



# ANNUAL REPORT

2023

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

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## COA HEAD OFFICE TEAM

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### **Cynthia Vezina**

Chief Executive Officer  
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# WELCOME MESSAGE

We are proud to present the 2023 Annual Report of the Canadian Orthopaedic Association (COA).

This year has been one of continual growth and development, building on our commitment to support and enhance the orthopaedic community in Canada. Our sincere appreciation goes to the Executive Committee, Board of Directors, Committees, head office staff, partnering organizations, sponsors, exhibitors, and, most importantly, our members. Your engagement and support are crucial to the achievements and progress of the COA. Together, we stand with our members who relentlessly dedicate themselves to the care of patients, colleagues, and communities across Canada.

Under the leadership of Dr. Pierre Guy, the COA has maintained its focus on key areas such as education, government relations, and on developing collaborations and partnerships with affiliate associations and societies across the entire musculoskeletal healthcare team.

The COA's ongoing initiatives have included the development and implementation of strategies that align with the current needs and core values of our members. These strategies encompass member engagement, advocating for orthopaedic care, enhancing educational opportunities, and emphasizing quality in all our endeavours. Our efforts are grounded in a strategic plan that is both forward-thinking and responsive to Canada's evolving landscape of healthcare.

This year, the COA also embraced a new, more relevant governance structure. This change is a testament to our dedication to being a modern, united, and diverse organization, reflective of our membership's evolving needs and aspirations. The COA has also been active

in raising public awareness and engaging in significant provincial and federal government relations efforts, demonstrating our role as a leader and advocate in the orthopaedic community.

Our focus on valuing diversity, promoting leadership skills, and expanding educational opportunities has been unwavering. These efforts are integral to our mission of fostering a dynamic and inclusive orthopaedic community.

As we look ahead, we remain committed to sharing our accomplishments and furthering our mission. We hope for your continued engagement and commitment in the coming year and look forward to connecting with you at future events, including the Annual Meeting, happening June 12-15, 2024, in Halifax.



**Pierre Guy**  
President



**Cynthia Vezina**  
Chief Executive Officer

## STRATEGIC PLAN

In our second year of a three-year plan, COA leadership focused on implementing a new governance structure to support projects and membership priorities and welcome 20 new representatives to steer COA governance, including four Council Chairs on the Board of Directors representing each of the COA's Strategic Priorities: Engagement, Advocacy, Education, Quality.

## NEW BOARD MEMBERS

**Henry Broekhuysse** Education Council Chair  
**Kishore Mulpuri** Advocacy Council Chair  
**Jean-François Joncas** Engagement Council Chair  
**Timothy Daniels** Quality Council Chair/  
Ontario Representative  
2<sup>nd</sup> President- Elect  
Prairies Representative  
CORS President  
CORA Co-Chair  
CORA Co-Chair  
Ethics Chair

**Sukhdeep Dulai**  
**Steve Kwan**  
**Bheeshma Ravi**  
**Malik Ali**  
**Allison Loewen**  
**David Yen**

# PAST PRESIDENT'S REPORT

## Global Reflections from Laurie Hiemstra's Carousel Tour

In my role as the Past President, I had the privilege of representing the COA on an international stage during my Carousel tour this past year, engaging with the orthopaedic communities in the UK, South Africa, New Zealand and Australia. I am pleased to share the insights and learnings from these encounters.

In the vibrant city of Cape Town, at the South African Orthopaedic Association's 69th Congress, the prevailing theme was the pursuit of value-based care. The discussions confirmed a global challenge we are all too familiar with - advocating for a system that prioritizes patient outcomes and efficiency over mere financial metrics. The spirit of innovation, catalyzed by the disruptions of the COVID-19 pandemic, was palpable and resonated deeply with my beliefs in patient-first healthcare that we strive for in Canada.

The congress brought to light the pervasive issue of physician burnout. It was a stark reminder that seeking help is not just advisable but necessary for our well-being. Furthermore, the congress celebrated the rise of female surgeons in a historically male-dominated profession - a testament to the power of mentorship and diversity that echoed my own commitment to these values.

In Liverpool, the home of the Beatles, the British Orthopaedic Association's meeting focused on the sustainability of healthcare systems.

The discussions I participated in were not just about environmental stewardship but also about the sustainability of human resources in health. One profound realization was the environmental - and financial - impacts of our current practices, sparking a resolve in me to champion more ethical and sustainable approaches within our own systems.

The meeting in the UK was shadowed by troubling statistics on sexual assault and harassment within the surgical fields, prompting a necessary Town Hall to confront these issues head-on. It reinforced my conviction that leadership must foster a culture of respect and safety and that standing up against such behaviours is a responsibility for all.

One of the more striking messages I took away from these meetings was the pressing need for human health resources planning. The shortage of trainees is a global issue, and we must be proactive in addressing this gap to ensure the future of orthopaedic care.

