



ALBERTA COLLEGE of
FAMILY PHYSICIANS

Advancing excellence in family practice

2006 A Year in Review

*Services & Activities of the
Alberta College of Family Physicians*

Table of Contents

| | |
|---|----|
| Strategic Planning – The Next Step | 2 |
| ACFP & Advocacy: Where To From Here | 2 |
| Meeting with Alberta Health & Wellness Minister | 3 |
| Meeting with Federal Health Minister | 3 |
| Media Requests | 4 |
| Alberta Family Practice Research Network | 4 |
| Care of the Elderly Committee | 7 |
| International Medical Graduates | 8 |
| Medical Students | 8 |
| Continuing Medical Education | 10 |
| Annual Scientific Assembly (ASA) | |
| 51 st ASA | 11 |
| 52 nd ASA | 12 |
| Alberta Family Physician of the Year | 13 |
| Alberta College of Family Physicians Care Awards | 14 |
| Alberta College of Family Physicians Scholarships | 14 |
| College of Family Physicians of Canada Awards | 15 |
| External Committee Representation | 16 |
| ACFP Governing Body | 18 |
| Standing Committees | 19 |
| ACFP Staff | 19 |
| Contact Us | 19 |
| Vision, Mission and Goals | 20 |



The Alberta College of Family Physicians is a provincial, professional voluntary organization, representing more than 2200 family physicians, family medicine residents, and medical students in Alberta. Through the voluntary contributions of so many members, the Board of Directors of the Alberta College of Family Physicians is proud to provide an overview of services, initiatives and activities successfully achieved in 2006.

Strategic Planning – the Next Step

In February 2006, the Board completed its strategic planning process and adopted the new Vision, Mission, Goals, and Values (see last page of this report). An added new direction for the College emerged during the planning process – to strengthen the College's position in advocating for the key role of family physicians in patient care, and for adequate system support and remuneration for family physicians. This new focus, together with other initiatives, was fully supported by ACFP members at the February 24, 2006 Annual General Meeting.

ACFP & Advocacy: Where To From Here?

Mr. David Hancock (PC), MLA for Edmonton-Whitemud and Dr. William Anderson, Chair, CMA Political Action Committee, were invited to the October 2006 Board of Directors Meeting to provide their advice and experiences on effective lobbying strategies. Following this session, the ACFP Board recognized the need to develop and implement targeted strategies to strengthen the College's position in advocating for change to the health care system. One such strategy included partnering with like-minded organizations.

In November, the Presidents of the Section of General Practice, the Alberta Section of Rural Medicine and the ACFP, sent a letter to all Family Physicians/General Practitioners in the Province regarding the impact of increasing costs of running a community practice.

Common key messages identified in this letter included:

- Family physicians are in crisis due to economic pressures
- Office-based community practice is particularly disadvantaged
- The minimum revenue increase needed to sustain a community practice is 12%
- Status quo will ensure an exodus of family physicians from private community practice
- The AMA bargaining position must address this reality

Family physicians were encouraged to contact the AMA and share their perspective on how the outcome produced by a variety of fee-increasing scenarios could impact on their practices. Family

physicians were also invited to provide suggestions and recommendations on what could be done to ensure their practices remain viable.

Meeting with Alberta Health & Wellness Minister

ACFP representatives met with Alberta Health & Wellness Minister, Iris Evans in March as part of the consultation process on the province's proposed Health Policy Framework ("Third Way"). While the Framework lacked sufficient detail to make informed comments, it was an opportunity to reinforce the role of the College and to offer to work with the Minister on the future development of health policies.

Representatives identified the following seven key areas that are of major importance to family doctors:

- Maintaining the high value that family doctors and the public place on the patient-physician relationship, and continuity and coordination of care
- Creating effective multidisciplinary teams in primary care settings through adequate infrastructure support, legislative changes and sufficient health human resources
- Engaging family doctors in the early planning stages of new initiatives to minimize the download on community care, which already has limited capacity
- Allowing choice in how family doctors are paid and developing alternate payment plans that take into account the wide variety of functions carried out by family doctors such as support for team training, the electronic medical record, teaching, and research
- Offering more services in rural and regional hospitals as long as these added services come with adequate infrastructure support and resources
- Ensuring full consultation with family doctors and their communities before the role of rural hospitals is changed
- Expanding and resourcing the primary care research base in the community

Meeting with Federal Health Minister

The ACFP was invited by the Honourable Tony Clement, Federal Minister of Health, to participate in a roundtable on the Patient Wait Times Guarantee which took place on April 21, 2006. There was good discussion in the meeting on the current state of affairs of the Canadian health care system as well as issues concerning wait times.

