



## Secretary's Note

Our AGM on September 20, 2013 marks the conclusion of the terms of our current President, Past-President, some other officers and some members of the Board. To stay current with these changes as they occur, please stay connected to the CAHS website and look for further information in the next issue of "Health Matters." Thank you

Sincerely,  
Robert Sindelar

## 2013 CAHS Distinguished Fellow



Dr. David Sackett

**Dr. David Sackett, Professor Emeritus, McMaster University** has been selected as the 2013 CAHS Distinguished Fellow. Dr. Sackett founded the first Department

of Clinical Epidemiology in Canada and is a pioneer of evidence-based medicine. David will speak on **"The Tribulations of Not Performing Randomized Trials: Helping Smart Doctors Stop Prescribing Dumb Treatments"** at the annual banquet on Thursday evening, September 19, 2013.

## President's Message

I do hope that you are enjoying some well-earned vacation – then you might ask why this message and newsletter? This year's symposium is of such importance that we want to be sure that you will not miss this event.

Our Academy is well established. We have carried out a number of assessments all of which have been well received. This is the way that we can and do make a difference. We need to continue to build our infrastructure so that we can do more assessments. We are increasingly asked to provide input on issues to our Federal Government. So far we have not been asked by Provincial Governments for such contributions but I suspect that will happen in the next year or two.

This past year has seen increasing engagement by our Fellows. We have had thoughtful responses to our requests for Fellows to serve on CCA assessment panels and for our submission to the Senate on Innovation in Health Care. We also received a number of nominations in response to the IAMP call seeking candidates to participate in the 2013 Young Physician Leaders Programme in Berlin, Germany during the World Health Summit in October 2013. Sincere congratulations to Drs. Sandrine de Ribaupierre (UWO) and Abdullah Saleh (UA) who have been successfully selected and will represent the CAHS at this illustrious event. We look forward to sharing reports of their experience.

This is my last message as President. I would like to express my thanks to Dr. Robert Sindelar who has worked hard to produce these newsletters. Allison Hardisty continues to do much more than we contract for – indeed without Allison it would be impossible for this organization to function. Your Board has served you well and I am sure will continue to provide excellent advice to Drs. Cairns and Herbert. Dr. Cathy Whiteside will be stepping down following nine years of service to CAHS; this past year she has worked on revising our by-laws – another reason for you to come to our meeting in Ottawa – to approve the by-laws. Cathy, thanks.

Yours sincerely,  
Thomas Marrie



Dr. Thomas J. Marrie

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Registration for the Forum, Fellow Induction ceremony and Dinner, and Annual General Meeting on Thursday and Friday, September 19 and 20, 2013 at the Ottawa Fairmont Chateau Laurier remains open should you have not yet registered. Accommodation is available at special group rates. Visit the website for more information: <http://www.cahs-acss.ca/forums/>.

Please make your reservations as soon as possible!

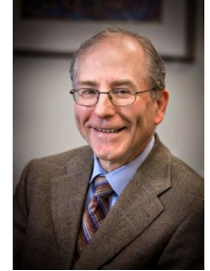




## Message from the President-Elect

I am delighted to be assuming the presidency of CAHS in September 2013. I am conscious of the distinguished leadership which has been provided by our past presidents – Paul Armstrong, Martin Schechter, Catharine Whiteside and Tom Marrie. I hope to build on the momentum they have established as we evolve to become the organization envisioned by our founding members back in 2004. Over the next two years, I plan to work with our Board and with all the CAHS Fellows to move the CAHS toward this goal.

Earlier this year CAHS Fellows were surveyed to gain a picture of how the Academy could enhance their engagement. The response was excellent and I think a clearer understanding has emerged of who you are and how you believe CAHS should be moving forward. There were many ideas provided for directions to pursue. I intend to work hard with the Board to implement as many as possible of the suggestions.



Dr. John Cairns

The following will be key initiatives:

- Increase CAHS activities that occur between the annual meeting and forum

**Local meetings** – there are substantial critical masses of Fellows in several cities, which could be the basis for stimulating, cross disciplinary meetings of CAHS fellows at the local level

**Interest groups within the fellowship** – our Fellows come from diverse fields within the Health Sciences. The Institute of Medicine has had considerable success in the US with the development of interest groups within the overall fellowship. We need to try out such initiatives.

