



## Drumheller Physician Selected for Award of Distinction

**D**r. Lawrence Olfert of Drumheller is the 2007 Recipient of RPAP's Alberta Rural Physician Award of Distinction.

"Following a review of the outstanding candidates nominated this year, the RPAP Board selected Dr. Olfert based on his passion for rural medicine, his outstanding support of rural medical education and his role modeling for shadowing medical students in the Drumheller community," says Dr. Clayne Steed, RPAP Board Chair.

Dr. Olfert was presented with the Award of Distinction at a community celebration co-hosted by RPAP and the Drumheller community on the 25th of June, 2007 .



The RPAP Award of Distinction honours and recognizes the work of all rural physicians, especially those who provide Alberta rural communities with outstanding medical services and who also make huge contributions to medical practice and to their communities. It is presented annually

to an Alberta rural family physician who lives and has worked in rural Alberta for at least four years, and who demonstrates a superior commitment and contribution to the community through medical practice, teaching of other health professionals, conducting research, and volunteering in the community.



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# News In Brief

## Recruitment and Retention Workshops in Northern Alberta

The Northern Alberta Development Council (NADC) in partnership with RPAP and Alberta Municipal Affairs and Housing offered two community workshops on Northern Health Funding and Community Involvement in Physician Recruitment and Retention in March 2007.

The first workshop was held in Lac La Biche on 6 March and saw the participation of 33 individuals from the following communities: Glenevis, Westlock, St. Paul, Cold Lake, Athabasca, Lac La Biche, Wabasca, Smoky Lake, Elk Point and Edmonton. RPAP supported the participation of Terry Danchuk, chair of the Redwater community Recruitment and Retention committee, and Russ Robertson, co-chair of the Cold Lake Communities Leading Regional Recruitment and Retention coalition. Terry and Russ presented the workshop participants with concrete examples of best practices from their own community experiences in R&R work. David Kay, RPAP Executive Director, gave a presentation on "Alberta's

Physician Supply and Current Recruitment and Retention Strategies." Rebekah Seidel, Rural Physician Consultant – North and Richard Larsen, Community Development Officer with Alberta Municipal Affairs and Housing, facilitated an interactive process which explored success stories and what works regarding community participation in recruitment and retention.

The second workshop was held in Falher on 27 March. Forty-six participants came from the following communities: Falher, Grande Cache, Grande Prairie, High Prairie, Atikameg, Manning, Fairview, Berwyn, Spirit River, Valleyview, Peace River, Girouxville, McLennan, Grimshaw, Wembley, Nampa and Whitecourt. Terry Danchuk from Redwater also attended this workshop, offering examples of best practices from Redwater. Rebekah Seidel and Richard Larsen led a similar process in which the participants talked about the success stories in each of their respective communities regarding physician recruitment and retention.

## Did You Know?

Of the 6,844 Alberta physicians listed by the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta in July 2007, 1,595 were rural physicians.

## CaRMS Matches

Following the second iteration of the CaRMS match in April 2007, nine of 11 Rural Alberta South (RAS) resident positions were filled and 15 of 15 Rural Alberta North (RAN) positions filled.

## Recruitment Trip to Great Britain Provides Results

RPAP was part of an Alberta physician recruitment mission to England 10-17 May 2007. The purposes of the trip were to promote Alberta at the Primary Care 2007 Conference and Exhibition in Birmingham, England, to further refine the Alberta promotional material and techniques developed from a December UK recruitment mission, to pilot the techniques of pre-screening practice-eligible GPs and specialists and the hosting of physician information sessions, and to gain a better understanding of the UK medical education and licensing systems. Followup activities include a "working holiday" pilot are now under way.

