

Letter from the Editors

Ring in the *Journal of Canada's Physician Assistants*: Moving forward for the PA profession in Canada.

We are very pleased to present the first edition of the Journal of Canada's Physician Assistants (JCanPA). It has been a project long deserving of the physician assistant (PA) profession, enabling a platform for exemplifying the professionalism, expertise, and excellence of PAs in Canada. The profession is growing, and PAs across the country are taking a stand, getting involved and shaping healthcare.

Thank you to our reviewers, supporters, mentors, colleagues, co-editors, Staff and Faculty at the University of Manitoba including Manitoba MPAS, and Health Sciences Library. Sometimes just asking '*how's it going*' makes a difference.

The inaugural issue of JCanPA reflects the state of the profession and the concerns of PAs at both the country and the provincial level. Russel Ives introduces us to the journal and presents his seasoned thoughts on the changes within the profession and where it is headed as it pertains to individual practicing PAs in his opinion piece, "Letter to Fellow Readers." Financial management is a concern of many within our current healthcare system; it is investigated and expertly explained by Ian Jones, Kristen Burrows, Andrew Jones, et al. in, "A Perspective on the economic sustainability of the Physician Assistant Profession in Canada." Ohood H. Elzibak, Anne T. Dang, Majdi S. Qutob, Benjamin M. Smith and Elizabeth Alvarez showcase the dedication of Canadian PAs to patients and their health through their article entitled, "Physician Assistant Involvement in Health Advocacy, Health Promotion and Disease Prevention: A Scoping Review." Provincial issues vary, though they have a common thread. Ken Crosby and Natalie Dies address medical directives, while Adara Casselman focuses on the utilization of PAs in Manitoba. Directives are a common topic of discussion in Ontario as all Ontario PAs currently practice under medical directive and this ties into discussion on PA utilization, which is still shaping, changing and improving. Read their articles, "Challenges with Medical Directives for Physician Assistants in Ontario," and, "The Utilization of Physician Assistants in Manitoba over the Past 15 Years."

The PA profession is still developing across Canada; PAs can participate and change the development of policy and healthcare delivery in this country. We welcome you to put your thoughts in writing and submit your article for the next great edition of JCanPA.

Your JCanPA editing team,

Ian Jones and Rebecca Mueller

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