ACFP took this opportunity to report on the important role of family physicians in the health care system, the challenges associated with the critical shortage of family doctors and other health care disciplines, and initiatives undertaken by the Alberta College to help address some of the issues.

With respect to wait times, ACFP pointed out the need (a) to be cautious about using the term “guarantee”, (b) for public education on learning how to optimize rather than maximize the use of health care resources, (c) to prioritize patient needs for procedures and medical problems in a timely fashion, and (d) to establish wait time benchmarks beginning with the time it takes people to find a personal family physician.

Following the meeting, ACFP had a few minutes to speak privately with the Minister, and presented him with the CFPC Wait Times Position Statement and the areas of importance and concern expressed by ACFP representatives when meeting with the provincial Minister of Health in March 2006.

Media Requests

Throughout 2006, Board members have shared the Alberta College perspective and position with media from newspaper, radio and television. The ACFP received numerous requests for interviews relating to health care issues and initiatives in the province; these interviews were primarily associated with the impact on both physicians and patients due to the shortage of family physicians in the province, physicians leaving their practices for a variety of reasons, and the legislation allowing Alberta pharmacists to prescribe independently.

Alberta Family Practice Research Network

The Alberta Family Practice Research Network (AFPRN) is an Alberta College of Family Physicians program. AFPRN recognizes that there are many practical questions relating to undifferentiated disease that can only be answered by research conducted in community based general practice settings. AFPRN provides research support to physicians who seek answers to these questions, and also offers recruitment services for external researchers whose studies are relevant to family practice.

Research/Recruitment Projects

The AFPRN Clinical Director and Steering Committee reviewed and actively collaborated on several research projects in 2006.

- **Preferences for Colorectal Cancer Screening** - This study will determine preferences for colorectal cancer screening tests. AFPRN successfully recruited 185 family physicians for this study.
- **Physician Uptake and Efficacy of Canada's Healthy Heart Kit (HHK)** – The purpose of this study is to assess the degree of adoption of the Healthy Heart Kit by Primary Care Physicians in Alberta. 160 family physicians were recruited by AFPRN for this study.

- **National Clinical Questions Panel Survey**-An international network research project/panel that will evaluate unanswered questions and identify those which are worth pursuing through practice based research projects. Over 20 AFPRN members were recruited to participate in this study.
- **Appraise It** - This project aims to appraise and compare web-based resources that help family physicians find answers to their clinical questions quickly and stay up to date. Recruitment pending.
- **Comparing physicians' perspectives on the primary health care system – Crossing over the ocean from Canada to Spain and vice versa** - This project will identify and compare factors influencing the way family physicians medicine in primary care settings in Alberta and the Canary Islands.

AFPRN Poster Presentation and Research Sessions

The AFPRN Poster Presentation, held in conjunction with the 51st ASA, was a wonderful success with a total of 21 abstracts displayed. Some of the featured research topics included:

- Attracting Family Physicians Back to Acute Care Hospitals
- Patient Satisfaction with Endovenous Laser vs. Ultrasound Guided Sclerotherapy in the Treatment of Superficial Venous Insufficiency
- Providing Innovative Asthma Education: Making it Accessible to Family Physicians and their Patients
- Health Consequences of Caregiving: Immigrant vs. Non Immigrant Experience in Canada
- Respiratory Educators in Primary Care Physicians' Offices
- Applicants to the Alberta International Medical Graduate Program and Immigration Patterns to Alberta: Mapping the Interface
- HIV Disclosure and Discrimination Attitudes among HIV Positive Patients and Medical Students
- Community Pharmacy Pilot Project - Identification of Unintended Medication Events (Errors and Near Misses) in Primary Care
- Medicine as Both an Art and a Science: Perspectives of Medical Faculty and Students
- Using Opinion Leader Consultation Sessions to Deliver Education about Dyslipidemia Clinical Practice Guidelines
- Patterns of Discussions with Family Doctors about Colorectal Cancer Screening Among Albertans with Different Testing Experiences

As well, two small group sessions, devoted to research were held as part of the scientific program at the ASA:

- **Quick and Dirty: How to Get the Answers We Need to Stay Up To Date** (For the Novice), was designed to assist with the

development of skills in searching the literature and assess Evidence Based Medicine treatment.