## New ARFMN Resident Orientation Held

New Family Medicine residents and their families joining the Alberta Rural Family Medicine Network (ARFMN's) RAN and RAS residency training program took part in an orientation at the end of June in Waterton Lakes National Park. Over the two-day session, residents participated in team building exercises, met with their new units, attended an IT session and learned about the RPAP and key administrative procedures. While the residents were busy getting on with this next big step in their careers, their spouses and families got acquainted through special RPAP programming. But it wasn't all work. Residents and their families enjoyed an afternoon of leisure with a choice of a boat cruise, horseback riding or a hike at Cameron Lake. Welcome aboard!

# Cold Lake

## Chosen for New Rural Community Award



The RPAP and the Alberta Chambers of Commerce selected the City of Cold Lake from four nominees as the inaugural recipient of the Rural Community Award of Distinction.



Other nominees included the Town of Bashaw, the Town of Manning and MD of Northern Lights #22 and the Town of Whitecourt. The Award was presented in Peace River at the Alberta Chambers of Commerce Annual General Meeting on 26 May 2007. The City of Cold Lake was selected as the 2007 recipient community because its nomination best exemplified the overall attributes of successful community involvement and partnership.

“It is so easy to be complacent and say recruiting a physician is the responsibility of the doctors, or the hospital or the health region,” says Dr. Clayne Steed, Chair, RPAP Board of Directors.” “These communities recognized change and how critical it is for the community to be involved. You may be recruiting a physician to the practice but you also need to recruit the family to the community. Doing this has made these communities successful.”

This new award annually recognizes a rural Alberta community that has best developed innovative and collaborative approaches and solutions resulting in successful physician recruitment and retention in their area. Cold Lake was selected as best exemplifying the overall attributes of successful community involvement and partnership. Following a potential loss of obstetrics and gynecology services and a severe shortage of family physicians a few years ago, a community coalition was formed which has established strategies that have resulted in the successful recruitment of a variety of physicians and other health care personnel. The coalition is also interested in retention strategies and plans to host a recruitment and retention conference in 2008.

Rural communities can play an important role in co-managing their local physician resources by understanding the unique challenges facing physicians, creating physician-friendly environments and by participating more fully in recruiting and retaining physicians.

## Rural Service Awards

Albertans were among nine doctors from across Canada presented with the Rural Service Award at the 15th Annual Rural and Remote Medicine Conference. Drs. Dennis Boettger of High River, Robert Cameron of Pincher Creek, A. William Marcoux of Cochrane, and Doug Myhre of Lethbridge, were the Alberta recipients of the honour.

The Society of Rural Physicians of Canada (SRPC) Rural Service Award honours and recognizes the work of our “unsung heroes” who provide Canada’s rural communities with outstanding medical services often in challenging circumstances.

# Student Outreach update



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## New Pre-Med Club at UofL

The 2006/2007 year marked the beginning of a new era at the University of Lethbridge with the establishment of the Pre-Med Club. This was the first year pre-med undergraduate students have banded together to promote their field of study through a series of events. The Pre-Med Club was designed to meet the needs of many science-related students interested in pursuing a career in the medical field. The Club itself consists of close to 100 members, all of whom are interested in learning more

about the medical field and the possible avenues available to them upon graduation. The Club's main focus is to help prepare students for the medical school admissions process, to provide an atmosphere of knowledge sharing, to promote humanitarian actions, and to facilitate social and academic networks.

The Club held an RPAP Information Night featuring Dr. Jennifer Burk, RAS Resident, as the Key speaker. The Pre-Med Club Executive are left to right: Nicole Black, Keiko McCreary, Tomasz Budny and in back, Tara Daley, President.

## UofC SIMS/RPAP Job Shadowing Field Trip

Nine members of the UofC Students Interested in the Medical Sciences (SIMS) group enjoyed an observational shadowing experience on 12 January 2007 with Dr. Ron Gorsche of High River. The three-hour field trip included a tour of the hospital, a clinic and a visit to Cargill, a local industry.

