**WELCOME**

Craig Winser, IT Services (ITS) Senior Systems Analyst, will be working with the Department of Medicine as part of a one year pilot project to develop a variety of IT applications – projects approved through the department’s IT Steering Committee.

Craig’s work is well known across the department and Capital Health. He helped the Division of Rheumatology develop an online clinical tool for use by a multidisciplinary team during a patient’s ambulatory visit that then sends a report automatically to HIP and the referring physician at the conclusion of the visit. He also developed Capital Health’s e-discharge summary contract with Dr. Stephen Conduit, Sandra Janes and Dr. Stavros Savvopoulus, and is in the process of creating an e-transfer tool for Capital Health and revising the e-discharge summary contract.

Craig will begin his work with the department on a part-time basis, but as his active projects are completed, he will work with Tom Hennessy, Data Analyst, and remain fully embedded with the ITS department which will ensure he continues to have direct access to technical resources and contacts.

**Dr. Paul Hernandez, Acting Head, Division of Respiratory Medicine**

Dr. Paul Hernandez was appointed Acting Head, Division of Respiratory Medicine, in early March. He joined the department as a respirologist in 1995 and has since built quite a clinical and research portfolio. Dr. Hernandez is a professor of medicine and medical director of the Pulmonary Rehabilitation Program and MICU at the QEII. He chairs the adult respiratory examination committee of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada and co-chairs the Canadian Thoracic Society’s COPD clinical assembly. His clinical and research areas of interest include COPD, pulmonary rehabilitation, pulmonary hypertension and clinical practice guidelines.

Congratulations to Kathryn and Helen on their new appointments! The Department of Medicine is very fortunate to have these two knowledgeable, talented and hard working admin staff working with us.

**Mark Your Calendars**

**RESEARCH DAY 2014**

Thursday, May 1
12:15 p.m. – 6 p.m.
Heritage Room, Pier 21
RSVP by April 24 to Kathryn.nelson@cdha.nshealth.ca

On the agenda:
12:15 p.m. Poster set-up Welcome Pavilion, Pier 21
12:20 p.m. Poster Lunch
1:20 p.m. Welcome
1:25 p.m. Oral Presentations (four presenters)
2:15 p.m. Keynote Speaker: Dr. L.J. Tan
3:15 p.m. Poster Presentations
4:15 p.m. Oral Presentations (six presenters)
5:00 p.m. Wine & Cheese Reception
6:00 p.m. Presentation of Awards

**SPRING PARTY 2014**

Wednesday, June 18
Reception – 6:30 p.m. Dinner – 7 p.m.
Prince George Hotel

Check your inboxes in April for your invitation.

**DEPARTMENT HEAD MESSAGE**

Most of us have become very adept at negotiating the healthcare environment with full recognition of its economical, political, technological and labor influences. This doesn’t mean, however, that we are immune to the environmental pressures on our professional activities.

With preparations underway to best care for patients under the circumstances of a potential nursing labour disruption, it is a difficult time at Capital Health. Your efforts to do the absolute best for patients deserve to be commended as do members’ ongoing academic, clinical and research commitments.

This month’s newsletter recognizes a host of member achievements and, as always, serves as a tool to keep members up to date on developments in the department. Part of the intent of the department’s newsletter is to help us see beyond immediate circumstances and appreciate that we are constantly making great things happen within our changing environment. This is especially warranted at this time. I trust you will find the information here of interest to you. Should you wish to see a topic covered in a future newsletter or one of my monthly updates, please contact me at david.anderson@cdha.nshealth.ca

David R. Anderson, MD, FRCP, FACP
Head, Department of Medicine, Dalhousie University
District Chief, Department of Medicine, Capital District Health Authority
Professor of Medicine, Community Health & Epidemiology, Pathology

**BYE-BYE BRIDGIT**

WEB CONFERENCING NOW HELPS DELIVER ACADEMIC HALF-DAY CURRICULUM

We have said goodbye (almost!) to ourgetUser BRIDGIT teleconferencing software and hello to Adobe Connect web conferencing. Adobe Connect, provided by the Faculty of Medicine, is now being used to deliver the internal medicine academic half-day curriculum to residents in any location outside of Halifax, including Saint John, Moncton and Fredericton. While those are the primary remote sites, residents can access the web conferencing software – and more importantly, the academic half-day curriculum – from anywhere.

