



# SOGC News

The Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada

April 2003

## Specialty Care in Canada

André B. Lalonde, SOGC Executive Vice-President

### Federal Provincial Budget of Health

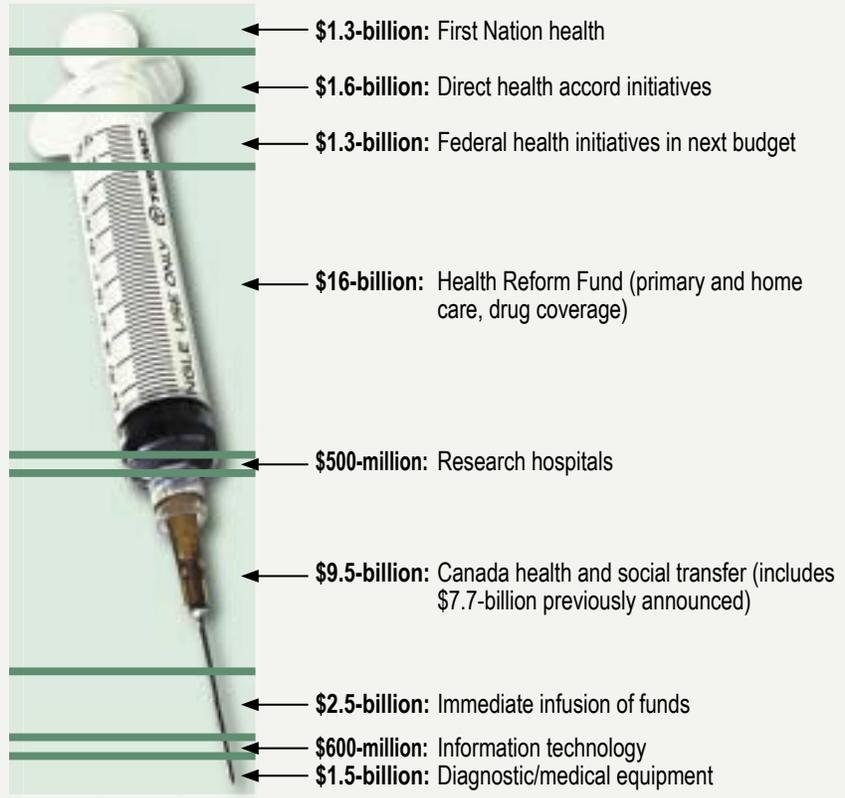
The image opposite illustrates the breakdown of the new funds allocated to the provinces for the next few years in terms of health spending. As you are aware, the SOGC and other specialty organizations are extremely concerned that specialty care has not been included in the budget preparation and/or Federal Provincial spending priorities. We are concerned that the provincial governments are putting all their efforts in the primary care reform.

### Primary Care Reform

This is an opportunity for the SOGC to work with its colleagues in family medicine, nursing and midwifery to promote integrated practice, which would bring together the professions in trying to offer a new model of ante-natal labour and delivery care in Canada. With the decreased number of deliveries done by family physicians, we need to look at health human re-

### Shot in the arm

A breakdown of how \$34.8-billion in federal funds will be spent over the next five years.



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sources issues as well as scope of practice if we are not to overwhelm obstetricians, which are primarily responsible not only for all obstetrical emergencies but also for a large number of normal deliveries. The SOGC would like to know your opinion and your experience with a collaborative practice i.e. nurse-midwives, nurse practitioners, midwives, physicians, etc. In the next few months, we will be preparing a number of projects and we will consult obstetricians, family physicians, nurses and midwives in order to put forward some innovative programmes.

The SOGC would like to encourage all of you to express to your member of parliament your concerns about the fact that specialty has not received adequate consideration in the planning for the future of health care in Canada. Both the Kirby and Romanow Commissions showed no interest in evaluating specialty care needs in Canada.

Without the collaboration of specialty care physicians in Canada, the solution for our current health care crisis will be ineffective and inefficient. ♡

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

<b>President</b>	<b>Dr. Donna Fedorkow</b> McMaster University Hospital Hamilton, ON
<b>Past President</b>	<b>Dr. Jan Christilaw</b> Peace Arch Hospital White Rock, BC
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	<b>Dr. Vita Senikas</b> Royal Victoria Hospital Montreal, QC