## School Outreach Activities in Southern Alberta

### Coleman Career Fair

The Coleman High School was the location for a career fair for students from the Crowsnest Pass area. The auditorium had a number of displays for which the students could choose to learn more about a future career. RPAP was on hand with two UofC medical students, Regan Steed and Lee Bogle, to answer questions for 800 + students who came to the career fair to learn more about their future careers.

### Job Shadow in Lethbridge

Seven students had the opportunity for a Job Shadow with Dr. Tim Doty at the Lethbridge Regional Hospital on 23 November 2007. Dr. Doty shared stories of entry into medical school and experiences to date. A tour of the hospital with a visit to the radiology department, laboratory, and clinical departments ensured the students had a understanding of a career in rural medicine.

## School Outreach in Northern Alberta

10 February 2007 saw RPAP involvement in a centralized career conference in Fort McMurray. Rebekah Seidel, RPAP Rural Physician Consultant North, along with Malgorzata Ejsmont and Ian Sutanto, two medical students who originate from Fort McMurray, facilitated an interactive rural medicine presentation at three different sessions during the day. Questions on rural medicine were posed to students with RPAP prizes offered to students who had the correct answers. In total, there were 32 students in attendance, including 3 First Nations students, plus 7 parents.

Participating schools included Father Patrick Mercredi High School, Composite High School, Westwood Community High School and La Loche Community School.

Evaluations rated the RPAP presentation highly, particularly the participatory nature of the presentation and the presence of medical students to field questions.

The Battle River school division career fair was held on 21 February. RPAP's Rebekah Seidel, two medical students (Brandon Ball from a rural school in the division and Julie Kromm from a rural school in Red Deer area) along with East Central Health's Tammy Syrnyk led four sessions focused specifically on medicine. The sessions saw 88 high school student participants from the following schools - Bashaw, Bawlf, Central High Sedgewick Public, Daysland, Forestburg, Hay Lakes, Ryley, Tofield, Camrose Composite High School, New Norway, and Our Lady of Mount Pleasant. The interactive nature of the presentations led to lots of discussion and again prizes were handed out to students who correctly answered the medicine focused questions posed to them. Evaluations rated the presentations highly and saw a number of students leave seriously considering medicine as one of their career options.

# Highlights From RPAP's Rural Academic Development Coordinator

*By Dr. Hugh Hindle*



This spring saw the completion of two major projects to support RPAP's clinical teachers. **Practical Prof**, our new teaching website was launched in March at [www.PracticalProf.ab.ca](http://www.PracticalProf.ab.ca). The site serves as a how-to manual for our preceptors, whether they are new to teaching or more experienced. We know that it is often difficult to get away from the office and emergency room to attend Cabin Fever or Fall Harvest, so it will also provide links to key presentations from those meetings. Uniquely, the site is supplemented with customizable documents to use in the office, PowerPoint presentations and video clips, allowing us to cover the whole range of clinical teaching from the initial orientation to the practice to the final assessment. Check it out!



**Practical Prof**

The "Learner in Difficulty" is a workshop module produced by the Foundation for Medical Practice Education at McMaster University. The Alberta RPAP and a "sister" organization in Ontario, ROMP sponsored the production of this module, and Dr Peter Wells and I helped to develop the content. The module, designed to be completed in a 90 minute small group session, presents three cases where students or residents appear to be struggling in a clinical rotation. It provides a great framework for teachers to analyze why the learner is in difficulty and how to develop some remedial strategies. The module premiered to much acclaim at the May 2007 Rural and Remote meeting of the Society of Rural Physicians of Canada (SRPC) in Saskatoon.

If you are interested in hosting a small group session on the Learner in Difficulty in your community, please contact me at [hugh.hindle@arfmn.ab.ca](mailto:hugh.hindle@arfmn.ab.ca).