- **What's Up Doc? Free Standing Papers** (For the More Experienced Researcher) which featured an overall sharing of research ideas and skills such as grantsmanship, exploration of supports, and potential collaborations following the presentations. Evaluations for both sessions were very positive.

The ACFP was also involved in assisting with recruitment for the following research projects:

- **Centre for Effective Practice (CEP)** - The ACFP, in partnership with CEP, invited Alberta family physicians to participate on a needs assessment project funded by COMPUS (the Canadian Optimal Medication Prescribing & Utilization Service) to explore issues and barriers surrounding PPI use by family physicians and pharmacists.
- **Electronic Medical Record Survey** in collaboration with the Calgary Health Region/Department of Family Medicine. The purpose of this survey was to gather electronic medical record (EMR) opinions from family physicians on the various software and hardware packages and vendors used in their offices. The ACFP assisted in the distribution of this survey and will with the Calgary Health Region on disseminating the results of this 'Consumer Report' to family physicians province-wide.

AFPRN Review Task Force

In 2006, an AFPRN Review Task Force was established to examine the mandate of AFPRN and assess the roles and structures associated with planning and operating the Network. After four months of reviewing key articles on effective family practice research networks, consulting with others, and conducting discussions in meetings and by email, the Task Force completed their final report.

The Task Force report summarized their deliberations and findings, and set out recommendations for the ACFP Board to consider in establishing a renewed research network for family physicians. Its key recommendation was to empower a committee to renew and/or reorganize the Alberta Family Practice Research Network based on the findings and recommendations included in the final report of the AFPRN Review Task Force. This recommendation will be discussed at the February 2007 Board meeting.

Care of the Elderly Committee

The ACFP Care of the Elderly Committee explored some initiatives and avenues for collaboration in 2006. Highlights of its activities were:

- **Caring for our Frail Elderly: The Role of the Family Physician Workshop** - was held at the 51st ASA. The workshop explored strategies for managing chronic diseases and improving continuity of care; models of home care that optimize the quality of life and care for seniors with complex needs; and the results of a research project which examined the use of psychotropic drugs in long-term care facilities. Presentations were provided by Dr. Rejean Hebert from Sherbrooke, Quebec, Dr. Jasneet Parmar from Edmonton, and Drs. Diana Turner and Paddy Quail from Calgary.
- **Continuing Care Health Services and Accommodation Standards** - Committee members were a part of the consultation process which took place in 2005 and continue to be involved by providing feedback to Alberta Health and Wellness (AHW) during the implementation of the new Continuing Care Health Service and Accommodation Standards.
- **Centre/Network of Excellence in Continuing Care in Alberta** - Preliminary discussions were held with members of the Alberta Long Term Care Association (ALTCA) on how the ACFP and ALTCA could work together toward the development of a proposal for an Alberta Centre or Network of Excellence in Continuing Care. The ACFP continues to explore this concept of excellence in continuing care with other organizations that have expressed interest in this area.
- **Caring for the Frail Elderly: Family Physician Toolkit** - Members of the Care of the Elderly Committee are exploring the feasibility of developing a resource of easy and practical web-based information on five areas of major importance -- Falls/Mobility, Continence, Cognitive Impairment and Delirium, Polypharmacy, Legal and Social issues -- for family physicians providing care for the frail elderly.

International Medical Graduates (IMG)

In 2006, the Alberta International Medical Graduate Association (AIMGA) worked closely with other organizations, including the ACFP, to address issues associated with IMGs seeking a career in Family Medicine.

The areas previously identified as key roles for the ACFP were identified as part of the mandate of the Advisory Committee of the AIMGA. These key areas included a marketing role to identify IMGs throughout Alberta and recruit for preceptors, the formation of pre-residency preceptors' volunteer committee, and information sharing strategies with IMGs.

As a result of the AIMGA mandate, the role for the ACFP has changed since this project was first initiated. The ACFP is formally represented on the AIMGA Advisory Committee, which allows for areas requiring input from the College to be quickly identified.