In November, the Carousel travelled to Nelson, New Zealand and Melbourne, Australia. This trip was special due to the many surgeons from these countries who did Fellowships in Canada. It was also special as I took my 15-year-old twin boys with me. The theme

in New Zealand was 'Perfecting Surgical Performance', focussing on doing the perfect operation and providing excellent care for patients.

In Melbourne, we began the day with the AORA (Australian Orthopaedic Resident's Association). They took advantage of the wide range of specialties amongst the Carousel to have a half-day review of orthopaedics. Australia is the country on the tour that most resembles Canada, in population, size and proportion of urban and regional sites. The theme for AOA was "Rural Surgery – Build it, and they will come". Pulling from the experience of the practice of Dr. Chris Morrey, the outgoing President and a pelvic reconstruction and trauma surgeon in Cairns, there were multiple sessions on the challenges and triumphs of working in a regional centre. Incorporating rural electives, recruiting medical students from rural sites and other unique initiatives were discussed to encourage medical students and orthopaedic surgeons to consider regional sites to work.

Personally, bringing my boys along was very fulfilling. They participated in the opening ceremonies, representing their country well. For them, seeing their mother at work, on stage, and answering questions to a large audience gave them an insight into what I actually do when I am away, and why it seems I work so much. From the other perspective, it was one of the first times minor children had participated in the Carousel travel. This was enlightening for all, and I hope normalized and advanced the acceptance of women in leadership positions. By the end of the trip, the boys had 12 new 'aunts' and 'uncles' and were comfortable hanging out in an international crowd.

I return with a strengthened commitment to these international challenges, which are indeed our own. The shared experiences and solutions underscore the importance of our role in the global orthopaedic community. As we look forward, let us integrate these global insights to enhance patient-centric care, advocate for environmental responsibility, and ensure a culture of equality and safety within our ranks.

Let us carry these shared experiences into our future endeavours, ensuring that the COA continues to lead with innovation, compassion, and respect for all.



**Laurie Hiemstra**  
Past President

# TREASURER'S REPORT

I would like to extend my sincere gratitude for renewing your COA membership this year. Your support is essential for the Association's viability and contributes significantly to the development and implementation of programs and services that benefit our members and the wider orthopaedic community. As a member-based organization, where dues constitute 50% of our annual income, the COA greatly relies on your timely payment of annual membership dues and renewals.

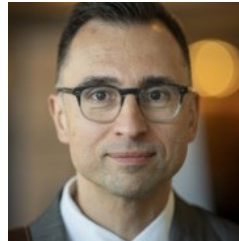
This past year has been notable for the COA, marked by our investment in expanding our educational offerings. We partnered with several stakeholder associations to deliver a range of virtual webinars and courses, including those with Obesity Canada, Health Excellence Canada, the Canadian Arthroplasty Society, and the Canadian Orthopaedic Residents' Association. Moreover, we launched our own podcast, Ortho Insider, which has significantly broadened our reach and enhanced our communication and information dissemination abilities.

The resumption of in-person meetings enabled the COA President and Past President to represent us at provincial and international orthopaedic association meetings, offering us valuable opportunities to engage with orthopaedic professionals, trainees, and care teams both nationally and internationally.

In 2023, we continued to prioritize investments in the development of Canadian Orthopaedic Care Day, our government relations efforts through AdvoOrtho, and leadership training and coaching programs for early-career members.

Despite the increasing costs in food and beverage, audio-visual services, and the impact of high inflation, which have elevated some operating expenses compared to the previous year, our prudent financial management has ensured that overall expenses remained within budget.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I thank you for your continued support and look forward to your membership renewals in the coming year. Please note that copies of our audited financial statements are available to all members upon request.

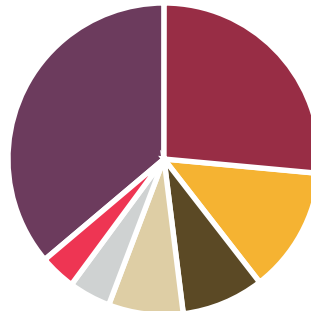


**Ted Tufescu**  
Treasurer

## MEMBERSHIP

### Statistics

- 1099 Active
- 804 Subspecialty Society Members
- 396 Senior Members
- 259 Associate Members
- 235 Research Affiliate Members
- 132 International Members
- 114 Committee Members



### New Members

The COA welcomed 24 new members in 2023 with a focused effort on recruiting junior residents at the start of their orthopaedic training, as well as welcoming back former members who haven't engaged in recent years.



