



Advocating for Physicians, Caring for Patients

**CALGARY & AREA PHYSICIANS ASSOCIATION (CAPA)  
LINDA M. SLOCOMBE, MD, PRESIDENT**

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**THIS IS HOW YOUR CAPA MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS YOU!**

Your CAPA membership enables the CAPA executive, which includes the *CAPA President, Past President or President Elect, Treasurer, President and Vice-Presidents of each MSA (the PLC, FMC, RGH, ACH, Rural group and the PCPA including a representative from the Primary Care Networks and the President of the Calgary Medical Society)* as well as other members of the CAPA executive including the Medical Director – Calgary Zone – Dr. Francois Belanger, the Vice-Chair of the Medical Advisory Board - Dr. Richard Musto, the Director of the Practice Management Program, Alberta Medical Association, Mr. Sean Smith, the University of Calgary representative – Dr. Ronald Bridges and a representative from the Province of Alberta Residents Association - Dr. Florence Obianyor to advocate on your behalf. Please take a moment to read the following summary of some of the ways CAPA is working on your behalf.

Over the past year we have accomplished:

- **Council of Presidents** - this is an AMA committee. It includes the Presidents of the nine (9) medical staff associations in Alberta. It is the continued mandate of the council to ensure the survival of the MSA's and to ensure that they have a direct link to the new provincial administrative hierarchy. We will be reviewing the proposed new provincial bylaws and ensuring they are workable for the physicians of Alberta.
- **CAPA General Meetings** - two very well attended general meetings.
  - Spring meeting our invited guests included:  
Dr. Stephen Duckett, President and CEO, Alberta Health Services
  - Fall meeting our invited guest was:  
Dr. Vincent Covello, Advisor to the US President for Pandemic Communications, Founder & Director of the Center for Risk Communication, New York City, NY "COMMUNICATING EFFECTIVELY DURING H1N1 PANDEMIC"
- **Fiscal prudence** - There will be no increase in dues for the coming year.
- **CAPA Member Benefits Alliance Program (CAPA MBA)**. This program continues and adds **monetary** value to your CAPA membership. CAPA entered into an alliance with Calgary businesses that offer CAPA members and their family and/or staff preferred pricing on their goods and services as an incentive for you to make them your preferred vendor. In order to obtain these prices you must show your CAPA membership card. It will be sent to you with your receipt of payment of CAPA dues. An updated list of participating businesses is available on the CAPA website – [www.capa.cc](http://www.capa.cc)

Our ongoing activities include:

1. **VITAL SIGNS** will now be produced as an independent publication on behalf of physicians. It has become a key point of communication with physicians and now more than ever it is important that physicians have an unedited voice. We would also like to invite you to submit any articles or letters to be published in Vital Signs. Please contact Dave Lowery, CAPA Communications Director at [bethere@shaw.ca/](mailto:bethere@shaw.ca/). **Advertising is now being accepted for publication in Vital Signs. There is also a new option to receive your copy of vital signs via email – contact the CAPA office.**
2. **Your dues fund the site association that you choose** ACH, FMC, PLC, RGH, Rural or the Primary Care Physicians Association. They in turn use their funds in whatever way their membership feels appropriate for example the success of the "Doc's Cafe" at the FMC. It is important to become active within your local association.
3. **Your physician colleagues** attend many meetings on your behalf including:
  - **Medical Advisory Board** – Drs. L. Slocombe, L. Maybaum, R. Cusano, J. Thorson, S. Grondin, M. Montgomery, L. Torfason, N. Grant Hill
  - **Medical Advisory Board Executive Committee** – Dr. L. Slocombe, Dr. L. Maybaum
  - **Search and Selection Committees** – as requested by Alberta Health Services
  - **CAPA Executive Committee** – meet monthly - membership as noted above. This group discusses and provides leadership in the day to day issues impacting physicians within Alberta Health Services.
4. **Family Medicine** – your CAPA representatives continue to meet on a regular basis with the Department of Family Medicine to keep focused on the crisis family physicians are facing and to discuss ways to assist family physicians in maintaining an office practice.

If you have further questions on how CAPA serves you or issues you would like discussed please contact me at 403 943-1270.

Linda M. Slocombe, MD, CM, CCFP  
President, CAPA