Medical Students

Virtual Poster Project

The continuation of the Virtual Poster Project supports the broader effort of increasing the number of medical students considering careers in Family Medicine. In collaboration with the Sections of General Practice and Rural Medicine, Alberta Medical Association, the ACFP developed a second series of posters, highlighting the benefits of choosing a career in family medicine.

One virtual poster will be sent to all medical students (via email) on a monthly basis during the 2006-07 academic year. The final poster, to be delivered in April 2007, will be a composite of the images from the previous seven posters.

Posters have been distributed widely to medical students; family medicine residents; other organizations; etc. for the months of September to December 2006 and also are linked to the ACFP website. The series of electronic posters for 2006–2007 includes:



- ✓ Camaraderie
- ✓ Patient Diversity
- ✓ Family and Leisure
- ✓ Leadership (within the Community)
- ✓ Lifelong Learning
- ✓ Lifelong Relationships
- ✓ Practice Anywhere
- ✓ Family Medicine is Life

ACFP Presence at Medical Student Events

The ACFP participated in orientation sessions and meetings, and provided on-going communication, including:

- University of Calgary Medical Student Orientation, August 2006.
- University of Alberta Medical Student Orientation, September 2006.
- RPAP Recruitment Fair, Calgary and Edmonton– September 2005.
- Verbal and written communication with U of A and U of C Family Medicine Interest Group representatives and the medical student representatives on the ACFP Board.
- University of Alberta lunch hour small group information session open to all medical students, supported by the ACFP.

Shadowing Project for Incoming Medical Students

This project, also a collaborative effort with the AMA Sections of Rural Medicine and General Practice, was piloted in the summer of 2005 at the University of Alberta. Given the success of the pilot project, shadowing opportunities were given to 17 students from both the University of Alberta and the University of Calgary in the summer of 2006. Eight students were placed in rural locations and the remainder in urban centres.

In June 2006, an invitation to participate in the Shadowing opportunity and participant guidelines were included in the acceptance notification letters sent to all incoming medical students at both Universities. Placements for six University of Calgary incoming medical students occurred during the week of July 24-26, 2006 and placements for 11 University of Alberta students occurred during the week of August 21-25, 2006.

In order to evaluate this project, ACFP sent pre and post surveys to medical students and a post-survey to participating physicians. Overall, the comments were very positive.

Sample Student Responses

- *"It exceeded my expectations; I learned so much from Dr. X, not only clinical aspects but more importantly how to talk and communicate with patients of all kinds. As well, I saw my first baby delivery ever!!! It was very exciting."*
- *"The shadowing experience was well beyond what I had expected."*
- *"Before I started this observership, I was unaware that general practice could vary widely, and I gained an appreciation for the various ways family medicine can be practiced."*
- *"Yes, I would consider family medicine as one a possible three prospective medical careers. ...family medicine may offer a lifestyle congruent with my ideas of raising my eventual children (e.g. decent hours and flexibility, at least in Dr. X's case)."*
- *"I was already thinking about family medicine as my long-term career goal, and this opportunity truly confirmed it."*
- *"It was an amazing, eye-opening experience!"*

Sample Physician Responses

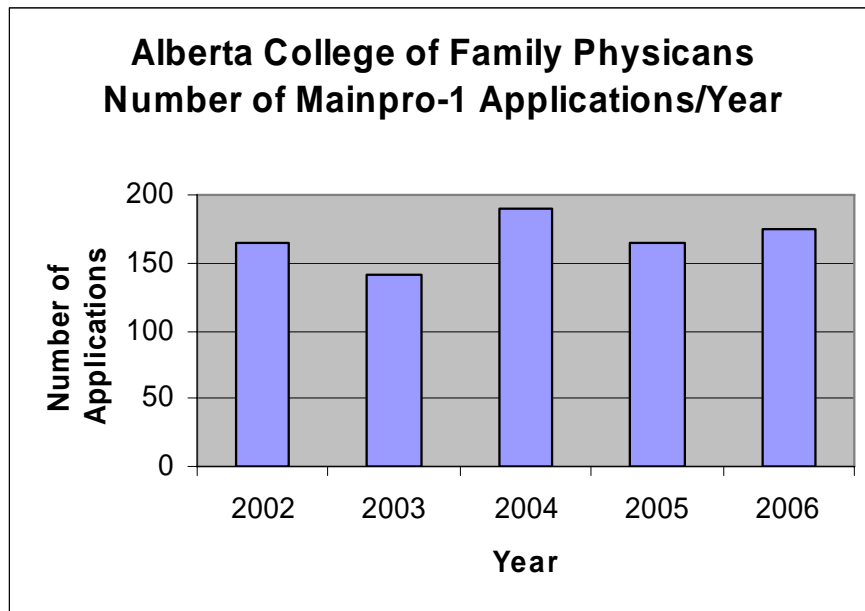
- *“Regarding the shadow experience last week, I found it rewarding for the most part. I enjoy having a medical student so early that has no impressions of family medicine.”*
- *“It certainly did take a little longer than usual to see patients but it was a lot of fun for me and an interesting challenge to sell the concept of family medicine.”*
- *“Student X had enjoyed his stay with us so much that he just did not want to leave.... I was thrilled by his youthful excitement of starting a new career in Medicine.”*