**Increase the number and formats of assessments** – the conduct of assessments on health-related questions of importance to Canadians is the focus of our mission. We will be seeking more assessment activities, which in addition to major assessments, will include the options of shorter, focused assessments based upon work done by groups outside Canada (“Cast in the Canadian Context”) and forums or symposia organized on behalf of groups seeking an “honest broker”. Intensifying and broadening these endeavours will help us to deliver on our mission and will engage more CAHS Fellows.

**Improve our communications with Fellows** – this is a challenge for every academic organization, particularly when infrastructure is modest. However, it is clear that we have to do better and we will.

- Continue to modify the Annual Meeting and Forum to more fully engage the Fellows

**Timely, relevant, stimulating forum topics with time for plenty of discussion from attendees** – CAHS fellows indicate a high level of satisfaction. This year’s forum on Addiction continues this tradition and we must sustain it.

**Continue focused presentations by selected fellows featuring academic work of broad interest** – this was a popular innovation in 2012 and will be continued this year. We need an ongoing flow of ideas and volunteers.

**Develop time for meetings of interest groups**

- Enhance interactions with the Council of Canadian Academies (CCA) and with such groups as the Royal Society of Canada, the Canadian Academy of Engineers, the Conference Board of Canada and Health Canada

There is a possibility for stimulating interactions with our sister academies and for more fully realizing the potential of the CCA, making it more like the National Academies in the US. Collaborations with the Conference Board and with Health Canada could help us toward fulfilling our mission.

There are many opportunities out there for all of us to strengthen the CAHS, to more fully achieve our mission and to enhance engagement with our Academy. I am eagerly anticipating the next 2 years of working on your behalf. I hope to see you at the Annual Meeting in Ottawa on September 19-20, 2013.

Sincerely yours,  
John Cairns



## Details of the Annual General Meeting 2013

The Annual General Meeting of the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences will be held on Thursday and Friday, September 19 and 20, 2013 at the Ottawa Fairmont Chateau Laurier. Event registration is now open and accommodation is available at special group rates.

### The Annual Forum (September 19, 2013): “Substance use and Addiction”

This year’s Annual Forum is entitled “**Substance use and Addiction**” and addresses issues that have a tremendous impact on individuals and communities in our country and have been estimated to cost Canada around \$40 billion per year. There is a growing body of science regarding solutions to this challenge, but this is a complex societal issue where moral and emotional perspectives introduce a critical overlay to the available evidence. This is precisely the kind of challenge that the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences is meant to confront and accordingly, the Forum on September 19th, 2013 will address the full spectrum of these issues. Three multi-disciplinary sessions will respectively address the Biologic Approaches to Understanding Addiction, the Societal and Environmental Determinants of Substance Abuse, and Innovations in our Approach to Addiction. The symposium will conclude with a scholarly debate on the resolution of whether or not the use of illicit substances should be decriminalized. As in the past, it is hoped that the symposium will represent the launch of a full assessment by CAHS of an issue that is of major concern to Canadian society. We are most grateful to our Forum Planning Co-Chairs, Anthony Phillips and Martin Schechter, and their planning committee (John Cairns, Greta Cummings, Joy Johnson, Harvey Skinner, Sherry Stewart, Tim Stockwell) for the exciting and informative program.

### The 2013 Henry G. Friesen International Prize Lecture (Thursday lunch, September 19, 2013)

The Canadian Academy of Health Sciences is partnering with the Friends of CIHR to have the 2013 Friesen Lecturer address the Fellows and guests at our September 19 luncheon. The 2013 Henry G. Friesen International Prize in Health Research recipient is **Dr. Harvey V. Fineberg**, President of the Institute of Medicine. The title of his talk is “**America’s Ambivalence about the Right to Health Care**”. Under Dr. Fineberg’s guidance, the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences produces 60 to 70 in-depth studies per year, many of which address public health practices, medical care, medical education and health policies that guide many agencies of government and other sectors. He served as Provost of Harvard University from 1997 to 2001, following thirteen years as Dean of the Harvard School of Public Health. He has devoted most of his academic career to the fields of health policy and medical decision-making. His past research has focused on the process of policy development and implementation, assessment of medical technology, evaluation and use of vaccines, and dissemination of medical innovations.