# AWARDS OF DISTINCTION RECIPIENTS

## PRESIDENTIAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE



Peter MacDonald



Peter Fowler

### EMERGING LEADER AWARD



Jennifer Leighton

### CHANGEMAKER AWARD



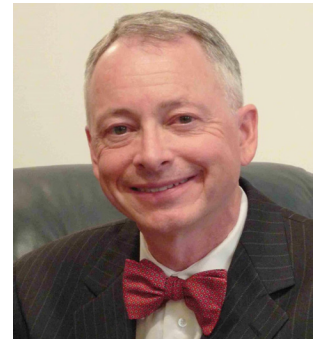
Kishore Mulpuri

### LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD



Peter O'Brien

### SERVICE TO THE COA AWARD



William Dust

## DOUG THOMSON BEST BOOTH AWARDS

**Tactile**  
ORTHOPAEDICS

**DePuy Synthes**  
THE ORTHOPAEDICS COMPANY OF *Johnson & Johnson*

# TRAVELLING FELLOWSHIP

## ANICA BITENC TRAVELLING FELLOW



Damjan Dimnjaković  
Croatia

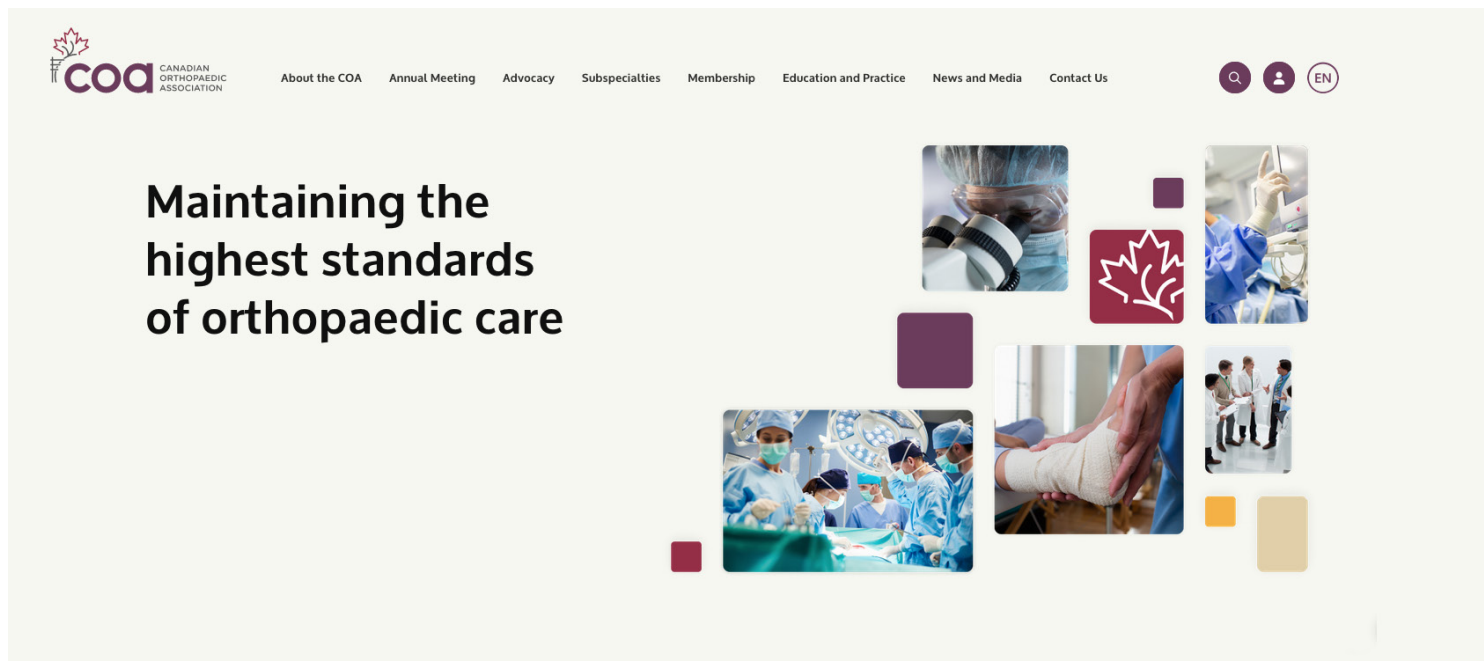


# ASSOCIATION VISUAL REBRAND

In 2023, the COA completed a full visual rebrand and redesign of the Association logo, the Annual Meeting logo, our colour palette, iconography and brand identity, including a brand new design and layout of our website for ease of use and better access to information.

To reflect the COA's forward-moving direction, the new brand best represents the Association's commitment to uniting the national orthopaedic community through advocacy, education, research and practice standards; while still staying true to our strong history and legacy.

Our new, optimized website is part of an improved online strategy designed to help strengthen connections and relationships across the country and internationally.



## CANADIAN ORTHOPAEDIC ASSOCIATION

# ADVOCACY

- 14 Meetings with Government
- 9 MSK Association Meetings
- 330 Media Organizations Picked up COCD
- 50 Government Officials Supporting COCD

## GOVERNMENT RELATIONS AND ADVOORTHO

In the Spring 2023 campaign leading up to Canadian Orthopaedic Care Day, the COA secured five meetings in British Columbia and two meetings in Prince Edward Island with executive health authorities and Members of Parliament. In the fall, in partnership with the Arthritis Society of Canada, we had four meetings with the offices of the Ministry of Finance, members of the HESA Committee, and the Ministry of Labour and Seniors. These 14 meetings were generously supported by 15 COA members representing 4 provinces.