## REGIONAL CHAIRS, ALTERNATE CHAIRS AND OTHER REPRESENTATIVES

<b>Western Region</b>	<b>Dr. Michael Bow</b> Grey Nuns Hospital Edmonton, AB
	<b>Dr. Nicole Racette</b> Royal Columbian Hospital New Westminster, BC
<b>Central Region</b>	<b>Dr. Ahmed Ezzat</b> Royal University Hospital Saskatoon, SK
	<b>Dr. Mark Heywood</b> St-Boniface General Hospital Winnipeg, MB
<b>Ontario Region</b>	<b>Dr. Guylaine Lefebvre</b> St. Michael's Hospital Toronto, ON
	<b>Dr. Catherine MacKinnon</b> Brantford General Hospital Brantford, ON
<b>Quebec Region</b>	<b>Dr. Claude Fortin</b> Pavillon LaSalle LaSalle, QC
	<b>Dr. Gerald Stanimir</b> Royal Victoria Hospital Montreal, QC
<b>Atlantic Region</b>	<b>Dr. Shelagh Connors</b> Queen Elizabeth Hospital Charlottetown, PEI
	<b>Dr. Scott Farrell</b> IWK Grace Health Centre Halifax, NS
<b>Public Representative</b>	<b>Ms. Jane E. Caskey</b> Toronto, ON
<b>Junior Member Representative</b>	<b>Dr. Jean Pierre Gennaoui</b> Université Laval Quebec, QC
<b>Associate MD Representative</b>	<b>Dr. Carolyn Lane</b> Foothills Hospital Calgary, AB
<b>Associate RN Representative</b>	<b>Dr. Maureen Heaman, PhD</b> University of Manitoba Winnipeg, MB
<b>Associate RM Representative</b>	<b>Ms. Eileen Hutton, RM</b> University of Toronto Toronto, ON
<b>APOG Representative</b>	<b>Dr. Carl Nimrod</b> University of Ottawa Ottawa, ON
<b>Corresponding Member</b>	<b>Senator Lucie Pépin</b> Senate of Canada Ottawa, ON

# 2003 First Ministers Accord

## CMA's Response

The CMA's assessment of the First Ministers Accord on Health Care Renewal is based on the CMA's five-point checklist, issued in November at the beginning of its 100-Day Challenge to governments:

- Putting patients first
- Improving Workforce and Infrastructure
- Ensuring Accountability and Transparency
- Advancing Public Health
- Ensuring Sustainable Funding

The CMA is disappointed that the Accord does not:

- Adequately address the dire shortage of health care providers – the number one crisis plaguing the system. For example, three million Canadians do not have access to a family doctor. The First Ministers Accord on Health Care Renewal does not do enough to fix the HHR issue. As a result, one of the main problems causing long waiting times remains untreated.
- Mention care guarantees. This means that Canadians still do not have access

to alternative care options when the system fails to deliver timely care.

- Fully Shore the Core. As a result, patients will continue to have trouble with timely access to core services.

## Bottom-line

Does the Accord improve patients' access to the system and quality of care? Yes. Does the Accord ensure short- and long-term sustainability? No. Why? Because the Accord fails to adequately address the HHR shortage and short- and long-term funding requirements for core services.

The physicians of Canada will continue to do their part to ensure that Canadians have an accessible, sustainable and accountable health system. Canada's physicians will also continue to demand that we be built into the decision-making process.

For the complete text of this response or for more information, visit the CMA Website at [www.cma.ca](http://www.cma.ca).

**THE TIME TO ACT IS NOW!**

**XVII FIGO World Congress**  
Santiago, Chile  
November 2-7, 2003

Register on-line now at [www.FIGO2003.com](http://www.FIGO2003.com)

or contact us at [efigo@eventsintl.com](mailto:efigo@eventsintl.com) to request an electronic registration form and an electronic copy of the full 2nd Announcement with details on the Detailed Scientific Program

Electronic Registration  
 Mail Registration  
 Delete

## SOGC News

The **SOGC News** is produced and published by the SOGC. This issue is brought to you by the **Contraception Awareness Project**.

The **SOGC News** is published on a monthly basis. Comments and contributions are welcome and should be forwarded to:

**SOGC News**  
780 Echo Dr., Ottawa, ON K1S 5R7  
Tel: (613) 730-4192 or 1-800-561-2416  
Fax: (613) 730-4314  
E-mail: [lbray-levac@sogc.com](mailto:lbray-levac@sogc.com)

## Dr. Ralph Cooke Honoured

Sara Fryer, IWH Programme Assistant

Dr. W.A. Ralph Cooke, a retired obstetrician and gynaecologist, was awarded the Jubilee Medal for his contribution to women's health. After practicing in Montreal for 36 years, Dr. Cooke spent part of 1999 and 2000 in Kiboga district, Uganda as a volunteer for the SOGC's Uganda-Canada Project, sponsored by FIGO's Save the Mothers Project. Dr. Cooke also worked in Yemen teaching surgery and spent nearly four years working with McGill University's Northern Module. He was flown into Kuujuaq on Ugava Bay and Povungnituk on Hudson's Bay in order to perform gynaecological exams, colposcopy, cervical cancer screening, and to ensure women received quality prenatal and antenatal care. He is currently



doing similar work in Happy Valley - Goose Bay, Labrador.