I am a passionate advocate for the Dalhousie Internal Medicine - Saint John program, but in advocating for this program there was always a minor deficit in the delivery of our academic half day from Halifax. BRIDGIT displays the presentation while we listen in via telecon. This provides a very impersonal delivery of a didactic lecture, and though we are able to chime in via telecon, it never really feels like we are a part of it. The lectures/courses are excellent, we just needed a better mode of delivery,” notes Dr. Stephen Robinson, Associate chief medical resident, Saint John site.

Dr. Ian Epstein, director of postgraduate education in the department, notes that residents had been voicing their disappointment with BRIDGIT for some time. “The technology we were using paled in comparison to systems many residents used in medical school and is in stark contrast to the more sophisticated web conferencing systems available now. Adobe Connect is not the most advanced technology but it fits with our needs and it is a vast improvement over BRIDGIT,” says Dr. Epstein.

For Dr. Eric Grant, site director in Saint John, Adobe Connect will fill the void that telecon often leaves residents when Adobe Connect is not available as a back-up option. BRIDGIT will continue to be used as a back-up option when Adobe Connect isn’t available to the department. Adobe Connect will be used full time starting in April.

**MEDITATION MATTERS**

**http://dom.medicine.dal.ca/ Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada**

No. 14, Spring 2014 Newsletter

**CARDIOLOGY • CLINICAL DERMATOLOGY • CUTANEOUS SCIENCE • DIGESTIVE CARE & ENDOSCOPY • ENDOCRINOLoGY & METABOLISM • GENERAL MEDICINE • GERIATRIC MEDICINE • HEMATOLOGY • INFECTIOUS DISEASES • MEDICAL ONCOLOGY • NEUROLOGY • NEPHROLOGY • PULMONARY MEDICINE • PHYSICAL MEDICINE & REHABILITATION • RHEUMATOLOGY • RHEUMATOLOGY**

**Room 442 Bethune Building, 1276 South Park Street, P.O. Box 9000, Halifax, NS B3K 6A3, Phone 902-473-2379 http://dom.medicine.dal.ca/**
**CarMS Match Results**

(For July 1, 2014 Entry)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CarMS Match Results</th>
<th>Matching Year 2014</th>
<th>Matching Year 2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CarMS Match Results</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canadian Applicants</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Halifax site</td>
<td>Saint John site</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28' applications</td>
<td>53 applications</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(+31 over last year)</td>
<td>(+8 over last year)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12' applicants</td>
<td>32 applicants</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>interviewed</td>
<td>interviewed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(17 Dalhousie Applicants)</td>
<td>(+13 over last year)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internal Medicine Graduates (IMG) Applicants</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Halifax site</td>
<td>Saint John site</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Halifax based position</td>
<td>429 applications</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>offered this year (No return of service funding from Nova Scotia)</td>
<td>(+3 over last year)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 applicants interviewed</td>
<td>*1 position available (return of service to New Brunswick)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please join us in welcoming our new Candidates to the Core Internal Medicine Program for 2014-15.

