



ANNUAL REPORT

2024

coa-aco.org

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SAVE THE DATE



**Canadian Orthopaedic
Care Day**
Wednesday, March 26, 2025



Annual Meeting
Vancouver, British Columbia
June 11-14, 2025

WELCOME MESSAGE

We are honoured to share the 2024 Annual Report of the Canadian Orthopaedic Association (COA) and its valued affiliate subspecialty societies. This past year has been one of progress, innovation, and collaboration as we look forward to a significant milestone in 2025: the COA's 80th anniversary. This historic occasion invites us to reflect on our rich legacy and continue building on the foundations that have shaped the COA for eight decades.

As President and CEO of the COA, we have been inspired by the collective efforts of orthopaedic professionals, volunteers, and partners in advancing care across Canada. A central focus of 2024 has been engaging early-career surgeons, residents, and the next generation of leaders in orthopaedics. Initiatives such as the Emerging Leaders Program (entering its third cohort) and the Diversity in Leadership Scholarship are empowering underrepresented groups and shaping the future of our profession.

Mentorship also took centre stage this year with the Mentor for a Day program, which connects experienced orthopaedic professionals with aspiring subspecialists. By fostering mentorship, this program ensures the next generation is equipped with the guidance and expertise needed to thrive in orthopaedics.

A major milestone in 2024 was our formal collaboration with the Canadian Orthopaedic Surgery Student Network (COSSNET). This affiliation strengthens our shared mission of engaging students and early-career professionals. At the COA Annual Meeting, we partnered with COSSNET to co-brand and co-host the Early Exposure to the Cutting Edge: Student Outreach Session. This workshop provided invaluable opportunities for students to explore orthopaedic surgery and connect with established leaders, solidifying our commitment to supporting the pipeline of future orthopaedic professionals.

Throughout the year, the COA strengthened its connections through provincial meetings in British Columbia, the Atlantic Provinces, Quebec, Alberta, Manitoba, and Ontario. These engagements reinforced the importance of regional voices in shaping national priorities and ensuring that the COA's efforts align with the needs of orthopaedic care across Canada.

Advocacy remains at the heart of the COA's mission. Through AdvoOrtho, we have focused on addressing key challenges faced by orthopaedic professionals and the patients they serve. In 2024, the COA released a statement on Parental Leave, reaffirming our commitment to equity and the balance between professional and personal responsibilities in orthopaedics.

We also celebrated the success of the Annual Meeting in Halifax, Nova Scotia. With dynamic programming, innovative research, and invaluable networking opportunities, this event reflected the strength of our community. We extend our deepest thanks to Dr. Glen Richardson, Dalhousie Orthopaedics, and all of our Nova Scotia colleagues for their exceptional contributions to this year's meeting.

The Ortho Insider podcast continues to be a powerful platform for knowledge sharing and collaboration. Season 2 showcased episodes focusing on international perspectives, editorial insights, resident experiences, and advancements in sports medicine. A special series in partnership with the COA Global Surgery (COAGS) Committee highlighted the impactful work of Canadian orthopaedic professionals in resource-limited settings globally.

Finally, we extend our deepest gratitude to all those who contributed to this year's successes: the Executive Committee, Board of Directors, committees, head office staff, and every individual who supports orthopaedic care across Canada. Your dedication and collaboration are the driving forces behind the COA's success.



Olufemi Ayeni
President, 2024-2025



Cynthia Vezina
Chief Executive Officer

TREASURER'S REPORT

On behalf of the Board of Directors, thank you for renewing your COA membership this year. Your support has been especially valued as we transitioned to a revised dues structure and introduced our first fee adjustment in nearly a decade. This commitment from members like you directly enables key initiatives and programs that make a meaningful impact on the delivery of orthopaedic care in Canada. As a member-driven organization, with dues constituting 50% of our annual income, your timely renewal is critical to our ongoing success.

Over the past year, the COA expanded its reach and strengthened its impact in several meaningful ways. We awarded additional scholarships through the Diversity in Leadership initiative, recognizing the importance of fostering inclusion in orthopaedics. The Ortho Insider Podcast gained significant momentum, doubling its episodes from the inaugural season and amplifying its role as a platform for professional insights and meaningful conversations. We also prioritized investments in advocacy through AdvoOrtho, advancing government relations efforts to elevate the voice of orthopaedics on critical issues. Early-career surgeons continued to benefit from leadership coaching and development opportunities through the Emerging Leaders Program, which remains a cornerstone of our commitment to the future of orthopaedic leadership.