# Medical Student Initiatives

# up



## Annual Medical School Conference and Retreat

# AMSCAR 2007

The AMSCAR Conference was the highlight of the year for many medical students. About 300 students from both universities attend this relaxing weekend of learning, partying and skiing in Banff in February. This year, RPAP added a number of skills to the learning sessions and over 180 students spent one afternoon moving through a number of skill stations provided by Tyco Medical – (Suturing) , Medline Medical Supply – (Gloving and Gowning for the OR), Alberta Perinatal Health Program – (Abdominal Palpation and Vaginal Examination), Canadian Forces (Airway Management, IV starts etc.), and RPAP – (Injections).

## Rural Tours and Skills Days

Twenty six UofA students spent a weekend in September 2006 in the beautiful Peace River Valley being educated and royally entertained by the local staff and physicians there. After a full day of skills, everyone attended a BBQ and horseback riding at a ranch in the valley. The next rural tour and skills day is planned for St. Paul in September.

Fifty UofC students spent a day in April in Drumheller hosted and taught skills by the hospital staff, EMS staff and physicians there. Excitement for the day was provided by not only practicing deliveries but also the attendance of two students at a real birth! Everyone finished the day with a visit to the Royal Tyrell Museum.

## Physician Shadowing

Ever popular, “shadowing” this year involved 127 medical students from both the UofA and UofC spending the weekend with rural physicians in the Emergency Room and in their practices from every corner of Alberta. 117 Physicians participated.

# date

by Rosemary Burness

## Rural Medical Interest Groups

Hello, my name is Julie Kromm, and I am very excited to be the new Rural Medical Interest Group representative at the University of Alberta for the coming 2007/2008 school year. Having grown up in a rural community 30 minutes east of Red Deer, I have come to believe that the lifestyle is unequalled. There are various opportunities available to practise medicine in rural areas, which many of my peers are either unaware of or underestimate the possibilities of. I believe that exposing medical students to what rural medicine and rural living is truly like, and debunking many of their mistaken viewpoints is vital in raising interest in the area. And the earlier this is done in their careers the better. In cooperation with RPAP and the Office of Rural and Regional Affairs at the UofA this is exactly what I intend to do in the coming year. There are many exciting things planned for next year, including various informative talks and a clinical skills day hosted by a rural hospital, to name a few. I personally know of students in my med class coming from urban centers, who are now very interested in rural medicine, and I hope that this success can be carried on throughout the up coming year.

Heather Hurdle, Garland Jonker and Robert Warren have done an exceptional job over the past year to encourage rural medicine for students at the UofC.

# NEW FACES

## *RAS Unit Changes*



Dr. Stan Boyar took over the reins as Unit Director of the Rural Alberta South (RAS) node of the Alberta Rural Family Medicine Network (ARFMN) effective 1 June. He replaces Dr. Peter Koegler whose term ended.

Boyar is a graduate of the UofC and a Certificant in Emergency Medicine of the College of Family Physicians of Canada as well as a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians of Canada. He is a Preceptor with RAS and maintains an emergency medicine practice in Medicine Hat. The Unit Director has the major responsibility for the planning, development, promotion, implementation and evaluation of all residency teaching by and for their node.



Cheryl Morin is the new Rural Unit Coordinator, taking over from Chris Harty who has left RPAP to become the Clinic Manager for Hague Clinics in Lethbridge. Morin has more than 20 years of office, secretarial and clerical experience, much of that time spent with the Palliser Health Region.

Boyar and Morin join a team consisting of Dr. Charlotte Haig, Regional Site Coordinator and Karen LaDuke, Regional Site Academic Support Coordinator in Lethbridge; and Dr. Sid Harrison, Regional Site Coordinator and Melanie White, Regional Site Academic Support Assistant in Medicine Hat. The main RAS office is located in Medicine Hat with a Lethbridge office as well.

The ARFMN trains up to 60 Family Medicine residents per year in rural and regional community and hospital practices and provides positive exposure to rural community living while the residents are still in training. The Network takes advantage of a rural curriculum and a "network" of rural-based physician teachers and university faculty.