Thanks are extended to the following members for contributing to the COA's AdvoOrtho Fund. Through your support, we pursued influential partnerships and



directly assisted members with government relations and advocacy initiatives in their regions and nationally. Amerigo Balatri, Heather Barske, Eric Bohm, John Campbell, Cassandra Lane Dielwart, Stephen French, Pierre Guy, John Haverstock, Laurie Hiemstra, Victor Jando, Kishore Mulpuri, Dina Popovic, Brendan Sheehan, Ted Tufescu, Stephanus van Deventer, Christian Veillette, Francois Vézina, Jason Werle, Thomas Woods, Alastair Younger.

## CANADIAN ORTHOPAEDIC CARE DAY

Occurring yearly on the last Wednesday of March, Canadian Orthopaedic Care Day was developed in the Winter of 2021 to unite the orthopaedic community to celebrate and bring awareness to orthopaedic care across Canada. The COA also involved allied health professionals, supporting organizations and government officials to participate by spreading awareness surrounding issues and challenges faced within the profession.

For 2023, the overarching theme was the right to live your life pain free, the increase in wait times, and recognizing the incredible dedication health professionals in orthopaedics provide.

Using the hashtags **#CdnOrthoDay**, **#OrthoCareCanada** and **#LiveLifePainFree**, we encouraged all orthopaedic surgeons, various health institutions and organizations, orthopaedic residency programs, as well as all provincial and federal government officials to participate by spreading awareness on Wednesday, March 29.

In addition to the over 1200 government officials (federal, provincial, municipal) whom we reached out to, we also contacted all health reporters and major news outlets across Canada, including community-based newspapers and media outlets, to help spread the word and request their support in promoting this important celebration and day.



## Canadian Orthopaedic Care Day

Thank you to 3M for being the first corporate sponsor in support of Canadian Orthopaedic Care Day.

Suffice it to say that Canadian Orthopaedic Care Day in 2023 was a great success - with messages, videos, and photos shared from organizations and people far and wide. We hope to build bigger and better for 2024, including the encouragement of in-person events and celebrations among orthopaedic teams with invites to government to participate across the country. Our main focus will be partnering with various associations and MSK-related organizations for support.

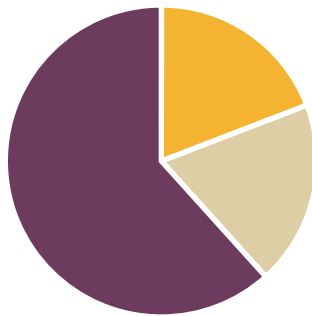
**We hope you'll join us in celebration and active participation on Wednesday, March 27, 2024, for the Third Annual Canadian Orthopaedic Care Day.**



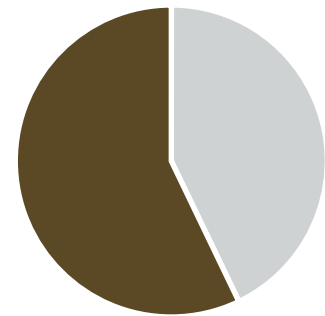
# EDUCATION

## Statistics

- 28.5 CME Hours Offered
- 9 Educational Events
- 9 Events Accredited by the COA



- 4 International Society Meeting Collaborations
- 3 Provincial Society Meeting Collaborations



## WEBINARS

- CORA hosted a **Coffee Chat with the COA Presidential Line in April** where members of the COA's leadership shared valuable insights and lessons learned along their diverse career paths with residents from across the country. Pearls of wisdom were repurposed into a blog post coordinated by the CORA Chairs.
- In September, the COA teamed up with Healthcare Excellence Canada for an accredited webinar on **Same-Day Surgery Implementation** featuring a multi-disciplinary panel who shared valuable insights on the implementation of same-day surgery programs.
- In November, the COA Global Surgery Committee (COAGS) hosted an accredited webinar on **Orthopaedics in Difficult Times** featuring an international panel discussing the nuances of global surgery outreach during crises and exploring the significant Canadian contributions to orthopaedics on the world stage.
- Communication Webinar - Interacting with the Media:** Dana Miller, Manager, Communications, conducted a 60-minute webinar about the media's function and its interactions with the public and government. The webinar demystified the media's role in shaping public opinion and influencing governmental actions, emphasizing the transformation of medical communications into engaging narratives for the public.