**Core Internal Medicine Residents Starting July 1, 2014**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Halifax site</th>
<th>Saint John site</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Andrew Caddell (Dal)</td>
<td>Jacquetlyn LeBlanc (Dal)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paul Cameron (Queens)</td>
<td>Aimee Noel (Sherbrooke)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pascale Dupuis (Ottawa)</td>
<td>Pouya Sadeghi Aval (NOMS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joshua Green (Dal)</td>
<td>Chinyere Iwualu (IMG)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alexandre Legge (Dal)</td>
<td>general internal medicine residency at Mayo General Hospital, Inland.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shirin Liu (McGill)</td>
<td>Matthew Miles (UBC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heather MacKenzie (McMaster)</td>
<td>Songchun Mishra (Western)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keigan More (UBC)</td>
<td>Myuran Thana (Western)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stephen Walsh (Dal)</td>
<td>The CarMS match requires a great amount of time and effort on the part of residents, faculty and staff. Thank you to all involved in the selection process!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Applying the INSPIRED COPD Outreach Program to the emergency department:** Assessing feasibility, efficiencies and outcomes.

**Dr. Karthik Tennankore, Division of Nephrology, and Cynthia Stockman, Health Services Manager, Outpatient Nephrology, Capital Health**

The effectiveness of an online portal for the delivery of care to home dialysis patients.

**Translating Research into Care**

Three department members are winners of the inaugural Translating Research Into Care (TRIC) grants awarded by the QEII Foundation. The new health care improvement research program supports research at the point of care that will yield strong evidence and facilitate the translation of clinical science into improved delivery of service and patient care.

**Priority is given to projects that will:**
- improve patient reported outcomes
- improve the safety of healthcare
- identify and reduce unnecessary healthcare costs
- reduce wait times for healthcare
- reduce need for healthcare
- reduce unnecessary interventions
- improve access for under-served populations

**Congratulations to:**

**Dr. Christine Short, Head, Division of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, and Mary-Ellen Gunnarsh, Chief Nursing-Officer, Capital Health**

This project will develop an evaluation framework to determine success of interprofessional collaborative practice within Rehabilitation Services and Supportive Care.

**Dr. Graeme Rocker, Division of Respiriology, and Paula Bond, VP Acute Care, Person Centred Health, Capital Health**

Expanding the INSPIRED COPD outreach program to the emergency department: Assessing feasibility, efficiencies and outcomes.

**Dr. Karthik Tennankore, Division of Nephrology, and Cynthia Stockman, Health Services Manager, Outpatient Nephrology, Capital Health**

The effectiveness of an online portal for the delivery of care to home dialysis patients.
It was another successful CaRMS match! We continue to have tremendous interest in the Department of Medicine’s residency training program and a large pool of exceptional candidates from which to interview. Because of this, which is thanks to faculty and staff’s commitment to education, we filled all of our internal medicine spots in the first iteration.

Here is how the match shaped up for us:

### Canadian Applicants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Halifax (313)</td>
<td>196</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saint John (128)</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>214 CaRMS positions available</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Internal Medical Graduates (IMG) Applicants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Halifax (30)</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saint John (2)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>14 IMG CaRMS positions available</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please join us in welcoming our new Candidates to the Core Internal Medicine Program for 2014-15.

**Core Internal Medicine Residents starting July 1, 2014**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Halifax (114)</td>
<td>Andrew Caddell (Dal)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Paul Cameron (Queens)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pascale Dupuis (Ottawa)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Joshua Green (Dal)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Alexis Legge (Dal)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Shirin Liu (McGill)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Heather Mackenzie (McMaster)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Matthew Miles (UBC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sanjeevan Mishra (Western)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Keigan More (UBC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Myuran Thana (Western)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Stephen Walsh (Dal)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The CaRMS match requires a great amount of time and effort on the part of residents, faculty and staff. Thank you to all involved in the selection process!

### Translating Research Into Care

Three department members are winners of the inaugural Translating Research Into Care (TRIC) grants awarded by the QEII Foundation. The new health care improvement research program supports research at the point of care that will yield strong evidence and facilitate the translation of clinical science into improved delivery of service and patient care.

