



Welcome Message from the Conference Chair

Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of the Canadian Association of Bariatric Physicians and Surgeons (CABPS) and our partners, the Ontario Bariatric Network (OBN) and the Centre for Minimal Access Surgery (CMAS), I am very pleased to welcome you to the 2016 edition of the CABPS Conference – **Quality Evidence in Support of Bariatric Care**.

This year, in addition to our primary focus on quality evidence, we will be looking at the larger picture, including ways of assessing needs in bariatric care, improving access to care in bariatric surgery and, as always, best practices. We will continue the dialogue around building a Canadian Bariatric Network and examine research needs, setting the stage for our thematic discussion. Our accepted papers, particularly those on bariatric surgery, delve into the evidence in support of bariatric care.

In addition to our usual session for allied health professionals, we will be presenting a concurrent session designed specifically for family physicians, addressing their role in pre- and post-surgical care. We will also be looking at current controversies and some special case considerations. To round out our program, we will be offering top abstracts and a video session on the management of complications. Engaging with our sponsors is an integral part of the Conference experience and so we encourage you to meet with them during the scheduled breaks.

Bariatric medicine and surgery take a holistic approach, considering not only the surgery or direct medical interventions, but also the role of patient psychology and the patient's support system. Likewise, we take a holistic approach to our conference – in addition to the business sessions, we offer nutrition breaks during which you can network with your colleagues, exchange information and perspectives, and generally enjoy one another's company. And on Friday evening, we are offering a completely social session – our President's Wine & Cheese Reception. This is an opportunity for you to build and enhance your contacts and friendships with others in the field while enjoying a relaxed setting. All in all, a pleasant balance to the conference sessions.

On behalf of all the members of the Conference Organizing Committee, I extend our deepest thanks to all those who have contributed to making our 3rd Annual Conference another rousing success: our speakers, presenters, session chairs and you, our participants. We hope you enjoy and benefit from your time with us.

Sincerely,

CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF BARIATRIC PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS

Laurent Biertho, MD
Conference Chair