Continuing Medical Education

Review & Accreditation of Mainpro®-M1 Courses

Dr. Dorcas Kennedy continued as the provincial Accreditor of Mainpro-1 applications to ensure that high standards were met and regional interests and perspectives were considered.

The Alberta College of Family Physicians processed a total of 174 Mainpro-M1 applications, an increase of 5% compared to the number of applications processed in 2005.



Annual Scientific Assembly (ASA)



*The Rimrock Resort
Hotel Banff, Alberta*

51st ASA – February 23-26, 2006

The 51st Assembly was informative and exciting, with a record number of family physicians, family practice residents and medical students in attendance.

Held within the beautiful mountain setting of the Rimrock Resort Hotel in Banff, the four-day Conference featured over 40 speakers, including many family physicians and over 50 sponsors and/or exhibitors.

Scientific-themed sessions and numerous social events rounded out the entire weekend. Excellent evaluations were received on all sessions including enriched afternoons, research workshops and the physician wellness sessions.

Keynote Presentations

- All in the Family: Family Medicine in the Era of Genetics, presented by Dr. June Carroll, 2005 College of Family Physicians of Canada Donald I. Rice Award Recipient
- Family Physicians - The Interface between HEALTH and Health CARE, presented by The Hon. Dr. Carolyn Bennet, former Minister of State (Public Health)
- The Next Flu Pandemic – Should You Panic?, presented by Dr. Tom Marrie, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry at the University of Alberta
- Relationships of the SSRI (Seven Secrets of Relational Intimacy), presented by Dr. Rick Griffen, Psychologist, Kelowna, BC

Enhanced Presentations:

- ADHD: A Problem at Any Age, presented by Dr. Rick Ward, Senior Educational Consultant, Department of Family Medicine, University of Calgary, Dr. Allan Donsky, Clinical Lecturer, Department of Psychiatry, University of Calgary, and Dr. Margaret Steele, Chair, Division of Child Psychiatry at the University of Western Ontario
- Caring for our Frail Elderly: The Role of the Family Physician, presented by Dr. Rejean Hebert, Founding Director of the Research Centre on Aging
- Aung Medical Qi Gong Vital Energy Enhancement: Qi Gong for the Healer, presented by Dr. Steven KGH Aung, a World Health Organization advisor on Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM)
- Mindful Meditations – Stress Reduction for the Medical Family, presented by Dr. Maureen Angen, Psychologist, Tom Baker Centre,

Calgary and Dr. Leslie Ellestad, member of the Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction Group, Calgary

Special Events

- Wine and Cheese Reception, including face-painters, balloon artist and ice-cream bars for the children
- Hockey Night in Canada themed Saturday evening family event
- Pharmaceutical Industry/Family Physician dialogue
- Walk the Doc on Saturday morning
- Tribute to Dr. Pat Heard, outgoing ACFP President, and inauguration of new President, Dr. John Chiu. Thanks to Dr. Louise Nasmith, President, College of Family Physicians of Canada, for her participation.

52nd ASA – February 22-25, 2007

Although the 52nd ASA does not occur until February 2007, the ACFP focused on numerous activities associated with the planning and coordination required for this event throughout 2006.