The ARFMN is a unique collaborative venture coordinated and funded by RPAP and offered through the Family Medicine departments of the Universities of Alberta and Calgary. The Network was developed by a multi-stakeholder working group in 2000 and accepted its first entry class in July 2001.

# Opportunities

## Interested in being a CCHSA Surveyor

*This is a Career Development Opportunity*

The Canadian Council on Health Services Accreditation is seeking clinical physicians in rural centers who are practicing in CCHSA accredited institutions, to become surveyors. The new accreditation standards utilize teams of clinical and administrative experts to review client care. Rural physicians are needed to share their clinical knowledge as well as their health care experience in the review of organizational practices.

As a surveyor with CCHSA you will be provided with the opportunity to not only learn about good practices in other facilities but you will be able to see them in

operation, speak with the individuals who created and implemented them and develop contacts across the country. This is information that you can bring "home" to your own facility for enhanced quality patient outcomes. Surveying also provides you with an opportunity to contribute to your profession and share what you have learned with others.

Interested individuals are asked to contact Donna Hutton, Senior Advisor, Western/Northern Satellite Office. Contact information: toll free 1.866.452.3800 or Email: Donna.Hutton@cchsa-ccass.ca

## Sentinel Physicians Sought

Are you a rural physician interested in Influenza vaccine effectiveness, and the epidemiology of Influenza in Alberta? The Tarrant program is seeking volunteer doctors to be sentinel practitioners taking swabs from patients with acute viral illness for the 2007/2008 influenza season.

TARRANT is now recruiting new members to expand our existing sentinel physician network to better represent more areas of Alberta. We particularly need more doctors from rural areas. Community physicians are

## PROFILE OF A CENTRAL ALBERTA MEDICAL PRACTICE

*By Rebekah Seidel,  
Rural Physician Consultant North*

The town of Rimbey, with just over 2000 residents, is located in the heart of Blindman River country, northwest of Red Deer by 40 minutes on highway #20. Rimbey has been fortunate through the years to boast medical service by a number of doctors. Current practice sees five physicians serving a total rural population of 15,000 in Rimbey and surrounding area.

The local hospital is currently under major renovations, with completion set for 2008. The medical clinic is a modern building which houses the five doctors. Dr. Kim Adzich has been practicing in Rimbey for the last almost 14 years, originally being attracted by the stable and high quality medical care offered in the community.

Dr. Michael Boorman returned to his home town to practice with his father, Dr. George Boorman almost 30 years ago now. Many of Rimbey's residents can attest to the two generational care they have received from the Boorman family. Dr. Michael was also the recipient of the 2004 RPAP Rural Physician Award of Distinction. Dr. Jurie deBruyn joined the Rimbey medical team in September 2004 after acquiring extensive general practice experience in South Africa. Dr. Rob Nawrot has practiced in Rimbey for 22 years and is the business manager for the town's medical clinic. The only female physician in Rimbey is Dr. Monica Wickland-Weller who has been a member of the team of doctors here for 20 years.



Her female presence is welcomed by many women in the community, as well as by her male colleagues at the clinic.

Many of Rimbey's docs originate from rural Alberta, adding to the statistical data which shows that physicians who originate from rural communities tend to stay longer in rural community practice. All the doctors in Rimbey are also actively involved in their community through a variety of personal interest areas ranging from photography to gourmet meal catering!



a vital resource to provide information on the majority of patients with influenza-like illness who aren't admitted to hospital. In the past community sentinels have often provided the first isolates of influenza virus in the province, well ahead of samples from hospitalized patients.

If you are interested in viral illness, and have a community practice where you see such patients, we want to hear from you. Walk in clinics are good, so are those with pediatric populations. You only have to take nasal swabs from likely patients with acute influenza-like illness, and check off 5 questions. The Vaccine effectiveness part of the study pays \$10 for each good sample with complete form. All supplies are provided by TARRANT.