Through all of these experiences, Dr. Cooke most appreciated the cultural exchange that his volunteer work facilitated. For his contributions to women's health, the Royal Commonwealth Society nominated Dr. Cooke for the Jubilee Medal, which he received on January 29, 2003 with his wife June and daughter Barbara in attendance. 🐾

### Congratulations Dr. Cooke!



## ICME 2003

André B. Lalonde, SOGC Executive Vice-President and Denise Desautels, Coordinator, Junior Members and Special Projects

The 2003 ICME was held in beautiful sunny Tobago and was a resounding success. Approximately 120 SOGC members and their families attended the conference as well as several representatives from the pharmaceutical industry.

The conference flowed very smoothly, even though half the SOGC Staff feel ill. The plenary sessions and breakouts were very well attended and featured interesting presentations and workshops. The luncheon symposia on Monday and Tuesday generated considerable discussion on the topics presented.

Many SOGC members and their families participated in the organized activities after the scientific sessions.

The SOGC Council met in Tobago, as did several committees of the Society. The Nomination committee reviewed nominations received for the Executive, and Council approved committee nominations and renewals. The Council agenda was full and the meeting was very productive. In addition, new policies on conflict of interest, diversity, gender equity and volunteers were passed. A record number of guidelines and policy statements were approved; they will be printed in

the next few months in the JOGC Journal. Among them: tension-free vaginal tape for stress incontinence, guidelines for the evaluation of stress incontinence, exercise in pregnancy, an update of our policies on the role of obstetricians/gynaecologists in Canada and the use of Mifepristone in gynaecology.

- **Midwifery:** The SOGC has updated its policy statement on midwifery and the Society believes that our professions can work together to improve women's health in Canada.
- **Collaborative Practice:** The SOGC is presently investigating collaborative practices in obstetrics and has made a presentation to Task Force II on human resources in obstetrics and gynaecology. The SOGC's Executive discussed the issue during the ICME and presented the outline to Council. A paper will be prepared and included in a future issue of SOGC News.
- **Budget:** The Executive Committee and Council approved the 2003 budget outline, which calls for a budget close to 9 million dollars, plus a 3 million dollar budget for the Contraception Awareness Project.
- **National Office Subspecialty Support:** The SOGC is pleased to announce that it has agreed to provide office and secretarial support to APOG, GOC, SCC and CSURPS. A staff person will be devoted to work exclusively for these subspecialties and affiliated organizations. Cost sharing will be developed.

Dr. Vita Senikas was introduced as the new Associate Executive Vice-President. She

### Osteoporosis Society of Canada Symposium: Integrating Clinical Guidelines into Your Practice

Sharon Centre Hotel/Institut Michner  
Toronto, ON - May 2-4  
Info: 1-800-977-1778  
E-mail: ehunter@osteoporosis.ca  
Web site: www.osteoporosis.ca

### Canadian State of the Art Conference on Von Willebrand

Sharon Centre Hotel  
Montreal, QC - May 8-9  
Info: 1-800-668-2686  
E-mail: chs@hemophilia.ca  
Web site: www.hemophilia.ca

### 1st European Endoscopic Surgery Week

Scottish Exhibition and Conference  
Centre, Glasgow, Scotland, U.K.  
June 16-18  
Info: 44 (0) 1794 511331/2  
E-mail: icms@indexcommunication.com  
Web site: www.eesw.com

### Fetal & Neonatal Physiological Society 30th Annual Meeting

Banff Conference Centre  
Banff, AB - July 4-8  
Info: (519) 646-6106  
Fax: (519) 646-6213  
E-mail: bricharl@uwo.ca  
Web site: www.lhronhealth.ca/fnps03

### FIGO World Congress

Santiago, Chili - November 2-7  
Info: Secretariat c/o Events International Meeting Planners  
759 Victoria Square - Suite 300  
Montreal, QC, Canada, H2Y 2J7  
Tel: (514) 286-0855  
Fax: (514) 286-6066  
E-mail: figo2003@eventsintl.com

### Canadian Fertility and Andrology Society 49th Annual Meeting

Fairmont Empress Hotel  
Victoria, BC - November 25-28  
Info: (514) 524-9009  
Fax: (514) 524-2163  
E-mail: info@cfas.ca  
Web site: www.cfas.ca

assumes her new position on June 1st at the National Office. We are already receiving calls on our ICME 2004 which will take place in Punta Cana in the Dominican Republic. Visit our Website for pictures of ICME 2003. 🐾

## Charlottetown, here we come!

The Annual Clinical Meeting (ACM) will be held in the scenic city of Charlottetown on June 25-30, 2003. To bring this meeting to its amazing destination, we are faced with some challenges. One in particular is limited space. Therefore, we strongly recommend that you make your reservations now to avoid any frustrations or disappointments.