## COURSES

- Basic Science Course:** In April: Module 4, "Neoplasia", attended by 76 attendees, completed the first full cycle of the virtual program. In October: Module 1, "The Basic Science of Basic Science", attended by 89 participants. Thanks are extended to Dr. Peter Glavas (Université de Montréal) and the Basic Science Course Committee, as well as the 11 course faculty over the two modules for their commitment to resident education and to this program. Supported by an independent educational grant from 3M Health Care, Medical Solutions Division.
- CAS/COA Intro to Arthroplasty Fundamentals:** Junior residents had the opportunity to learn the basics of hip and knee arthroplasty in a virtual 2-part didactic and interactive course. Moderated by CAS President Dr. Eric Bohm and led by experts in lower extremity arthroplasty from across Canada, each 90-minute module covered a wide range of fundamental hip and knee arthroplasty topics and case-based breakout discussions. Supported by an independent educational grant from 3M Health Care, Medical Solutions Division.

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Applied to Life.™

## CONSENSUS MEETINGS

In partnership with Obesity Canada, and led by COA member Dr. Harman Chaudhry, the COA organized two information gathering sessions focused on developing a consensus statement about **Obesity and Joint Replacement**. Over two virtual meetings, a total of 87 registrants representing the care team from community, rural, academic and emergency sites were

welcomed to themed breakout sessions, guided by 9 facilitators. The group covered a range of pre- and postoperative issues such as patient assessment for surgery, infection prophylaxis, TXA/DVT prophylaxis, wound closure, physiotherapy/rehab considerations and long-term follow-up. The group will begin drafting its findings in 2024.

## ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Under Dr. Marcia Clark's expert leadership, the Annual Meeting, held in Calgary from June 21-24, was a resounding success. The event embraced the key guiding principles of advocacy and policy change, diversity, leadership, and a spotlight on local initiatives.

Critical issues were highlighted through insightful discussions and strategic planning, while the inclusion of the Care Team abstract track and sessions dedicated to OR efficiencies and environmental stewardship underscored a commitment to advancing a team-based approach to care. Diversity took centre stage, as evidenced by multidisciplinary panels, a session featuring Pride Ortho, and a Canadian Orthopaedic Nurses Association pre-day Annual Meeting.

Moreover, the event shone a spotlight on local initiatives, with three sessions exploring successful care delivery and advocacy models in Alberta. This comprehensive approach ensured that the Annual Meeting not only addressed current challenges in the orthopaedic landscape but also provided a platform for collaboration, learning, and the exchange of innovative ideas.

**We are pleased that the 2023 meeting had a 91% attendance rate.**

### What Was New in 2023

- Mentor for a Day Program
- Themed Breaks: Care Day & Pride Ortho
- 3 Alberta Spotlight Lectures
- Early Exposure to the Cutting Edge - workshop for students
- Care Team Track (abstracts)
- Presentation Management System (A/V)
- Large eposter Touch Screens
- Reduced Carbon Footprint
- Recorded Ortho Insider Podcast On-Site



**Marcia Clark**  
Program Chair

### Evaluation Survey Results

- 93% were satisfied with the education offerings
- 94% felt the meeting included appropriate diversity in topics
- Top 3 educational takeaways:
  - Pearls of practice from colleagues
  - New techniques or approaches to clinical challenges
  - Confirmation of practice patterns
- Primary reasons for attending:
  - Learning opportunities
  - Networking
  - CME credits

## PODCAST

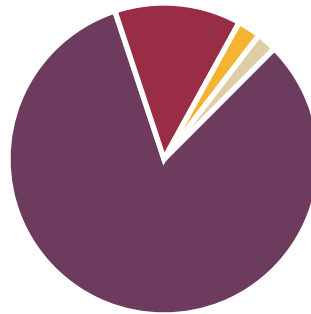
Dr. Adrian Huang (member of the Communications Committee) hosted the inaugural season of "Ortho Insider," the first-ever podcast by the Canadian Orthopaedic Association. This summer series, spanning five episodes, featured enlightening conversations with leading orthopaedic surgeons from various regions and backgrounds in Canada. Each episode offered a comprehensive exploration of different orthopaedic specialties, catering to surgeons at varying stages of their careers. The complete series is available for catching up on platforms like YouTube, Spotify, and Apple Podcasts.



## ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

### Sponsors and Exhibitors

- 239 Industry Representatives
- 38 Exhibiting Companies
- 7 Sponsors
- 6 Sponsored Lunch n' Learn Sessions



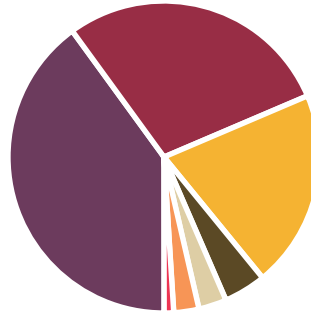
### Communications and Marketing

- 298 New Social Followers
- 233 Posts using #COAMeeting
- 200 Instagram story shares using #COAMeeting
- 45 Geo-tagged in-feed posts