In order to successfully organize the 2007 Conference, ongoing communication with key groups such as speakers, exhibitors, sponsors, the Rimrock Hotel, etc was continuous. Following is an overview of the planning activities (relating to the 52nd ASA) that have occurred in 2006:

- Planning Committee met to review evaluations (from the 51st ASA), discuss the format and topics for scientific sessions, identified required changes, recommended improvements, and suggested potential speakers the 2007 ASA
- Speakers, sponsors, exhibitors and vendors were confirmed
- Contract was finalized with an event planning company to manage the registration component for the 52nd ASA
- Marketing plan was implemented; including design and mailing of Conference Brochure and teasers, list serve messages, updates on website, etc.
- On-line registration process (including credit card payment option) was designed and implemented.
- Ongoing communication with the ASA Planning Committee including teleconferences and weekly updates.

2006 Family Physician of the Year – Dr. Josephine Wilson



The Family Physician of the Year award recognizes an outstanding member of the College who exemplifies the four principles of family medicine in his/her practice; he/she is a skilled clinician, is community-based, acts as a resource to a practice population; and recognizes the central importance of the doctor/patient relationship.

Recipients are chosen by their peers for providing exceptional care to their patients, making significant contributions to the health and well

being of their community, and dedicating themselves to the education of future generations of family doctors. ACFP is proud to congratulate Dr. Josephine Wilson on winning this award for Alberta. Dr. Wilson, nominated by Dr. Jim Emmett, was honored at the 2006 Family Medicine Forum, held in Quebec City in November.

Dr. Josephine Wilson was born in Yorkshire, England, moving to Edmonton with her family as a child. Josephine decided at age 14 that medicine was her future, and in 1970 graduated from the University of Alberta medical school. During her internship at Vancouver General Hospital, she met her future husband, Dr. Jim Emmett. Their first experience working together was at the Stoney Health Centre on the Stoney First Nations reserve at Morley, Alberta, where Jim was medical director and Josephine the family medicine resident.

Josephine later became a partner at the Southwest Medical Clinic in Calgary where she and her husband have enjoyed working together for over 30 years. In addition to providing comprehensive care to patients of all ages, obstetrics has always been a favourite area of practice for Josephine. She treasures the 3,000+ "special deliveries" she has attended. She would some day like to apply her love for obstetrics to teaching these skills in Latin America. She is actively involved in local and provincial medical organizations, serving as President of the Medical Staff Organization at Foothills Hospital and the Regional Medical Staff Association. She is currently the Physician Lead of the Foothills Primary Care Network in Calgary.

Josephine and Jim are parents to three grown children and a new grandson. Singing, hiking, cross-country skiing and walking her dog are her favourite leisure activities.

"I have very much enjoyed my career as a family doctor. It keeps my life exciting and challenging – never a dull moment!"

Alberta College of Family Physicians CARE Awards

The Alberta College of Family Physicians (ACFP) values the achievements and professional commitment of its members and is committed to supporting its membership in providing quality patient care through education, research and promotion of best practices.

The **C**ontinuing Professional **A**chievement **R**ecognition of **E**xcellence (**CARE**) awards were introduced in 2004 to celebrate the achievements and dedication of ACFP members. These awards recognize and celebrate the achievements of medical students, family medicine residents, and family physicians members of the ACFP who have demonstrated outstanding qualities towards their patients, their community, and/or the profession of Family Medicine.



2006 CARE AWARD RECIPIENTS

Family Physician Category

Dr. Mo Verjee – Calgary

Dr. Tuhin Bakshi - Wetaskiwin

Dr. Lois Milne – Calgary

Medical Student Category

Mr. Gabriel Piper – University of Calgary

Alberta College of Family Physicians Scholarships

ACFP scholarships are awarded annually to a medical student completing the final year in the Faculty of Medicine on the basis of superior academic achievement in the study of Family Medicine and acceptance into a family medicine residency training program.

