



Welcome Message from the President

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the third annual Canadian Association of Bariatric Physicians and Surgeons (CABPS) Conference, presented in conjunction with the Ontario Bariatric Network (OBN) and the Centre for Minimal Access Surgery (CMAS). Once again this year, we will connect you with the thought leaders of our profession – those in medicine, allied health, nutrition, mental health and surgery.

Our Conference theme this year is **Quality Evidence in Support of Bariatric Care**, and our speakers and presenters will explore with you exactly what this evidence is and how it is derived. The opening plenary sessions set the stage for this discussion, and the accepted papers – particularly those for bariatric surgery – carry it through.

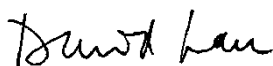
Awareness is vital, so we hope these sessions will provide you with the tools you need to be aware of controversies, possible complications and evolving issues. In addition, the Conference's focus on evidence offers you information to create awareness of the different surgical and medical modalities among your patients and their professional support networks. To this end, our session designed exclusively for family physicians will be helpful in making them aware of their important role and the ways in which they can work with us for the patient's benefit. Please take advantage of the knowledge and skill of our presenters and speakers to enhance your own awareness and that of your patients and their supporters.

This Conference is the result of the concerted efforts of a dedicated group of volunteer professionals, and would not be possible without their hard work. I would particularly like to offer a heart-felt "thank you" to our speakers, presenters and session chairs – they are giving unstintingly of their time and energy to share their experiences, research, knowledge, ideas and perceptions with you. I also express my deepest gratitude to my colleagues on the CABPS Board of Directors, the Conference Organizing Committee and especially to Dr. Laurent Biertho, our Conference Chair, for their support, dedication and guidance. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our partners and sponsors for their kind and constructive support – it is valued and appreciated.

Finally, on behalf of the Board of Directors and everyone involved with this Conference, I would like to thank you for participating. You are the reason we are here, and we hope you have a profitable and enjoyable Conference, and gain everything you need to remain at the leading edge of bariatrics in Canada.

Sincerely,

CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF BARIATRIC PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS



David C. W. Lau, MD, PhD, FRCPC
President