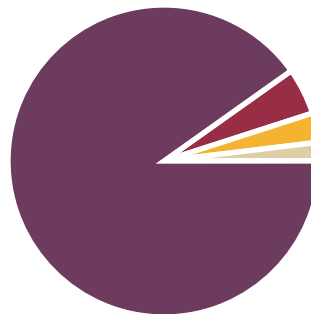
### Program Statistics

- 400 Verbal Presentations (247 Podiums)
- 286 Presenters (Podium & Panelists)
- 205 Posters
- 44 Subspecialty Sessions
- 29 Paper Sessions
- 26 CME Hours Offered
- 10 General Sessions & Symposiums



### Participant Statistics

- 1130 Registrants
- 61 Special Guests
- 38 Exhibiting Companies
- 24 Countries Represented



# LEADERSHIP AND MENTORSHIP

## EMERGING LEADERS PROGRAM

The 2023 Emerging Leaders Program in orthopaedics honed the skills of ten aspiring leaders. The program balanced group interaction with individualized attention, offering monthly peer check-ins and personalized

one-on-one coaching. Guided by an expert coach and facilitator, participants developed key skills and knowledge, preparing them to confidently assume leadership roles in their field.

## PARTICIPANT FEEDBACK

“The COA’s Emerging Leaders Program has been transformative, providing unparalleled insights into the intricacies of orthopaedic care and leadership. Through its meticulously designed modules and exceptional mentors, it has equipped me with the skills and vision essential for navigating the dynamic landscape of orthopaedics. This program is a game-changer for anyone serious about making an impactful difference in the field.”



**Jamal Al-Asiri**  
Hamilton, Ontario  
Cohort 1 Emerging Leader  
Program Participant

## DIVERSITY IN LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP

In partnership with DePuy Synthes for the third year running, the COA was able to award up to \$500 to 15 applicants in 2023 to attend a leadership course of their choice. The scholarship is open to all COA members who self-identify as underrepresented in orthopaedics in Canada.

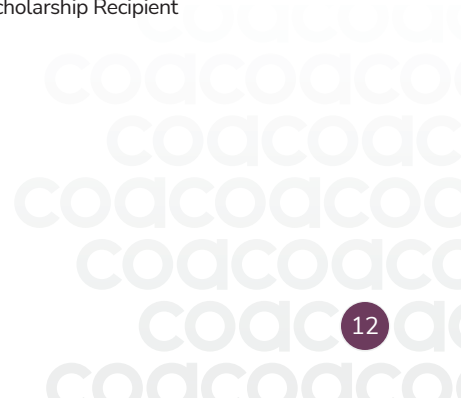


## SCHOLAR FEEDBACK

“The Diversity in Leadership Scholarship has contributed significantly to my ongoing leadership development by funding Executive Coaching sessions with Gord Aker who I met through the Emerging Leaders Program in 2022. Because of the ELP, I have had many opportunities to meet and work with Gord which have positively impacted the quality of the Executive Coaching sessions now. Gord has provided thought-provoking and insightful feedback that I have reflected on to become a more self aware and effective leader. I am truly grateful for the leadership development opportunities provided through the COA and look forward to continuing my journey.”



**Lori-Anne Archer**  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
Scholarship Recipient



# LEADERSHIP AND MENTORSHIP

## MENTOR FOR A DAY

The Mentor for a Day Program, a standout feature of the Annual Meeting in Calgary, matched 14 resident mentees from orthopaedic training programs across the country with experts and leaders from various subspecialties for a day of mentorship and focused discussions throughout Subspecialty Day on Saturday, June 24. This program provided residents the opportunity to learn first-hand from subspecialist

surgeon mentors about practice, techniques, research and career development in different specialty areas of orthopaedics. We would like to thank the mentors, training programs and subspecialty societies who participated in this program, and for engaging the next generation of orthopaedic professionals.

## EARLY EXPOSURE TO THE CUTTING EDGE

Over 59 medical students registered for the first **Early Exposure to the Cutting Edge** interactive workshop held at the Annual Meeting in Calgary. As students rotated through hands-on stations showcasing various orthopaedic tools and techniques, they engaged with surgeons and trainees from across the country. Through this experience, students gained early exposure to our exciting specialty directly from leaders and mentors, inspiring tomorrow's medical professionals to consider orthopaedic career paths. Thanks to Drs. Rubini Pathy

and Laura Morrison from the University of Calgary, and Dr. Patricia Farrugia (McMaster) for their leadership in bringing this program to the COA Annual Meeting. We would also like to thank the table instructors and speakers who volunteered their time to participate in the workshop, as well as Stryker, Smith & Nephew, University of Calgary ATSSL Lab, Tactile Orthopaedics, Precision OS and OrthoPediatrics for providing materials for the various stations.

# SUBSPECIALTY SOCIETIES AND AFFILIATES

The COA is proud to be directly affiliated with a variety of national subspecialty societies and affiliates.