Recipients in 2006:

Mr. Peter Bell – University of Alberta

Ms. Jennifer Hollowell – University of Calgary

College of Family Physicians of Canada Awards

Jean-Pierre Despins Award honours CFPC family physicians that have been identified as an outstanding advocate and public spokesperson for family medicine and/or family physicians and their patients. Recipient in 2006:

Dr. June Bergman, Calgary

Janus Research Grants support academic and community-based family physicians in carrying out research projects that meet the changing needs of their patients and communities. Recipient in 2006:

Dr. Doug Klein, Edmonton

Hollister King Rural Family Practice Scholarship is one of the Janus CPD/CME scholarships and honours life long commitment to rural family practice. Recipient in 2006:

Dr. Michael W. Quinlan, Canmore

C. Robert Kemp Palliative Care Scholarship is awarded to CFPC members who have an active interest in palliative care. Recipient in 2006:

Dr. Giulia-Anna Perri, Calgary

CFPC Medical Student Scholarships are presented to one medical student from every medical school in Canada. Nominees for these scholarships will be outstanding medical students in their 2nd last year at the time of application, i.e. graduating class of 2008, who have demonstrated their interest in or commitment to family medicine as a career. Recipients in 2006:

Ms. Anna Wesenberg – University of Alberta

Ms. Allison Salter - University of Calgary

CFPC Medical Student Leadership Awards are presented by the CFPC to recognize exemplary medical students who demonstrate interest and skills in areas such as health care policy/economics, government/media relations, advocacy and representation on behalf of patients, peers or health care organizations. Recipients in 2006:

Ms. Davida Sowa – University of Alberta

Ms. Andrea Behie – University of Calgary

CFPC Family Medicine Resident Leadership Awards are presented by the CFPC to recognize the leadership abilities of outstanding senior family medicine residents who demonstrate interest and skills in areas such as health care policy/economics, government/media relations, advocacy and representation on behalf of patients, peers or health care organizations. Recipients in 2006:

Dr. Rachita Gurtu – University of Alberta

Dr. Jeanette Boyd – University of Calgary

Fellowship in the College of Family Physicians of Canada (FCFP) is awarded to Certificants who have demonstrated their commitment to practice-based, life-long learning. In 2006, the following ACFP members received Fellowship in the College of Family Physicians of Canada:

Dr. Donella Anderson
Dr. Christin Hilbert
Dr. Katharine Johns
Dr. Janet Northcott
Dr. Jennifer Riess
Dr. Adam Vyse
Dr. Philip Yoon

Dr. Margaret Churcher
Dr. Carrie Hiscock
Dr. Lai Man Ma
Dr. Karen Packer
Dr. Harvey Sternberg
Dr. J. Scott Wakefield

External Committee Representation

The ACFP continued to have representatives on provincial and national committees to ensure that the perspective of Alberta family physicians was taken into consideration. These included but were not limited to:

Physician Advisory Committee, Alberta Bone and Joint Health Institute

Dr. John Chiu

Alberta Breast Cancer Screening Program Advisory Committee

Dr. Jim Dickinson

Dr. Margaret Churcher (alternate)

Alberta Cervical Cancer Screening Program Primary Care Working Group

Dr. Margaret Churcher

Alberta Cervical Cancer Screening Program Advisory Committee

Dr. Margaret Churcher

Alberta Cancer Board Provincial Family Physician Initiative – Steering Committee

Dr. Pat Heard

Dr. Peter Hum (Alternate)

Alberta Cancer Board Provincial Family Physician Initiative – Communication Working Group

Dr. Pat Heard

Alberta Wait Times Management Steering Committee

Dr. John Chiu

Alberta HTA Chronic Pain Ambassador Program Follow-up Initiative Advisory Committee

Dr. Rob Wedel

Alberta International Medical Graduates Association Advisory Committee

Dr. Tuhin Bakshi

Interdisciplinary Committee on Protection of Children of Divorce and Separation

Dr. Jeff Robinson

Executive Committee, Section of General Practice, Alberta Medical Association

Dr. Patricia Heard

PCI Committee Overseeing Program Evaluation (COPE)

*Dr. June Bergman**

*Dr. David Moores**

**Also representing AMA*

Chair, Family Medicine Forum Advisory Committee

Dr. Rick Ward

CFPC Accreditors for MAINPRO®

Dr. Dorcas Kennedy

CFPC Membership Advisory Committee

Dr. Mo Verjee

CFPC National Committee on Continuing Professional Development (NCCPD)

Dr. Rick Ward (Jan-Sept 2006)

Dr. Dorcas Kennedy appointed in October 2006

CFPC Board Committee

Dr. John Chiu

Dr. Pat Heard

National Primary Care Advisory Committee for the Increasing Support for Family Physicians in Primary Care Initiative

-Developed the Primary Care Tool Kit at <http://toolkit.cfpc.ca> to assist family physicians across Canada adapt to changes in their practices

Dr. Cathy Scrimshaw

RPAP Family Medicine Education Subcommittee

Dr. Tim Kolotyluk

Family Health Magazine

-Nine ACFP members (Drs. June Bergman, Connie Ellis, Jeremy deBruyn, Allan Garbutt, Tim Kolotyluk, Carolyn Lane, Susan Lea, Victor Lun and Ben Macedo) served on the magazine's 16 member Editorial Advisory Board. Numerous other ACFP members contributed articles.

