-561-2416, extension 225. For more information on the event or on the Canadian Foundation for Women's Health, contact Robyn or Karen at extension 238.

Please help support women's health research and join us as we applaud the achievements of the Society and honour 60 years of excellence.

Saturday, June 26, 2004

- 18:30 to 23:00 hours
- The Westin Hotel
- Tickets: \$125 per person and \$62.50 for Junior Members - purchased in advance.
- A tax receipt for a portion of the ticket price will be issued.
- Dress is business casual.