## AFFILIATE HIGHLIGHTS

### Canadian Orthopaedic Research Society (CORS)



CANADIAN ORTHOPAEDIC  
RESEARCH SOCIETY  
SOCIÉTÉ DE RECHERCHE  
ORTHOPÉDIQUE DU CANADA

- Hosted the Canadian Connective Tissue Society (CCTS) as a guest society at the Annual Meeting.
- Held successful informative session on Patient Engagement in Research.
- Past President, Dr. Joy MacDermid presented in a spotlight Canadian research symposium at AAOS.
- 9 presentations featured in the Top Canadian Research Paper Session. The 2023 Founder's Medal was awarded to Matthew Raleigh (University of Toronto).

### Canadian Orthopaedic Residents Association (CORA)



- Hosted resident-specific programming at the Annual Meeting including 3 paper sessions, symposia and combined session with CPOS.
- Virtual CORA Coffee Chat with Drs. Laurie Hiemstra, Pierre Guy and Olufemi Ayeni from the COA's Presidential Line.
- CORA Co-Chairs, Drs. Laurel Collings and Laura Morrison participated as speakers and instructors in the Early Exposure to the Cutting Edge student pipeline workshop, as well as the Women in Orthopaedics Lunch n' Learn.



# SUBSPECIALTY SOCIETIES AND AFFILIATES

## SUBSPECIALTY SOCIETY HIGHLIGHTS

### Arthroscopy Association of Canada (AAC)

- Publication of Arthroscopy Association of Canada Position Statement on Opioid Prescription After Arthroscopic Surgery.
- 11 fellowship programs are now accredited with regular educational sessions, including the Fellow's Forum at the Annual Meeting and preceptorships.
- Congratulations and recognition to Dr. Wong for his 7 years of service as AAC President.



### Canadian Orthopaedic Foot and Ankle Society (COFAS)

- Held full-day Think Tank session discussing strategic direction of COFAS, education, research.
- Announcement of internationally renowned speaker Dr. James Calder to attend the 2024 Annual Meeting in Halifax.
- Inauguration of new President, Dr. Warren Latham, whose mandate is focused on building a 2-year strategic plan for the organization.



### Canadian Arthroplasty Society (CAS)

- Held 12th Annual Meeting in Toronto with 80 participants. The program featured the Hip Society's Rothman-Ranawat's Travelling Fellows as guest speakers.
- Hosted first Virtual Arthroplasty Fundamentals Course for Residents.
- The first CJRR Clinical Fellow completed clinical fellowship; MSc Thesis work being completed.
- Completed enrolment of first multi-centre CAS Surgical Study – Simultaneous vs. Staged Bilateral Total Knee Replacements.



### Canadian Orthopaedic Limb Lengthening Association (COLLA)

- Presented "Case-Based Learning on Use of Deformity Principles in Trauma, an International Perspective" with international leaders Mr. Haemish Crawford (NZ), Dr. Deborah Eastwood (UK), Dr. Michael Assayag (USA), Dr. Carrie Kollias (Aus) at the Annual Meeting.
- Successfully initiated quarterly virtual case-based rounds to provide a network for discussion of difficult cases.



### Canadian Orthopaedic Trauma Society (COTS)

- Presented practice-changing studies at the COA, OTA and AAOS Annual Meetings with studies published in high impact journals.
- Held full day retreat to revise and develop COTS terms of reference, mission and governance structure.
- Presently holding nominations for leadership of COTS. Succession planning was successfully developed at the retreat in June 2023.
- Pursued studies using AI as an aid to diagnose acute compartment syndrome, as well as RCT studies reviewing management of humeral shaft fractures and ulnar fractures.



### Canadian Shoulder and Elbow Society (CSES)

- Held CSES Shoulder & Elbow Resident Course after a 3-year hiatus due to COVID. The hands-on cadaver workshop took place in Montreal and celebrated its 10th anniversary of the first course in 2013.
- CSES hosted 4 travelling fellows from the British Shoulder & Elbow Society at the Annual Meeting.
- Inauguration of new President, Dr. Patrick Chin (UBC).



### Canadian Paediatric Orthopaedic Society (CPOS)

- CPOS developed from Group into a Society with a corresponding name change and new logo.
- Held successful Fireside Chat with CORA on What Not to Miss in the Paediatric Trauma Patient in Practice (or on the Exam!) at COA Annual Meeting.
- Welcomed new President, Dr. Anthony Cooper from UBC.
- Member Highlights: Dr. Sukhdeep Dulai nominated 2nd President-Elect of the COA. \$1.09 Million CIHR project Grant Awarded to Randomized Trial- Bracing vs Observation for the Treatment of Radiologic Dyplasia (Drs. Kishore Mulpuri, Simon Kelley, Emily Schaeffer and Bryn Zomar).