Dr. Connie Ellis, Chair, Editorial Advisory Board

Dr. Connie Ellis & Dr. Tim Kolotyluk, Co-Medical Editors

ACFP Governing Body

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>Dr. John Chiu President Edmonton</p> | <p>Dr. Patricia Heard Past President Calgary</p> |
| <p>Dr. Paul Humphries Honorary Treasurer Edmonton</p> | <p>Dr. Mo Verjee Secretary Calgary</p> |
| <p>Dr. Cathy Scrimshaw Member at Large Pincher Creek</p> | <p>Dr. Dorcas Kennedy Chair, Continuing Medical Education and NCCPD/CME Representative Lethbridge</p> |
| <p>Dr. Diana Turner Chair, Care of the Elderly Committee Calgary</p> | <p>Dr. Tuhin Bakshi IMG Project Wetaskiwin</p> |
| <p>Dr. Rick Ward Member at Large (<i>Effective October 2006</i>) ACFP Rep. to National Committee on Continuing Professional Development (<i>January - September 2006</i>) Calgary</p> | <p>Dr. Rick Spooner Chair, U of A Dept. of Family Medicine Edmonton</p> |
| <p>Dr. Peter Norton Chair, U of C Dept. of Family Medicine (<i>January – June 2006</i>) Calgary</p> | <p>Dr. Doug Myhre Acting Chair, U of C Dept. of Family Medicine (<i>Beginning July 2006</i>) Calgary</p> |
| <p>Dr. Amie White University of Alberta Family Practice Resident Representative Edmonton</p> | <p>Dr. Jason Barkman University of Calgary Family Practice Resident Representative Calgary</p> |
| <p>Ms. Mindy Lam University of Alberta Medical Student Representative Edmonton</p> | <p>Ms. Sameena Khan University of Calgary Medical Student Representative Calgary</p> |
| <p>Dr. Ron Garnett Section of General Practice, Alberta Medical Association Lethbridge</p> | <p>Dr. Allan Garbutt Alberta Section of Rural Medicine, Alberta Medical Association Bellevue</p> |

Standing Committees

There are six standing Committees, made up of volunteer practising family physicians:

- Executive
- Nominating & Awards
- Continuing Medical Education
- Annual Scientific Assembly Planning
- Alberta Family Practice Research Network Steering
- Care of the Elderly Working Group

ACFP Staff

The staffing complement at the ACFP office is comprised of part time individuals who bring exemplary and complementary skills to their jobs.

Contact Us

If you have any questions or would like more information about the ACFP, please contact the ACFP office by phone at 1-800-361-0607 or (780) 488-2395 or by email at info@acfp.ca



Vision

- A recognized and respected voice for advancing excellence in family practice in Alberta

Mission

The Alberta College of Family Physicians strives to achieve excellence in family practice by:

- Promoting best practices,
- Advocating for the key role of family physicians in patient care,
- Supporting excellence in medical education, and encouraging and facilitating life-long learning for its members,
- Advocating for adequate system support and remuneration for family physicians.
- Promoting innovation through family practice research,
- Promoting Family Medicine as a career choice, and
- Advocating for adequate system support and remuneration for family physicians.

Goals

The Alberta College of Family Physicians will:

- Develop and implement initiatives that advance the vision and mission.
- Strengthen its capacity to support initiatives and to ensure a vibrant and dynamic organization.
- Develop recognition and respect among policy makers, other health care providers, educators, students, researchers, and the community, for the unique skill set and knowledge of family physicians in the planning, delivery and evaluation of health care.
- Encourage life long learning to facilitate family physicians performing to the highest standard.
- Increase pride, confidence and respect for diversity within the family physician community.
- Support and encourage family practice research.