Priority is given to projects that will:
- improve patient reported outcomes
- improve the safety of healthcare
- identify and reduce unnecessary healthcare costs
- reduce wait times for healthcare
- reduce the need for healthcare
- reduce unnecessary interventions
- improve access for underserved populations

Congratulations to:

**Dr. Christine Short**, Head, Division of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, and Mary-Ellen Gurnham, Chief Nursing-Officer, Capital Health

This project will develop an evaluation framework to determine success of interprofessional collaborative practice within Rehabilitation Services and Supportive Care.

**Dr. Karthik Tennankore**, Division of Nephrology, and Cynthia Stockman, Health Services Manager, Outpatient Nephrology, Capital Health

The effectiveness of an online portal for the delivery of care to home dialysis patients.

**Dr. Graeme Rocker**, Division of Respiratory, and Paula Bond, VP Acute Care, Person Centred Health, Capital Health

Expanding the INSPIRE COPD outreach program to the emergency department: Assessing feasibility, efficiencies and outcomes.

**Dr. Ratika Parkash**, Division of Cardiology, is the 2013 recipient of the Dr. Greg Ferrier Award, which recognizes excellence in research being conducted in Nova Scotia and is given annually to the highest-rated Heart and Stroke Foundation of Nova Scotia grant-in-aid recipient. The award also honours the spirit of Dr. Ferrier’s mentorship to a new generation of researchers and pays tribute to the leading-edge research he conducted throughout his career. The recipient of the award also receives a $5,000 bursary to use towards their research costs.

The Atlantic Partnership for Tomorrow’s Health (PATH) project, headed by Dr. Louise Parker, professor of pediatrics and medicine, and Canadian Cancer Society (Nova Scotia Division) Endowed Chair in Population Cancer Research at Dalhousie, recently set a Guinness World Record for its collection of toenail clippings. Researchers with the study are using the toenails to measure arsenic levels, which increases the rates of several cancers. The Atlantic PATH project is collecting a number of measurements and data from participants to understand why Nova Scotia has the highest rate of cancer in Canada.

**Dr. Geoffrey Turnbull**, college of Physicians and Surgeons of Nova Scotia Gold-headed Cane Award. This award, presented in partnership with Dalhousie, honours a practicing community-based Nova Scotia physician who exhibits outstanding professionalism in medical practice.

**Dr. Evelyn Sutton**, Head, Division of Rheumatology, has been awarded the Canadian Rheumatology Association’s 2014 Teacher-Educator Award. Dr. Sutton is perhaps best known outside of the Department of Medicine for her book, “Musculoskeletal Examination: A primer for medical students,” but her passion for education and teaching extends well beyond authorship of a textbook. She was director of the adult rheumatology residency training program for 11 years, helped pioneer a one-month elective in medical education for all Dalhousie residents that is now in its 10th year and has been recognized by the Royal College as an innovation of excellence, began serving as assistant dean of Dalhousie Medical School admissions in 2006, and was the assistant dean of student affairs from 2006 – 2010. Dr. Sutton’s teaching excellence and commitment to education has been recognized nationally and internationally. She is a beloved teacher, mentor and champion for medical students and residents.

**Dr. R.N. Anderson**, former Head of the Department of Medicine, is the 2013 recipient of the Archibald Gold-headed Cane Award in the Humanities. Dr. Anderson is a former Head of the Department of Medicine. The Gold-headed Cane Award is presented each year by the Dalhousie Faculty of Medicine to a faculty member who combines scholarship, attunement, humanism and professional skills, and who serves as an effective role model for students in the medical humanities.

**Dr. Stephen Walsh**, Dalhousie resident, has been selected for the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada’s Gold Sonoran Award. The award recognizes residents who demonstrate outstanding dedication, commitment and leadership in training and service to the specialty. Dr. Walsh is recognized for his contributions to the emergency department and for serving as a resident advocate.
Dr. Paul Hernandez, Acting Head, Division of Rheumatology

Dr. Paul Hernandez was appointed Acting Head, Division of Rheumatology, in early March. He joined the department as a rheumatologist in 1995 and has since built quite a clinical and research portfolio. Dr. Hernandez is a professor of medicine and medical director of the Pulmonary Rehabilitation Program and MICU at the QEII. He chairs the adult rheumatology examination committee of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada and co-chairs the Canadian Thoracic Society’s COPD clinical assembly. His clinical and research areas of interest include COPD, pulmonary rehabilitation, pulmonary hypertension and clinical practice guidelines.