The Alberta Recording and ReseArch NeTwork (TARRANT) is a group of sentinel physicians across the province. For more than 25 years we have provided clinical

information and viral specimens to inform which viruses are circulating and causing respiratory illnesses. Isolates submitted by the sentinels are used to track influenza epidemics across Alberta. We also collaborate with the British Columbia Centre for Disease Control on the Vaccine Effectiveness Study that estimates the effectiveness of flu vaccine each season through a unique case control design. Since both the vaccine strains and the circulating virus change regularly, this is an important continuing project.

We're hoping you will join our Viral Watch. For more information about the program, please contact Susan Quach or Krista Wilkinson by phone at 403.210.9261 or by email: [tarrant@ucalgary.ca](mailto:tarrant@ucalgary.ca). More details on participation can be obtained from the TARRANT website [www.ucalgary.ca/tarrant/participate.html](http://www.ucalgary.ca/tarrant/participate.html).

## UPCOMING Events

### 14-16 September

Peace River CME Conference

### 18 September

RPAP Recruitment Fair @ UofA

### 19 September

RPAP RHA Mini Recruitment and Retention Workshop, Calgary (tentative)

### 20 September

RPAP Recruitment Fair, UofC

### 21-22 September

UofA/ RPAP Fall Harvest Faculty Development Workshop, Coast Terrace Hotel, Edmonton

### 20-23 February

2008 WONCA World Rural Health Conference, Calabar, Nigeria

# RPAP Communication Tools Under Development

## Practical Prof Website Now Online

Be sure to check out RPAP's new faculty development website at [www.practicalprof.ab.ca](http://www.practicalprof.ab.ca). Practical Prof serves as a how-to manual for preceptors and is supplemented with customizable documents to use in the office, PowerPoint presentations and video clips.

## Improvements Made to RPAP Websites

Work is underway to make one of RPAP's best resources for rural doctors even better. The Virtual Library provides free access for rural physicians to selected licensed on-line medical textbooks, journals

and other resources. Planned changes for the site will make it quicker and easier for physicians to get in and use the resources.

RPAP's main website ([www.rpap.ab.ca](http://www.rpap.ab.ca)) was also redeveloped to improve navigability and to better distinguish information so that users can find what they are looking for more easily. As well, The Alberta Rural Family Medicine Network (ARFMN) site ([www.arfmn.ab.ca](http://www.arfmn.ab.ca)) was refreshed and moved to a CMS platform to enable information to be updated more easily.

# Medical Information Services (MIS)



By Dr. Barrie McCombs

## MD Consult

This issue's column provides a quick tour of some highlights of the MD Consult website which has recently undergone extensive revision. This useful resource is available to all rural Alberta physicians who have registered to use the RPAP-sponsored Virtual Library for Rural Physicians program.

To use MD Consult, go to [www.mdconsult.com](http://www.mdconsult.com) and use the same user name and password that you use for the Virtual Library website. If you have not yet registered to use the Virtual Library, or have forgotten your user name and password, see the contact information at the end of the article.

### HOME PAGE

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It is now much easier to find information on the website. The major resources are all available from tabs at the top of the page. A search window allows you to search "all resources" or to limit your search to one of the major sections, such as Books, Journals, or Patient Education.

### BOOKS

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Our subscription to the MD Consult "Core Collection" provides access to fifty textbooks in Family Medicine, Emergency Medicine, and most specialties. New editions are added as they are available from the publishers.

### JOURNALS

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The Journals page provides the full text of over fifty journals. A new feature is summaries of current articles in major medical journals such as JAMA, NEJM, Lancet, BMJ and CMAJ.

### THE CLINICS

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The Clinics provides detailed monographs on selected topics in primary care and specialties. For example, the March 2007 of "Primary Care Clinics" included a review article titled "Smoking Cessation Tactics for the Busy Clinician".

### PATIENT EDUCATION

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This section is very popular with Virtual Library users who are family physicians. The patient materials can be customized with the physicians name and special instructions. Some materials are also available in Spanish.

