

## Welcome Message from the President

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the second annual Canadian Association of Bariatric Physicians and Surgeons (CABPS) Conference, presented in conjunction with the Ontario Bariatric Network (OBN), the Centre for Minimal Access Surgery (CMAS), and McMaster University. This Conference will provide exposure to the thinking and knowledge of leaders in medicine, allied health, nutrition, mental health and surgery.

Our two-day conference - Bariatric Care: Innovations, Controversies and Best Practices - has been designed not just to offer you information passively, but to engage you in debate, bring you thought-provoking opinions, and help you consider different perspectives on evolving issues. Our aim is to provide a venue where Canadian professionals interested in the prevention and treatment of obesity and its related diseases can share, learn and network. We hope to challenge you by presenting best practices, so you can identify ways to improve the care you offer your patients and expand your arsenal of treatment modalities. Please avail yourselves of the expertise of our presenters and speakers in order to get the maximum benefit from the conference.

Many people have been involved in the development of this conference, and I would particularly like to extend a warm "thank you" to our speakers, presenters and session chairs who are giving their time and energy to share their experience, research and thoughts. I also offer my deepest gratitude to my colleagues on the CABPS Board of Directors, the Conference Organizing Committee and especially to my Co-Chair, Dr. Laurent Biertho, for their support, dedication and guidance.

Finally, on behalf of the Conference Organizing Committee, I would also like to thank you for participating and hope you gain information, insight and practical techniques to help you remain at the leading edge of bariatrics in Canada.

Sincerely,

## CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF BARIATRIC PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS

Mehran Anvari, MB, BS, PhD, FRCSC, FACS President