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*The CUA exists to promote the highest standard of urologic care for Canadians and to advance the art and science of urology.*



Having the opportunity to travel to many countries and speak to urologists around the world makes me realize just how fortunate we are in Canada. We are privileged as a specialty, and more importantly, the quality of care we are able to provide our patients is second to none. Obviously, our healthcare system is not perfect and we should continue to strive to improve rapid access to the newest and best in proven, high-quality technology and drugs. Having said that, our system, and the high-quality training we provide our residents, gives Canadian patients access to the very best care. This is true of both community and academic centres, given our ability and willingness to work together as a specialty. This, combined with the respectful collaborations we have with other specialties, is one of our greatest strengths and is what I believe sets us apart from many other countries and allows excellent patient care all across Canada.

I also believe that the CUA's efforts to offer continuing medical education and guidelines in all areas of urology, including orphan topics, contributes to ensuring optimal patient care. Over the years, the CUA has taken a leadership role in all aspects of urology by bringing together other specialties, as well as patient support groups dealing with urological problems. The association also works at improving patient care by increasing the support offered to training programs in any way possible, as we recognize that the future of urology lies in our candidate members.

While the needs of all urologists have commonality, community urologists have needs that are extremely variable, given the large varieties of practice and geography compared to urologists in academic centres. Community urologists make up the bulk of our association and we want to ensure the CUA adequately addresses the needs of this important part of our membership.

I am proud that the CUA board and sub-committees include more community urologists at this time than at any other time in our history. The hope is that more and more community urologists will want to get involved and continue to ensure that our leadership truly represents our membership. In our commitment to better understand what community urologists need and want, we have formed focus groups across the country to reach out and listen. We hope that by going out into the regions, Canadian urologists —both members and non-members— will elucidate their needs, as well as give us at the CUA an opportunity to showcase ourselves and all we have to offer as an association. This is critically important for the CUA to continue to grow and remain relevant for all its members.