### Have you booked your hotel room in Charlottetown?

If not, please reserve your hotel rooms (still available at time of print) either at the Quality Inn on the Hill or Holiday Inn Express Hotel and Suites. Please find below the hotel contact information and SOGC room rates.

#### **Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites** 200 Trans Canada Highway (5-10 minutes by car from the Delta Prince Edward)

- Standard room:  
\$119 single/double occupancy
- Express suites:  
\$139 single/double occupancy
- Reservations: (902) 892-1201

#### **Quality Inn on the Hill**

150 Euston Street (10-15 minute walk from the Delta Prince Edward)

- Standard room (double beds):  
\$99 single/double occupancy
- Reservations: 1-800-466-4734 or (902) 894-8572

#### **Other resource available:**

- PEI Tourism Bureau
- Telephone: 1-888-PEI-PLAY (734-7529)
- Website: [www.gov.pe.ca](http://www.gov.pe.ca)



### Have you booked your flight?

Charlottetown has limited flights in comparison with other cities. We strongly recommend that you book your flight to ensure good rates, availability and accessibility.

#### **New Official Travel Supplier for SOGC Carlson Wagonlit Travel / Madison Travel**

- 130 Albert Street, Suite 714  
Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5G4
- Tel: 1-800-465-4040 or (613) 238-4040
- Fax: (613) 238-4747

#### **Contacts:**

- Office Manager: Helen Janes, ext. 230
- Travel Agent: Tanya Dugal, ext. 236 or E-mail: [tdugal@carlsonwagonlit.ca](mailto:tdugal@carlsonwagonlit.ca) (Bilingual)
- Travel Agent: Joy Pacada, ext. 229 or E-mail: [jpacada@carlsonwagonlit.ca](mailto:jpacada@carlsonwagonlit.ca)

#### **Air Canada**

- SOGC Convention number: CV104705
- Telephone: 1-800-361-7585
- Website: [www.aircanada.ca](http://www.aircanada.ca)



### Do you need a car?

#### **AVIS Rent-a-Car**

- SOGC Convention number: C053999
- Telephone: 1-800-331-1600
- Website: [www.avis.com](http://www.avis.com)



### Sooner is always better...

Any questions or do you need more information? Visit [www.sogc.org](http://www.sogc.org) or contact the SOGC National Office, if you have not yet received your ACM Preliminary Programme:

- 780 Echo Drive, Ottawa, ON K1S 5R7  
Tel: (613) 730-4192 or 1-800-561-2416  
Fax: (613) 730-4314

## Educational Credits in a great location – PEI Paradise!!!

**Membership attendance at SOGC meetings increases while members continue to maintain their credits under the RCPSC Maintenance of Certification Programme.**

**SOGC's 59<sup>th</sup> Annual Clinical Meeting (ACM) in Charlottetown, PEI** is fast approaching. The dates of June 25-30, 2003 are just around the corner. Plan to attend as a registered participant and you may claim 1 credit per hour under "Section 1" of the Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Options in the Royal College Maintenance of Certification (MOC) Programme for all individual sessions attended (accredited sessions only) – **for a total of up to 35 hours!**

**(Please note some programmes have yet to be accredited and an additional 4 hours may be available.)**

As well, if you have participated as Faculty in any one of the sessions, you may claim additional credits, under "Section 6" of the Royal College MOC Programme, which allows 1 credit per hour of preparation time for the session.

Interested in other ways to maintain your credits? Please read on:

- If you attend a Best Practice Course designated by The Royal College you may claim 2 credits per hour of attendance under "Section 4" of the CPD Options in The Royal College MOC Programme.
- If you participate in an Accredited Provider Self-Assessment Program in association with these educational events, you may claim 2 credits per hour under "Section 3" of the Royal College MOC Programme.
- If by attending any CPD Programmes, you pursue the development of a per-

sonal learning project, you may claim additional credits under "Section 4" of the CPD Options in The Royal College MOC Programme.

