

Membership Update 2015

Volume 1, Number 1 | 6 October 2015

President's Message

My first year as President has been a successful and productive one for OMSOC. The Society's executive, fully reconstituted in Edmonton last September, ran a successful membership drive, negotiated a financially sound multi-year contract with the Society's administrator, and conducted a practice profile survey of the membership, the results of which were favourably received and utilized by the Royal College of Physicians of Surgeons of Canada in its review of the occupational medicine residency training program. Along the way we fielded no fewer than ten requests for policy comment from organizations across Canada, notably the Canadian Medical Association, and brought OMSOC's expertise to an international meeting of occupational medicine societies. My thanks to OMSOC's executive and Board members, and the other members at large whose efforts underlie these accomplishments.

As you will see from the items to follow, next year promises to be another good one. For the first time in its history OMSOC has planned a calendar of operation fully one year in advance. In addition to fixing the time and location of next year's conference and annual general meeting, your Board and executive have embarked on projects to advance the Society and the specialty practice of occupational medicine. These projects include further reform of OMSOC's membership categories, and an analysis of the implications of practicing occupational medicine across provincial boundaries.

Finally, I have heard the membership's desire for more frequent updates on OMSOC's status and progress. This newsletter is a direct response to that want. It is also an opportunity to keep us connected between meetings. We welcome your contributions to future editions. If you know of a conference that might interest the membership, or know an OMSOC member whose work deserves recognition, or if you have thoughts about the newsletter itself, please contact omsoc@secretariatcentral.com.

Warm regards,

Ken

2015 Annual General Meeting

OMSOC held a productive Annual General Meeting on 26 September. The highlights:

1. **Dr. Anil Adisesh** and **Dr. Paul Sperka** join **Dr. Steve Tsekrekos**, **Dr. Martine Baillargeon**, and **Dr. Aaron Thompson** on the Board of Directors.
2. **Dr. Ken Corbet** elected to a second one-year term as President.
3. Practice survey results presented.
4. Key dates for 2016 established.

Thank You

OMSOC thanks **Dr. Niels Koehncke** and **Dr. Tom Lawley** for their years of service on the Board of Directors. Thanks also to **Dr. Joan Saary**, who has volunteered her time to represent OMSOC locally, nationally, and internationally. Finally, thanks to **Dr. Michael Schweigert** for completing the Royal College's CPD application and for his many years of service on the CPD Committee.

Looking Ahead into 2016

February: Membership Drive

February is OMSOC's membership renewal month. Expect an email inviting you to renew your membership. You can help keep the drive's costs to a minimum by responding quickly. Thank you in advance for supporting OMSOC.

March-May: Conference and AGM Planning

OMSOC will conduct a needs assessment and plan its 2016 conference and annual general meeting in the spring. We need your help to do so. Please give careful consideration to the needs assessment you will receive electronically. The assessment's results shape the conference's content.

Save the Date: 2016 Conference and AGM

OMSOC is pleased to announce it will hold its 2016 conference and annual general meeting in conjunction with the New England College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine's. NECOEM welcomed OMSOC in 2012, and the combined event was a resounding success. OMSOC has accepted NECOEM's kind offer to return. NECOEM's conference takes place on **2-3 December 2016**. OMSOC will hold its conference and AGM on **4 December 2016**. Content and particulars to follow.

Upcoming Events

1. Monthly executive meetings continue through the balance of the year.
 2. Board and executive members will shortly receive a poll to plan the fourth-quarter conference call.
 3. Next membership update: December 2015.
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