



**For Immediate Release**

**PRESS RELEASE**

Early Exposure to the Cutting Edge: The Canadian Orthopaedic Association Hosts Medical Student Outreach Program at Annual Meeting

**Calgary, Alb. – June 9, 2023** – The [Canadian Orthopaedic Association \(COA\)](#) is thrilled to announce an upcoming initiative, 'Early Exposure to the Cutting Edge: Orthopaedic Surgery Session for Students,' a unique opportunity for medical and undergraduate students considering a career in orthopaedic surgery. This session, to be held during the COA Annual Meeting in Calgary, Alberta, aims to provide valuable insights and hands-on experiences in the field of orthopaedics.

Scheduled for Saturday afternoon, June 24, from 1400 to 1600 MT, the program offers a two-hour session that combines a panel discussion and interactive learning stations. Esteemed faculty members from across the country will lead case presentations and guide students through various sawbones models, allowing them to gain firsthand experience.

The Early Exposure to the Cutting Edge program presents a unique opportunity for networking with leaders representing diverse career paths and subspecialty backgrounds within orthopaedics. The goal is to promote early exposure to the field among underrepresented student populations, fostering diversity and inclusion within the next generation of orthopaedic professionals.

"We believe that by providing direct access to surgeon leaders and exposing students to the latest techniques in orthopaedics, we can inspire and encourage the next generation of professionals," says Dr. Laurie Hiemstra, President of the Canadian Orthopaedic Association. "Through this program, we are committed to advancing equity, diversity, inclusion and belonging in our field because if you can see it, you will believe that you can be it"

Students attending the Cutting Edge program will have the opportunity to engage with orthopaedic surgeons and trainees, and learn from their experiences. Attendees are encouraged to share their personal and career journeys and offer specialty tips during this interactive session, facilitating meaningful connections between students and professionals.

The COA would like to extend their gratitude to Dr. Patricia Farrugia from McMaster University, as well as Drs. Rubini Pathy and Laura Morrison from the University of Calgary for leading this year's **#OrthoCuttingEdge** initiative. Their dedication and expertise have been instrumental in bringing this program to life.

This program is a valuable addition to the COA Annual Meeting, allowing students to gain exposure to the latest advancements and techniques in the orthopaedic profession. This initiative supports the COA's commitment to fostering inclusivity and inspiring future generations of orthopaedic professionals.

**ASSOCIATED LINKS**

[coa-aco.org](http://coa-aco.org)

**ABOUT THE CANADIAN ORTHOPAEDIC ASSOCIATION**

The Canadian Orthopaedic Association is a not-for-profit professional association representing the interests of orthopaedic surgeons in Canada. They are committed to maintaining the highest standards of orthopaedic care for Canadian patients by providing surgeon members with continuing medical education, subspecialty support, knowledge sharing, advocacy platforms, fellowship programs, leadership opportunities and collaboration with other healthcare associations.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

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