- If you attend, in association with planned educational events, formal committee meetings of the Society, which are focused on the development of standards of care, health care policy, and development of educational material, you may claim 1 additional credit per hour as per "Section 6" of the CPD Options in The Royal College MOC Programme.
- SOGC continues to offer a great ACM programme with opportunities for you to network with colleagues, view some of Canada's leading clinical research on Abstract Day and participate in the Social and Leisure Programme. Most of all, this is your chance to enjoy the paradise location of Charlottetown in the summer month of June. So don't miss the boat! Register now!

Visit the SOGC Website for further information: [www.sogc.org/cpd/index\\_e.shtml](http://www.sogc.org/cpd/index_e.shtml)

ACM 2003

ACM 2003

ACM 2003

Sunday, June 29, 2003 from 13:30 - 16:00

## SIOGC/SOGC Sub-Specialty Workshop

### Professionalism & The Appropriate Use Of Research Findings In My Clinical Practice: Challenges & Solutions?

Workshop Organizers:

Dr. Helen McNamara &amp; Dr. Ken Milne

As professionals, we are required to continually evaluate, modify and justify our clinical practice, in the light of new information. This new information usually comes from well-designed research studies in our specific areas of expertise. Our specialty is comprised of two intertwined and overlapping groups: those who perform research, and those who use research findings to improve clinical practice. However, without the "use" of research findings, what would be the value of "performing" research? **This issue is important because it clearly demonstrates the critical importance of the users of research and the use of research, specifically the "appropriate" use of research.**

If all research studies were performed well, the use of research findings would be relatively easy. As we know, this is not the case, and the ability to distinguish the well-designed relevant study, from the flawed and "unusable" study is a crucial component of the professional's tool-kit. This becomes a basic requirement in terms of assessing the quality of new information, and the appropriate modification of patient care based on such new information. **This issue is important in determining patient care whether consulting with a patient with an "armful" of studies from the internet, (a small fraction of which may be valid!), or consulting with colleagues from industry in comparing similar studies involving similar therapeutic options in order to make appropriate clinical decisions.**

It is important to note that the users of research findings use such new information in conjunction with their own expertise and

volume of clinical experience, such that the professional has the capacity to justifiably tailor the use of research findings in application to different patient situations. **This issue is important in terms of the design of clinical practice guidelines, the use of such guidelines and risk assessment/medico-legal concerns.**

This workshop will bring together the "performers" and "users" of research in a unique interactive forum to achieve the following objectives:

1. Development of a basic "tool-kit" to facilitate the appropriate "use" of research findings by the users, in all aspects of their clinical practice.
2. Development of needs assessment and long-term plan for Continuing Medical Education in this area, with a view to evaluation of its impact on clinical practice outcomes, within our specialty.

Dr. William Fraser, Chair of SIOGC Committee, will moderate the workshop and there will be four sessions including:

- **Session 1:** Framing the Issues in Research Translation: Myths and Realities? - Dr. Helen McNamara
- **Session 2:** Professionalism & Practice Guidelines: Past, Present and Future? - Dr. Ken Milne
- **Session 3:** Randomized Controlled Clinical Trials: Why do we need them? - Dr. Mary Hannah
- **Session 4:** Interactive Session: Development of Basic Tool-Kit For Research Consumers: What Do We Really Need To Know? - Panel: Dr. McNamara, Dr. Milne and Dr. Hannah

To register for this workshop, check SS7 on the ACM registration form, available at [www.sogc.org](http://www.sogc.org). As a performer and/or user of research findings in clinical practice, be sure to come with your questions, issues, case scenarios, suggestions! 

## 2003 PROGRAMMES

### 59<sup>th</sup> Annual Clinical Meeting

Charlottetown, PEI - June 25-30

### 16<sup>th</sup> Quebec CME (offered in French)

Fairmont Manoir Richelieu  
Pointe-au-Pic, QC - September 25-27

### 22<sup>th</sup> Ontario CME

Marriott Eaton Centre  
Toronto, ON - December 4-6

## COURSES

### SCOPE - 2003

**Toronto, ON** - April 25-26  
Mount Sinai Hospital  
Surgical Skills Centre

**Vancouver, BC** - October 24-25  
University of BC, Centre of  
Excellence for Surgical Education

**Toronto, ON** - November 14-15  
Mount Sinai Hospital  
Surgical Skills Centre

### ALARM - 2003

**Montreal, QC** (offered in French)  
April 26-27

**Instructor's Course**  
**Montreal, QC** (TBC)  
April 28 (by special invitation)

**Hamilton, ON** - May 9-10

**Grande Prairie, AB** - May 30-31

**Charlottetown, PEI** - June 23-24

**Woodstock, NB** - September 12-13

**Ottawa, ON** - October 24-25

**Victoria, BC** - November 21-22

**Toronto, ON** - December 7-8

## APOG Update

William Fraser MD FRCSC, President, APOG

The midyear meeting of APOG will be held in Charlottetown on **Saturday, June 28 from 07:30 to 9:00**. This meeting will provide an opportunity to discuss several important issues:

- 1) The Strategic Planning Process that was initiated last fall is being moved forward at the committee level. There will be reports on the progress of the Strategic Planning Process.
- 2) The Training Grant programme (STIRRHIS-ISFRSR) will have award

grants to its first cohort of students. Initiatives to develop online courses for residents and graduate students will be discussed.

- 3) We will discuss the issue of the format, content and venues for our annual meetings. The meeting in 2003 will be held in Toronto as usual. There has been a suggestion that it might be of interest to alternate the location of the annual meeting between Montréal and Toronto, and to increase the Franco-phone content of the annual meeting.
- 4) Planned Workshops for the Dec. annual meeting: APOG and SOGC have both identified the problem of resident intimidation as a priority issues. Unfortunately, while we had hoped to hold a workshop on this issue at the ACM of the SOGC, we

were unable to find space for this year. We have decided to hold a workshop on this issue at the Annual APOG meeting that will be held in Toronto in December. However, APOG needs to develop a long term strategy on this issue. Other topics under consideration for the APOG annual meeting include the introduction of the humanities into the teaching curriculum in Obstetrics and Gynaecology.

- 5) Partnerships with industry: We will review the different projects that we have in common with industry. Elizabeth Waite left APOG in March 2003. We would like to thank Elizabeth for her contribution to our organization.

I look forward to seeing you at the mid-year meeting.



SOGC is looking to recruit for its International Women's Health Program a **Programme Officer for its ALARM International Programme**. The candidate must be a registered nurse and/or midwife, with demonstrated experience

in the international development field, more specifically in the health sector. He / she must be bilingual (French and English; Spanish an asset), have knowledge and be capable of working within the sexual and reproductive rights approach, experience in the development, monitoring and evaluation of projects and programmes and the development and production of educational materials. He / she must also be available to act as an ALARM Instructor and thus, to travel in developing countries. Also required are: excellent analytical and computer skills, ability to work in a

multi-deadline environment and strong organization skills. This is a full-time contract position renewable at yearly intervals. Full benefits are applicable and the salary is to be negotiated according to experience. E-mail resume to [lperron@sogc.com](mailto:lperron@sogc.com) or fax to (613) 730-4314. Only those candidates selected for interviews will be contacted. **Closing date: April 22, 2003.**



## Professor and Head University of Manitoba, Faculty of Medicine Winnipeg Regional Health Authority Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology



The Faculty of Medicine and the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority invite applications for the position of **Head of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology**, Faculty of Medicine, University of Manitoba and **Medical Program Director, Women's Health Program**, Winnipeg Regional Health Authority. This position is a five-year term commencing July 1, 2003. The appointment will be geographical full-time and tenured at the rank of Professor.

Candidates should have a substantial record and achievement in Obstetrics and Gynecology and extensive experience in teaching, research, administrative experience and leadership ability appropriate for the scope and challenge of this senior position. The Department is responsible for a fully-accredited postgraduate training program in Obstetrics and Gynecology, as well as subspecialty fellowship training in Gyne/Oncology and Maternal/Fetal Health. As well, the Department is responsible for the delivery of undergraduate teaching within the Faculty of Medicine, University of Manitoba. The Women's Health Program of the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority provides care to women through two tertiary hospitals, 3 community-based hospitals and several community settings within Winnipeg. Visit our website at [www.umanitoba.ca/womens\\_health](http://www.umanitoba.ca/womens_health) for further information. Candidates must be eligible for registration with the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Manitoba. Certification in Obstetrics and Gynecology by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada is required.

The University of Manitoba offers good working conditions, a competitive salary and an attractive fringe benefit package.

Winnipeg is a prairie city with a population of more than 670,000 ([www.tourism.winnipeg.mb.ca](http://www.tourism.winnipeg.mb.ca)). Its ethnic diversity is notable and is celebrated through many annual festivals. Experience Winnipeg's world-class arts and entertainment, professional sports teams in a family-centred urban community. Winnipeg boasts a balanced lifestyle with affordability. Winnipeg is located close to superb outdoor recreational activities with a wide variety of lakes, beaches and wilderness areas within an easy drive of the city.