The Henry G. Friesen International Prize in Health Research was established in 2005 by FCIHR in recognition of Dr. Henry Friesen’s distinguished leadership, vision and innovative contributions to health and health research. The \$35,000 Friesen Prize is awarded annually. The Prize, established by the Friends of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (FCIHR) in collaboration with CAHS, recognizes exceptional innovation by a visionary health leader of international stature.

### 2013 Induction of New Fellows (Thursday evening, September 19, 2013)

A highlight of our annual event each fall is the formal Induction of New Fellows into the Academy to take place Thursday evening, September 19. The 7 pm dinner and induction ceremony will be preceded by a 6 pm reception. We will welcome a record 54 Fellows this year, selected from a record number of 94 nominations. Specific information about each fellow is embargoed until the ceremony in Ottawa. Special thanks to members of the Fellowship Committee under the leadership of Dr. John Cairns:

#### Chair

- John Cairns, Medicine, UBC (President-Elect)

#### Medicine

- Michel Bergeron, McGill
- Ian Bowmer, Memorial U & CEO, Medical Council Of Canada
- Stuart Macleod, UBC
- Karen Mann, Dalhousie
- Louise Potvin, U Montreal
- Richard Riopelle, McGill

#### Pharmacy

- Robert Sindelar, UBC

#### Veterinary Medicine

- John Prescott, Guelph
- John Fairbrother, U Montreal

#### Nursing

- Andrea Baumann, McMaster
- Sally Thorne, UBC
- Anita Molzahn, U Alberta

#### Dentistry

- Chris McCulloch, U Toronto

#### Rehabilitation Medicine

- Susan Harris, UBC
- Annette Majnemer, McGill

(Details of the 2013 Forum are continued on next page)



### 2013 Scientific Presentations (Friday morning, September 20, 2013)

Following the tradition started last year, there are two general scientific presentations by Fellows for Fellows beginning at 8 am Friday morning:

**“PRIONS AND PRION-LIKE DISEASES : TWISTED SISTERS”** presented by Dr. Neil Cashman (a neurologist-neuroscientist at the University of British Columbia and Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute working in neurodegeneration and neuroimmunology)

**“WHY GENDER MATTERS TO PUBLIC HEALTH : A TALE OF THREE STUDIES”** presented by Dr. Joy Johnson (a Professor in the School of Nursing at the University of British Columbia and Scientific Director of the CIHR Institute of Gender and Health. She has a highly productive program of research focusing on health promotion and health behaviour change)

In addition, beginning at 9:20 am **THE 2nd PAUL ARMSTRONG LECTURE** will be presented by Dr. Lorne Tyrrell. This Lecture recognizes leadership & commitment to advance academic health sciences through academic service and innovation at local, national and international levels and achievements that are truly extraordinary.

Our **AGM** will take place following the PAUL ARMSTRONG LECTURE from 10:30 am - 12:30 pm. Please come and participate in the business of CAHS.

### THANK YOU TO ALL WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE RECENT FELLOWSHIP SURVEY!

Your Board-Council is committed to explore more and better ways to connect to and engage our Fellows in the activities and future planning of our Academy.

### REMEMBER the CAHS ONLINE PORTAL

The **online Fellows Portal** is designed to enhance your membership. You can update your online profile, upload your photograph and more easily communicate with other CAHS Fellows. It is now possible to upload your full CV/resume in the CAHS Private Profile directory providing a full and complete record of your expertise and enhancing our ability to identify and engage you in relevant activities.

### CAHS Board (2012-13; until AGM on September 20, 2013)

Please feel free to contact your Board-Council members should you have a great idea to enhance our Academy and help us become even more engaged with our Fellows. Bios for each Board Member may be found on our website at: <http://www.cahs-acss.ca/the-fellows/>

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| President: Thomas J. Marrie  | Past-President: Catharine I. Whiteside |
| President-Elect: John Cairns   | Secretary: Robert Sindelar             |
| Treasurer: Jawahar (Jay) Kalra   | Foreign Secretary: Peter Singer        |
| Chair, Standing Committee on Assessments: Dale Dauphinee   |  |
| Directors: Alastair Cribb, Greta Cummings, Janice Eng, Jocelyne Feine, Cy Frank, David Goltzman, Carol Herbert, Barbara Morrongiello, Sally Thorne |  |

For more information about the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences, our Fellows, our assessments, all our activities, and details about our 2013 Annual General Meeting and Fellow Induction event, please visit our CAHS home page at <http://www.cahs-acss.ca>