### DRUGS

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The drug information is American and does not include unique Canadian trade names such as "Clavulin", which is known as "Augmentin" in the USA.

### GUIDELINES

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The clinical practice guidelines are also American. Canadian guidelines are available on the Canadian Medical Association website ([cma.ca](http://cma.ca)).

### IMAGES

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This new section allows users to quickly search all images on the MD Consult website. These can be downloaded to your own computer for use in patient education.

### CME

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The Continuing Medical Education section includes free CME programs which provide a monograph on a selected topic, a self-test quiz, and the answers to the quiz. These may be useful for rural physicians who are studying for their MCC or CFPC exams.

### FURTHER INFORMATION

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[www.ruralnet.ab.ca/medinfo/library/](http://www.ruralnet.ab.ca/medinfo/library/)

Visit our public website (above) or contact the RPAP Medical Information Coordinator, Dr. Barrie McCombs at [barrie.mccombs@rpap.ab.ca](mailto:barrie.mccombs@rpap.ab.ca) or call 403.289.4227.

# New Emergency Medicine Modules Under Development

*Rural physicians wanting to update their emergency skills will soon have more new resources to choose from. Two additional modules for RPAP's General Emergency Medicine Skills (GEMS) program are being developed on Emergency Surgical Procedures and Shock and the original four modules are being updated.*



**G**EMS is a self-study multi-media training program that enables rural physicians to upgrade emergency skills at work or at home. Rural physicians are highly skilled professionals who must be able to handle every situation that rolls through the emergency room door. Maintaining clinical competency can be a challenge, though, with busy schedules and the distance from urban training sites.

## GEMS Continuing Learning Modules offer rural physicians opportunities to:

- Enhance emergency medicine skills
- Gain better patient/physician outcomes
- Achieve greater job satisfaction
- Gain MainPro-C credits
- Access hands on experience with STARS Human Patient Simulator (HPS)
- Access anatomy lab opportunities

Training modules are currently available on the following topics:

- Preparation for Transport
- C-spine X-ray and CT Head
- Rapid Sequence Intubation
- Central Venous Access

## How to Access GEMS Training:

1. Download the GEMS application form from the RPAP web site
2. Complete the training
3. Complete pre- and post-testing to obtain MainPro-C credits

To be eligible for RPAP GEMS Enrichment Program funding, the physician must take all four modules, complete the training within a two-month period of time, complete the STARS HPS, and complete an evaluation. Physicians who have a desire to be more "hands on", can request instruction in the UofC anatomy lab for a morning.

## Upcoming HPS sessions with STARS:

12 September - Wetaskiwin, Wetaskiwin Healthcare Centre

27 September - Redwater, Redwater Healthcare Centre

STARS has been traveling the province from Banff to Beaverlodge and Valleyview to Vulcan giving HPS training to rural

physicians. Keep checking the RPAP website for locations close to you. After you have completed your self-study of the four modules, you must register with STARS for the HPS course that you wish to attend, remembering to identify yourself as a GEMS candidate. This allows staff to evaluate your GEMS skills. You should not just "show-up" at the location. To register with STARS in the north, contact Jackie Dawson at 780.447.5492 and in the south contact Chad Hegge at 403.295.1811. When you have successfully completed your HPS training, you are then eligible for a \$1,000 honorarium from RPAP. The GEMS program meets the CFPC accreditation criteria, so you can then obtain an additional 3 Main Pro-C credits.

Application Forms for GEMS Enrichment Training can be downloaded from the RPAP website at [http://www.rpap.ab.ca/practising\\_physicians/gems.html](http://www.rpap.ab.ca/practising_physicians/gems.html)

Contact Sheila Brown, RPAP Program Support Coordinator at 780.423.9911 or [sheila.brown@rpap.ab.ca](mailto:sheila.brown@rpap.ab.ca) for more information.