Administrative Support Update

Traci Malley-McBride has decided not to return as the Department of Medicine research administrative coordinator when her maternity leave ends, choosing instead to stay home with her two young sons. Traci worked for the Department of Medicine in this role since 2006. We are grateful for all of her hard work over the years and wish her the best of luck and good health in all her future endeavors.

Kathryn Nelson who has been acting research administrative coordinator during Traci’s leave has been appointed to the role on a permanent basis. Kathryn has done an excellent job of keeping the research office going and growing to meet new research strategic planning initiatives. She has also provided admin support to the Grand Rounds Committee, which is no small task.

Helen Parsons, who has ably covered for Kathryn in the role of executive administrative assistant to Dr. David Anderson on a casual assignment basis, will continue in this role permanently. Helen is a great asset to the Department of Medicine.

Congratulations to Kathryn and Helen on their new appointments! The Department of Medicine is very fortunate to have these two knowledgeable, talented and hard working admin staff working with us.

With preparations underway to best care for patients under the circumstances of a potential nursing labour disruption, it is a difficult time at Capital Health. Your efforts to do the absolute best for patients deserve to be commended as do members’ ongoing academic, clinical and research commitments.

This month’s newsletter recognizes a host of member achievements and, as always, serves as a tool to keep members up to date on developments in the department. Part of the intent of the department’s newsletter is to help us see beyond immediate circumstances and appreciate that we are constantly making great things happen within our always changing environment. This is especially warranted at this time. I trust you will find the information here of interest to you. Should you wish to see a topic covered in a future newsletter or one of my monthly updates, please contact me at david.anderson@cdha.nshealth.ca.

David R. Anderson, MD, FRCP, FACP
Head, Department of Medicine, Dalhousie University
District Chief, Department of Medicine, Capital District Health Authority
Professor of Medicine, Community Health & Epidemiology, Pathology

DEPARTMENT HEAD MESSAGE

Most of us have become very adept at negotiating the healthcare environment with full recognition of its economical, political, technological and labor influencers. This doesn’t mean, however, that we are immune to the environmental pressures on our professional activities.

With preparations underway to best care for patients under the circumstances of a potential nursing labour disruption, it is a difficult time at Capital Health. Your efforts to do the absolute best for patients deserve to be commended as do members’ ongoing academic, clinical and research commitments.

This month’s newsletter recognizes a host of member achievements and, as always, serves as a tool to keep members up to date on developments in the department. Part of the intent of the department’s newsletter is to help us see beyond immediate circumstances and appreciate that we are constantly making great things happen within our always changing environment. This is especially warranted at this time. I trust you will find the information here of interest to you. Should you wish to see a topic covered in a future newsletter or one of my monthly updates, please contact me at david.anderson@cdha.nshealth.ca.

David R. Anderson, MD, FRCP, FACP
Head, Department of Medicine, Dalhousie University
District Chief, Department of Medicine, Capital District Health Authority
Professor of Medicine, Community Health & Epidemiology, Pathology

MEDICINE MATTERS

RESEARCH DAY 2014

Thursday, May 1
12:15 p.m. – 6 p.m.
Heritage Room, Pier 21
RSVP by April 24 to Kathryn.nelson@cdha.nshealth.ca

On the agenda:
12:15 p.m. Poster set-up Welcome Pavilion, Pier 21
12:50 p.m. Buffer Lunch
1:20 p.m. Welcome
1:25 p.m. Oral Presentations (four presenters)
1:35 p.m. Keynote Speaker: Dr. L.J. Tan
1:55 p.m. Poster Presentations
4:15 p.m. Oral Presentations (six presenters)
5:30 p.m. Wine & Cheese Reception
5:50 p.m. Presentation of Awards

SPRING PARTY 2014

Wednesday, June 18
Reception – 6:30 p.m. Dinner – 7 p.m.
Prince George Hotel
Check your mailboxes in April for your invitation.

