Welcome Message from the President

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the fifth annual Conference of the Canadian Association of Bariatric Physicians and Surgeons (CABPS), presented as part of Canadian Obesity Weekend. This weekend is a CABPS initiative, drawing attention to obesity and its prevention and management. Once again this year, we are partnering with the International Consensus Conference on Duodenal Switch (ICCDS) to bring you timely topics, live surgeries, and a roster of renowned speakers to engage and challenge you.

Our Conference is designed to offer something for everyone, whether in bariatricians or the allied health professionals. Increasingly, the onset of obesity is occurring during adolescence; to help you better understand this phenomenon and provide the necessary assistance to this group of patients, the opening plenary session focuses on bariatrics in the adolescent patient, and subsequent sessions provide insight into other issues and complicating conditions such as cancer and pregnancy.

This year, we are launching Canadian Obesity Weekend with a Conference on Duodenal Switch hosted by ICCDS 2018, and the other specifically for family physicians. The presentations by ICCDS’ faculty of well-known Canadian and international experts is complemented by presentations of live surgeries and edited videos, providing you with the information you need to manage surgical outcomes and ameliorate DS surgical side effects and complications. This Conference is endorsed by the IFSO and ASMBS.

Our pre-Conference program, the Family Doctors and Contrave Symposium, provides a primer on obesity for family physicians, who are often the first line of defence in the struggle against this epidemic, and explores the psychological factors contributing to it along with both medical and surgical interventions. The Contrave Symposium looks at the treatment of obesity with Contrave (bupropion/naltrexone), which has been found through clinical trials to be effective with overweight patients with one or more comorbidities and with obese patients; this can be an important part of a family doctor’s approach to obesity.

The Conference proper offers five plenaries and one Keynote talk, supported as always by stimulating concurrent presentations, accepted papers, panels/mini-symposia and a surgical video session. There are also streams for mental health and nutrition professionals. The President’s Reception on Friday evening is your opportunity to engage many of our presenters in conversation, see old acquaintances and meet new ones. We also offer networking/nutrition breaks throughout the Conference so you can take full advantage of the knowledge and skill of our faculty to enhance your own awareness and that of your patients and their supporters.

As always, my deepest thanks to our dedicated group of volunteer professionals for their hard work in making this Conference possible. I also offer my heart-felt appreciation to our speakers, presenters and session chairs, who generously 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 and the Conference Organizing Committee. I would be remiss if I did not 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 find this Conference an enriching experience, and gain everything you need to remain at the leading edge of bariatrics in Canada.

Sincerely,

CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF BARIATRIC PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS

Laurent Biertho, MD
President