The University of Manitoba encourages applications from qualified women and men, including members of visible minorities, Aboriginal peoples, and persons with disabilities. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority.

Applications and nominations, accompanied by a curriculum vitae and the names of addresses of three referees, should be submitted not later than **April 18, 2003** to:

**Dr. Brian D. Postl**  
**Chair, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology**  
**and Women's Health Search Committee**  
**Winnipeg Regional Health Authority**  
**1800-155 Carlton Street, Winnipeg, MB R3C 4Y1**

Application materials, including letters of reference, will be handled in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (Manitoba).

## Idea Exchange Corner

The following is an example of an innovative programme that meets a demonstrated need in its community. The SOGC is soliciting articles pertaining to novel programmes, services or approaches to care, with the goal to share, among health care professionals, creative ideas and practices which can serve as springboards to similar programmes. Those interested in having their programme featured are invited to contact the undersigned at (613) 730-4192, ext. 259 or at [dmorier@sogc.com](mailto:dmorier@sogc.com).

## Volunteer Health Clinic for the Uninsured

Daniel Morier, Public Education Coordinator

The homeless, refugees, new immigrants and people living in shelters have one point in common: they are a growing segment of Canada's population ineligible for healthcare coverage. One community in Ontario has stepped up to deal with this problem by creating a totally volunteer health clinic for the uninsured. Since its launch in 2000, the Scarborough area clinic has grown to meet the needs of its community by providing free access to medical assessments, examinations, vaccinations and medications.

"For the community, in the community and run by the community", Dr. Yasmin Vally mentions that the program has been created to deal with all the imbalances and inequities in health care provision that affect many of Canada's vulnerable inhabitants. It also provides more than just medical care. It is a key community resource center for people that require counselling and guidance. Furthermore, by allowing family medicine residents to work alongside physicians during their rotations, the clinic offers a learning environment for Scarborough Hospital residents. The diverse team also includes an obstetrician and agency and social workers that offer various programs such nutrition and parenting tips to mothers with infants aged 0-6 years.

Headed by Dr. Paul Caulford, the clinic for uninsured patients is staffed entirely by volunteer physicians and nurses in partnership with Public Health centres and community agencies. The Scarborough Hospital assists the project by donating Dr. Vally's time for administrative work. An agreement has also been reached with the Hospital in order to reduce daily charges and offer payment plans for in-patient care should it be required. The lower costs and possibility of

## Call for Nominations!

The SOGC Junior Member Committee requests nominations for the Vice-Chair Position. This position involves a two year commitment during which time one takes the role of Chair of this pro-active and exciting committee focused on resident issues in obstetrics and gynaecology across Canada.

Nominations are to be forwarded to Denise Desautels ([ddesautels@sogc.com](mailto:ddesautels@sogc.com)). Any resident may be nominated across the country but must be present at the SOGC ACM in PEI this year as a resident representative for his/her respective university.

For more information please contact Jean-Pierre Gennaoui (Chair) or Sony Singh (Vice Chair) via Denise Desautels.

## McMaster University Update

Melodye Rajasingham and Gita Singh

The long warm summer days are a distant memory as our chief residents buckle down to study for their Royal College exams. Since that time, McMaster has gained an enthusiastic new program director, Dr. Steve Bates. With the upcoming accreditation process this spring, he has had to make a quick study of the residency program!

Amongst the changes Dr. Bates has overseen are the sculpting of a new three-month Maternal Fetal Medicine rotation and an improved residency research structure. Dr. Warren Foster, our new resident research coordinator, has initiated a proposal which will have all residents completing at least one research project during their training. Residents will now formally present their research proposal in their junior years and present the completed project on R.T. Weaver Day, our annual research day. Depending on the nature of their project, residents may be excused from clinical duties on a weekly basis

to access laboratories or services unavailable outside working hours.

Like most residents, we are always eager to improve our laparoscopic surgical skills, and Dr. Bates and Dr. Small have answered our call. They are currently organizing a laparoscopic training course through the Centre for Minimal Access Surgery at St. Joseph's Hospital set to begin later this spring.

In the past year, we have also witnessed many new additions to our extended family. Congratulations to Drs. Patricia Smith, Stephanie Winsor, Meagan Karnis, Amie Cullimore and Stephanie Krackovitch on the safe arrival of their little ones. We wish a safe journey to Dr. Jean Chamberlain and her upcoming bundle of joy as she returns from Yemen in April. This year will also see several of our residents tying the knot. Best wishes to Dante Pascali, Anne Powell and Doron Shmorgun on their nuptials. Finally, best of luck to all the Chief Residents as they write their exams in June! ♡

instalments allow for more accessible healthcare to those in need who could not afford "traditional" healthcare.

