

**Andrew E. MacNeily, MD,  
FRCSC**

### CUA President

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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.*



The last time the CUA had a two-year president was when Dr. Charles Robson's term was extended after a financial storm pre-empted what was intended to be CUA 1968 in Bermuda. My term was extended because of a storm of a different kind. Nevertheless, against all odds, I have witnessed many positive developments occurring within the CUA over the last two years because of the hard work of the central office and many volunteer urologists. A few of my observations:

- We now have a very robust Community Urology Committee (CUC), with a voice on both the CUA executive and the Finance Committee. Building on the foundations laid by Dr Frank Papanikolaou, CUC Chair, Dr. Lorne Aaron, continues to be a strong and reasoned voice for those 70% of CUA members who identify as community based. A new CUC-CUA mentorship program has been launched to provide CUA support for learning new skills, while minimizing the financial disincentives for both mentees and mentors.
- After four years of ferocious productivity as Chair of the Health Policy Committee, Dr. Omar Nazif passed the baton from coast to coast over to interim Chair, Dr. Troy Sitland. Troy is more than capable of navigating the complexities of interprovincial disparities related to reimbursement, hospital resources, and trainee disposition upon graduation regularly tackled by his committee. Thank you, Troy, for accepting this big responsibility.
- The newly created Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion policy is evolving into a fully functional committee that has been galvanized into credible action on this long overdue issue. Dr. Ashley Cox, incoming Vice-President of Communications, has graciously accepted the additional position of EDI Officer. Members can expect significant activity from the EDI committee. Watch this space closely.
- Our enterprise is fortunate to have a new incoming secretary, Dr. Marie-Paule Jammal. She has been Dr. Hassan Razvi's understudy over the past year and brings a fresh perspective and new energy to one of the most demanding positions on the CUA Board. Thank you, Marie-Paule.
- CUA finances are in great shape, owing to the combined innovations of our corporate office, Vice-President Education, Dr. Ricardo Rendon, Treasurer, Dr. Wassim Kassouf, and CUASF Council Chairs, Dr. Chris French and Dr. Anil Kapoor. Their collective knowledge, integrity, and tenacity have kept the CUA in a healthy state despite the uncertainty posed by COVID.
- The corporate office and the office of education have nimbly pivoted to virtual platforms for all forms of CME. This has improved the way we conduct educational events immeasurably. The CUA 2020 Night School was a great success, and the program for 2021 looks even more refined. Members will also notice several positive changes in the new website, including *Uropedia*, a repository for all your CUA educational needs. Check it out!
- As Chair of the Guidelines Committee, Dr. Bobby Shayegan has done a fantastic job of energizing committee members over the last two years to produce multiple guidelines and best practice reports, with several more in the pipeline. Anyone who has served on a Guidelines Committee will know how laborious a task these documents can be. For those who have not but enjoy the fruits of this committee's labor, please sign up to participate.

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- *CUAJ* underwent a seamless transition in leadership when Dr. Mike Leveridge succeeded Dr. Rob Siemens as Editor-in-Chief. As a result, *CUAJ* continues to thrive. The journal has incorporated section 3 CPD credits for selected articles, and conversion to an ahead-of-print model has significantly shortened the time from acceptance to article availability. The in-print *CUAJ* and website interface have both been updated, allowing for a more user-friendly experience. And there are more changes to come.
  - When Dr. Jerzy Gajewski retired as historian and Dr. Michael Leonard replaced him, it was like hand in glove. Jerzy's many years of dedication to chronicling our history was a hard act to follow. However, Mike stepped up with his regularly posted "*Seminal Moments in Urology*," which are entertaining, informative, and essential for keeping CUA memory alive.
  - CUA support of urology learners is at an all-time high. Programs such as QUEST, the Urology Fair, T-Res for case logging, and the newly revitalized Basic Science-Boot Camp are under the stewardship of your Postgraduate Educational Committee Chair, Dr. Keith Rourke. Additionally, The Residents and Fellows Committee now has direct input to the Board. And at the undergraduate level, Dr. Trustin Domes, Chair of the Canadian Undergraduate Urology Curriculum Committee, has done a fantastic job assembling video vignettes on "*What is urology*" to assist aspiring urologists to learn more about our great specialty.

I could go on. These are just a sampling of the many positive developments that have transpired during my tenure as President, despite a most challenging work environment created by the pandemic. I wish I had more space to discuss all our recent CUA successes. A global apology to those stakeholders I may have omitted.

As I enter my seventh decade, there is no denying there is less time ahead than behind. Apparently, I am now an elder statesman (secretly wondering what I want to be when I grow up). For me, it has been an enjoyable, uncertain, stop-and-start two years as your CUA President. I have been impressed by the energy and conviction that everyone involved has devoted to the CUA. Thank you all for your support and, at times, thoughtful opposition. We are all very fortunate to belong to the CUA. Please get involved. You will have no regrets.

That said, all things must pass. June 30, 2021 heralds the inauguration of your new President, Dr. Hassan Razvi. He brings a steady hand to the helm, with years of experience serving in multiple capacities for the CUA Executive. I am very confident that you will be pleased with his leadership.

Over to you, Hassan. MacNeily out!