

# CHARLES WEBB

## BCMA 2013



### **Towards a better profession**

*Engaged* ..... with all eligible to join the association

*United* ..... across the profession

*Relevant* ..... to members' needs and values

*Revitalized* ..... with a balanced mix of GP's and Specialists

*Reorganized* ..... under a reconfigured smaller Board

*Successful* ..... beyond expectation

### **THE PLAYING FIELD – Unity is strength**

Public money is exhausted. Government and Health Authorities' single priority is delivering more services at lower cost. Doctors, now civil servants but in name, lack fair benefits and protections afforded normal Government workers. Our rights to determine how we practice are being trampled. Once again we have been caught offside by legislation with no solution to more than doubled record storage costs, unsustainable overheads and unwelcome MOCAP interference.

We are all set to be caught in a vice between a web of Hospital Privileges, Medical Staff Bylaws, Community Privileging Requirements and our College.

Our current impending fee negotiation is a guaranteed one-way binding arbitration. As always, Government is free to walk away.

### **SITUATION REPORT – United we stand, divided we fall**

Governments in Ontario and Alberta have, as predicted, declared their intentions to undermine our profession. This pandemic is headed west. A showdown with government is inevitable. It's just a question of how, when and where we make our stand.

### **STRATEGIC PLAN – Carpe diem**

Let's engage in a united and all-encompassing way. Step up, Sections and Divisions. Take stock of the growing harsh realities to be shared with the next Government, or forever be subservient. Again answer this professional call to ensure our legacy. Support progressive GP's and like-minded specialists in their quest toward a better BCMA.

I ask you re-elect me and any other open minded colleague onto the BCMA executive. Continue to re-engage with me in a progressive, revitalized, and reorganized BCMA.

**Re-elect Charles Webb for Chair of General Assembly**

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## BCMA 2013

Dear colleague:

I have spent the preceding year as Chair of the BCMA General Assembly on a mandate to responsibly broker reforms in and out of the boardroom. My time has highlighted the conflicted nature of our Board, and the challenges inherent in championing democratic principles. Our Board is still governed by a majority of acclaimed incumbents who have, with the exception of CMA appointments, at last agreed not to continue to appoint one another to committees without uniformly soliciting our full membership. With mandatory CMA annual dues set at \$450, this still represents more than just a democratic deficit. However, after years of empty promises from the Board's majority, a number of reform candidates won clear support for substantive action to increase our Board's effectiveness and diversity. While significant challenges remain, we have accomplished a great deal in revitalising the Association.

Ballots in the 2013/14 BCMA elections will be cast over the internet. This shift towards modernization and cost savings was in the end achieved after previous Board refusals. E-voting has been extended to referendum questions bearing the promise of smaller, balanced, more efficient and cost-effective BCMA activities closer to fruition.

I have worked hard with others to bring the latest series of bylaw amendments before you after over a decade of costly and nearly wasted Board deliberation. These amendments will establish both General Practice and Specialist representation within five new districts drawn alongside our current BC Health Authorities. They will also ensure annual Board feedback at local district meetings with input from future election Candidates. The Ballot remains open until Thursday April 25th. Please vote within the next three days before close of the poll. The amendments require 75% support to be implemented. In both my and the proposer's view they represent a major first step in uniting and revitalising our profession.

This election is again about credibility, trust, and voting for those with a demonstrated commitment to a clear vision for our Association. With the BCMA set to deal with some very harsh realities as we engage our province's next government, reform has never been more important.

I have worked twenty five years, from the Kootenays to Vancouver, in rural and urban general practice, emergency medicine and anaesthesia. The privilege of working with Divisions of Family Practice, PSP, Shared Care, BCMA Board, BCMA executive and as your elected leader to the 2012 CMA General Council now leads me to ask your support for a second year as Chair of the BCMA General Assembly.

Vote for the work that is in progress: cast your ballot in favour of ongoing progressive changes within our Association.

Vote for the work at the Health Authority, and Provincial Legislature that needs to be done: re-elect me Chair of the General Assembly.

Reinforce our association's shift toward fair play, respect, humility, and better judgement.

***Towards new horizons and a better profession. Together let's breathe new life into the BCMA.***

**Re-elect Charles Webb for Chair of General Assembly**