To help cover expenses such as office space, medications and supplies, patients are encouraged to pay if they are financially able to do so – and most contribute. Another collection method by certain hospital doctors is to ask insured patients for monetary or non-cash donations (food or clothes) instead of charging them for a doctor's note. The clinic does also obtain limited funding from the Provincial Ministry of Health when dealing with the homeless.

The clinic is open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5-9 p.m. and greets between 30-40 patients per week at two locations (a community clinic and rented office space.) Specially built locking cupboards store medical supplies and equipment donated by physicians when not in use.

Although successful, the Volunteer Health Clinic for the Uninsured still has many goals it would like to reach. Groups continue to lobby the government to tackle the health coverage issue and allocate more resources, formal partnerships with the hospital are being sought (i.e. to cover office rental fees) and supplies and equipment are continuously required. Even the clinic's success has a drawback – the surplus of patients and lack of physicians have restricted the service to local residents.

Donations are always accepted. If you wish to volunteer your time or laboratory services, offer financial support or contribute any medical supplies, equipment or medication, do not hesitate to contact the Health Clinic Hotline at (416) 431-8200 ext. 6646. ♡



CANADIAN FOUNDATION FOR WOMEN'S HEALTH  
*presents*

# A Maritime Lobster Feast!

## Featuring Barachois

Savour the flavours of the ocean and be regaled by the music of the award-winning group, Barachois, at the Canadian Foundation for Women's Health fourth annual fundraising evening.

The evening will commence with fabulous hors d'oeuvres featuring delicately prepared steamed mussels. Dinner will be most delectable as you dine on mouthwatering fresh lobster — more than one per person — (or steak, chicken or vegetarian with advance notice) and all the trimmings, including a fabulous dessert.

The party will continue with the critically acclaimed group, Barachois. With their driving foot rhythms, piano, a plethora of instruments, close harmonies, and the occasional brass instrument, you have a spicy Acadian stew that Barachois will put on the boil for this performance. The wit, charm, and even the antics that Barachois brings onstage is as much a part of their heritage as the songs they sing and the tunes they play.

**Please order your tickets today and join the Canadian Foundation for Women's Health as we party like never before to support research in women's health.**



**Friday, June 27, 2003**

- 6:30 p.m. Hors d'oeuvres and cocktails (cash bar)
  - 7:30 p.m. Dinner
  - Charlottetown Civic Centre
  - \$125 per person - purchased in advance.
- A tax receipt for a portion of the ticket price will be issued. Dress is casual and fun.



Contraception



Sexually Transmitted Infections



Pregnancy



Sexual Diversity



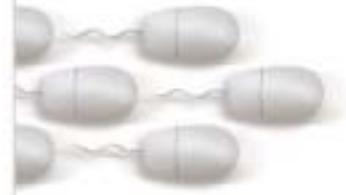
Women's Sexual Health



Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health



Teen Sexual and Reproductive Health



Sexual Well-being

## YOUR LINK TO SEXUAL WELL-BEING

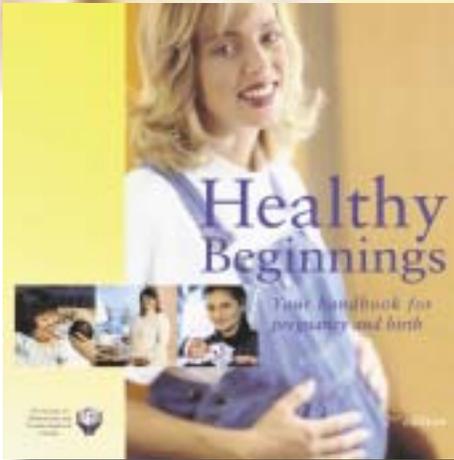
### We're Coming to Town!

The SOGC will set up its booth at the following conferences and meetings. Know of any similar venues we might want to attend to promote the Society, its programmes and publications? If so, please let us know by contacting Danièle Filion at (613) 730-4192, ext. 225 or at [dfilion@sogc.com](mailto:dfilion@sogc.com). Thank you in advance for your help!

- May 11 to May 14: Child and Youth Health, Vancouver, BC
- May 16 to May 19: *Salon de la jeunesse*, Montreal, QC
- June 16 to June 18: 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Guelph Sexuality Conference, Guelph, ON



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## SEX SENSE

### CANADIAN CONTRACEPTION GUIDE

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

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