# Welcome

## New Rural Alberta Physician Families

Please join us in welcoming to Rural Alberta the following physicians and their families. Note this list is supplied by the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta and may include a full range of practice categories ranging from temporary locums to fully licensed and practising physicians. Errors or changes to this information should be reported directly to the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta.

## RPAP Office Has Moved!

The RPAP office moved into its new more functional and less expensive location 1 April 2007. Our telephone and fax numbers remain unchanged. Our new address is:

Suite #2801  
Telus Plaza South  
10020 - 100 Street NW  
Edmonton, Alberta  
Canada T5J 0N3

### NOVEMBER 2006

Dr. Bashrat Amien – *Fairview*  
Dr. Andries Barnard – *Slave Lake*  
Dr. Heera-Gauvri Bhagat – *Edson*  
Dr. Lienki du Plessis – *Cold Lake*  
Dr. Frans Fourie – *Bonnyville*  
Dr. Leon Greeff – *Cold Lake*  
Dr. Rahul Khosla – *Bowen Island*  
Dr. Oluseyi Oladele – *Drayton Valley*  
Dr. Jean Trollip – *Airdrie*  
Dr. Marius Verdoorn – *Fort Vermilion*  
Dr. Naomi White – *Cold Lake*

### DECEMBER 2006

Dr. Zlatko Kostic – *Lloydminster*  
Dr. Margaret Naylor – *Rimbey*  
Dr. Ayobami Oyeboode – *Elk Point*  
Dr. Meyer Schoeman – *Innisfail*  
Dr. Hendrik van Jaarsveldt – *Westlock*

### JANUARY 2007

Dr. Vincent Lin – *Cold Lake*  
Dr. Kimberly Loeffler – *Leduc*  
Dr. Foose Onsongo – *High Level*  
Dr. Dhanasagren Reddy – *Lloydminster*  
Dr. Neetu Saini – *Camrose*  
Dr. Minesh Singh – *Lloydminster*  
Dr. Sara Wiesenbergl – *Bragg Creek*

### FEBRUARY 2007

Dr. Rahim Damji – *Strathmore*  
Dr. Johannes Hendriks – *Brooks*  
Dr. Megan Milliken – *Olds*  
Dr. Carmen O'Brien – *Mayerthorpe*  
Dr. Hendrik Van Rooyen – *Fort Vermilion*

### MARCH 2007

Dr. Omoniyi Adebisi – *High Level*  
Dr. Bashrat Amien – *Vegreville*  
Dr. Helen Frank – *Vegreville*  
Dr. Herbert Mukiibi – *St. Paul*  
Dr. Harald Schriefers – *Fort Macleod*  
Dr. Colin Sentongo – *Sundre*

### APRIL 2007

Dr. Amanda Evans – *Okotoks*  
Dr. Georg Portwig – *Camrose*

### MAY 2007

Dr. Jaco Calitz – *Whitecourt*  
Dr. Hillet Conradie – *Hinton*  
Dr. Daniel du Plooy – *Wabasca*  
Dr. Carol Faid – *Hinton*  
Dr. Riyaan Hassen – *Wabasca*  
Dr. Paul Jansen – *Edson*  
Dr. Tafirenyika Madzimure – *Peace River*  
Dr. Bernard Nwaka – *Fort McMurray*  
Dr. Tolulola Taiwo – *Fort McMurray*  
Dr. Giovanni Urbani – *Oyen*  
Dr. Pieter Van Heerden – *Fort Vermilion*  
Dr. Frederik Wiesner – *Hinton*

### JUNE 2007

Dr. Lindsay Bick – *Wainwright*  
Dr. Sarah Corser – *Hinton*  
Dr. Noel Corser – *Hinton*  
Dr. Charlene Greef – *Two Hills*  
Dr. Kevyn Letley – *Wainwright*  
Dr. Johannes Mooman – *Brooks*  
Dr. Thian Muller – *Brooks*  
Dr. Tanya - Weideman – *Canmore*

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