### The Wrist and Elbow Society of Canada (WECAN)

- Published a multicentre look at the complications of ulnar shortening osteotomy (In Press: Journal Hand Surgery).
- Completed WECAN first prospective randomized trial - a 6-centre trial examining the value of low intensity pulsed ultrasound to enhance the healing of scaphoid non-unions. Presented results at ASSH and AAHS international meetings.
- 4 ongoing WECAN national multicentre trials.
- Membership growth and increase.



# A MESSAGE FROM OUR DIAMOND SPONSOR ZIMMER BIOMET

As a proud partner of the Canadian orthopaedic community, Zimmer Biomet is happy to support the great work and leadership provided by the Canadian Orthopaedic Association. Our roots in Canada date back nearly 60 years; over that time, we've grown alongside and together with the COA and its membership. That parallel journey and the successes it has helped us all achieve represent the real outcomes of one of Zimmer Biomet's core values: to act as a trusted partner.

Acting as a trusted partner means much more to us than simply offering best-in-class technology and top-tier clinical representation. Although those priorities remain paramount in everything we do, being a trusted partner also means standing behind all the activities and priorities that help Canadian orthopaedics flourish: advocacy, provincial society engagement, research and education, and supporting fellows, residents and the next generation of Canadian surgical leaders.

We know these objectives align well with those of the COA, which is why we were excited and honoured to have the opportunity to sponsor the Emerging Leaders Program. Encouragingly, the way the COA has conceived this program creates an ongoing and meaningful dialogue between different but equally passionate stakeholders in Canadian orthopaedics. As a result, the Program is sure to develop leaders, trailblazers, and resonant voices in Canada for years to come.

Looking then, both behind us at past partnerships or ahead to the COA's vision for the future, Zimmer Biomet is proud to reinforce, continue to develop and always evolve what it means to be a trusted partner of the COA and the Canadian orthopaedic community.

Sincerely, Luke Windisch.



**Luke Windisch**  
VP & GM, Zimmer Biomet Canada

## THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

The COA would like to acknowledge the support of our 2023 sponsors and industry partners.

<b>DIAMOND</b>		<b>PLATINUM</b>	
<b>SILVER</b>	<b>BRONZE</b>	<b>EVENT</b>	

## EXHIBITORS

3M Canada, Abyrx Inc, Activarmor Canada, Anika Therapeutics, Inc., bioartmed, representing RADLINK INC., Biocomposites, BioMarin Pharmaceutical, Bone and Joint Canada, BONESUPPORT AB, Breg, Inc., Cerapedics, Classic Health, ConMed, DePuy Synthes, EDUCATE Intimate Partner Violence Training Program, Enovis, GE HealthCare, Getinge, iFinance Canada Inc., LIMA ORTHOPAEDICS CANADA INC., MedEnvision,

MicroPort Orthopedics, Inc., Mizuho OSI – Exclusively Distributed by Integra Canada, Molnlycke, NuVasive Specialized Orthopedics, Orthopaedic Ultrasound, OrthoPediatrics, OrtoPed, Össur Canada Inc., Pendopharm, Pensum Regenerative Medicine, Perfuse Medtec Inc., Sanofi, Smith & Nephew, Stryker, Tactile Orthopaedics, Tribe Medical. Zimmer Biomet Canada

## LOOKING AHEAD: A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT-ELECT

It is the honour of a lifetime to serve as President of the Canadian Orthopaedic Association. As we look forward to 2024, I am committed to devoting my energy, attention, and effort to the organization, especially considering the global and local challenges we face. I firmly believe that active engagement of our members can lead to great things in the future.

In line with this vision, I am excited to continue and expand the Diversity in Leadership Scholarship along with the Emerging Leaders Program. These initiatives are crucial for nurturing diverse leadership and innovative thinking in our field.

We are also embarking on a journey to rebrand and reimagine the Bulletin. This effort will not only refresh our communication but also ensure it resonates with the evolving dynamics of our profession.

Engaging with Provincial Associations is another key focus. By attending these meetings, we aim to strengthen our collaborative efforts and enhance our collective impact.

Furthermore, I am thrilled to introduce my Presidential theme for the upcoming year: "Team COAnada – Let's Move Together!" This theme embodies our collective drive towards unity, collaboration, and progress in the orthopaedic community.

As we move into 2024, my primary goal is to lead a platform that truly engages all members, ensuring that the next generation of orthopaedic surgeons are well-prepared for success. My focus will be on connecting with our early career surgeons and future colleagues, advocating for their professional needs as well as the needs of our patients. I am confident that a unified and actively engaged COA membership can be a powerful force in advancing patient care and promoting excellence in our field.

Looking forward to a year of growth, collaboration, and achievement, I am eager to work together with each one of you to make a significant impact in orthopaedics and beyond.

Warm regards.



**Olufemi Ayeni**  
President-Elect

## SAVE THE DATE

**Canadian Orthopaedic Care Day**  
Wednesday, March 27, 2024

**Annual Meeting in Halifax, Nova Scotia**  
June 12-15, 2024

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