MEDICINE MATTERS: NOVEMBER 28

This year’s Medicine Matters CME event will be held Friday, November 28, at the Westin Nova Scotia Hotel. Mark your calendars now! We received excellent feedback resulting from the success of last year’s event that has enabled us to start planning early. We are also considering slight changes to the format to make the November event an excellent educational opportunity for all. Stay tuned for more information but be sure to put a note in your calendar today.

WEB CONFERENCING NOW HELPS DELIVER ACADEMIC HALF-DAY CURRICULUM

We have said goodbye (almost!) to our infamously dat BRIDGIT teleconferencing software and hello to Adobe Connect web conferencing software. Adobe Connect, provided by the Faculty of Medicine, is now being used to deliver the internal medicine academic half-day curriculum to residents in any location outside of Halifax, including Saint John, Moncton and Fredericton. While those are the primary remote sites, residents can access the web conferencing software – and more importantly, the academic half-day curriculum – from anywhere.

“I am a passionate advocate for the Dalhousie Internal Medicine - Saint John program, but in advocating for this program there was always a minor deficit in the delivery of our academic half day from Halifax. BRIDGIT displays the presentation while we listen in via telecon. This provides a very impersonal delivery of a didactic lecture, and though we are able to chime in via telecon, it never really feels like we are a part of it. The lectures/courses are excellent, we just needed a better mode of delivery,” notes Dr. Stephen Robinson, associate chief medicine resident, Saint John site.

Dr. Ian Epstein, director of postgraduate education in the department, notes that residents had been voicing their disappointment with BRIDGIT for some time. “The technology we were using paled in comparison to systems many residents used in medical school and is in stark contrast to the more sophisticated web conferencing systems available now. Adobe Connect is not the most advanced technology but it fits with our needs and it is a vast improvement over BRIDGIT,” says Dr. Epstein.

For Dr. Eric Grant, site director in Saint John, Adobe Connect will address the drawbacks associated with delivery of the academic half-day curriculum, but perhaps more importantly, demonstrate the department’s commitment to supporting residents in New Brunswick and other sites outside of Halifax. “This is simply a better virtual classroom which means a better learning experience for residents off-site,” he says.

With most changes there is a period of adjustment, and while Adobe Connect offers many benefits it brings with it a change of location for academic half-days in Halifax. The curriculum is streamed from the Upper Building at Dalhousie to Halifax-based residents make their way from the hospitals to the Upper Building. Dr. Epstein admits that a few have noted the minor inconvenience but all recognize the benefits of the new web conferencing systems.

BRIDGIT will continue to be used as a back up option when Adobe Connect isn’t available to the department. Adobe Connect will be used full time starting in April.

DEPARTMENT HEAD MESSAGE

Most of us have become very adept at negotiating the healthcare environment with full recognition of its economical, political, technological and labor influencers. This doesn’t mean, however, that we are immune to the environmental pressures on our professional activities.

With preparations underway to best care for patients under the circumstances of a potential nursing labour disruption, it is a difficult time at Capital Health. Your efforts to do the absolute best for patients deserve to be commended as do members’ ongoing academic, clinical and research commitments.

This month’s newsletter recognizes a host of member achievements and, as always, serves as a tool to keep members up to date on developments in the department. Part of the intent of the department’s newsletter is to help us see beyond immediate circumstances and appreciate that we are constantly making great things happen within our always changing environment. This is especially warranted at this time. I trust you will find the information here of interest to you. Should you wish to see a topic covered in a future newsletter or one of my monthly updates, please contact me at david.anderson@cdha.nshealth.ca.