Dr. Olufemi Ayeni has built upon these successes, making history by attending the highest number of provincial society meetings by any COA President to date. At many of these regional gatherings, Dr. Ayeni hosted fireside chats with local residents, fostering candid discussions on career planning, research, and professional development. On the global stage, Dr. Pierre Guy represented the COA by participating

in the annual meetings of the Carousel international orthopaedic societies, showcasing Canadian expertise and engaging in valuable knowledge-sharing with our international colleagues. These efforts underscore the importance of maintaining strong relationships across provincial, national, and international networks to further orthopaedic care and innovation.

With your continued support, we remain steadfast in our commitment to initiatives that advance orthopaedic care, strengthen professional development, and address the evolving needs of our members. We welcome your input and encourage you to share your feedback as we shape the next chapter of the COA's work together.

Despite rising costs in the hospitality and events sector and the challenges of inflation, our careful financial management ensured education and event expenses remained within budget. These efforts reflect our dedication to providing exceptional value for our members, even in a challenging economic climate.

Thank you for your continued support and trust. I look forward to serving you in the year ahead and invite you to contact us with any questions or to request a copy of our audited financial statements.



Ted Tufescu
Treasurer

STRATEGIC PLAN

In our final year of the three-year strategic plan, COA leadership focused on evaluating the current structure of the Association, as well as program and benefit offers to membership under the four priorities: Engagement, Advocacy, Education and Quality. These key priorities are designed to steer the COA's response to membership needs assessment and suggestions for improvement. A new strategic plan will be put forward to membership in June 2025.

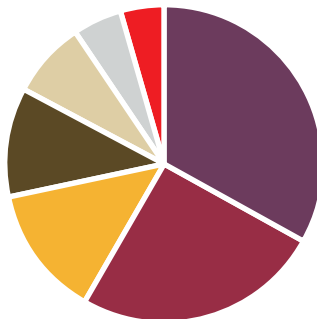
NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Robert Litchfield	2 nd President Elect
John Grant	Secretary
Matthew Teeter	CORS President
Allan Woo	Prairies Representative
Duncan Smith	Atlantic Representative
Helen Crofts	CORA Co-Chair
Eryck Moskven	CORA Co-Chair

MEMBERSHIP

Statistics

- 1007 Active
- 759 Subspecialty Society Members
- 407 Senior Members
- 333 Associate Members
- 239 Research Affiliate Members
- 155 Committee Members
- 127 International Members



New Members

In 2024, the COA welcomed **49 new members**, emphasizing the recruitment of junior residents at the start of their orthopaedic training. Furthermore, **15 former members** rejoined the COA, signaling renewed engagement among previously inactive members.

AWARDS OF DISTINCTION RECIPIENTS

PRESIDENTIAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE



Hans Kreder

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD



Nicholas Mohtadi

EMERGING LEADER AWARD



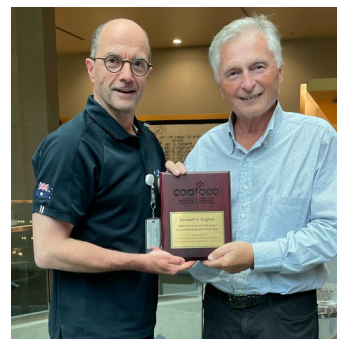
Lane Dielwart and Marie-Lyne Nault

CHANGEMAKER AWARD



Pascal-André Vendittoli

SERVICE TO THE COA AWARD



Kenneth Hughes

DOUG THOMSON BEST BOOTH AWARDS



TRAVELLING FELLOWSHIPS

INTERNATIONAL ABC TRAVELLING FELLOWS

The visiting international American British Canadian (ABC) Fellows also attended the Annual Meeting during their spring tour of North American orthopaedic centres. Fellows delivered talks during the featured ABC symposium and were welcomed by former Fellows during a networking reception. Thanks to the two Canadian host sites for their incredible hospitality, and to our alumni Fellows for their important role in welcoming and mentoring the visiting fellows during their time in Canada.

Canadian Host Sites

1. University of Calgary
2. University of Ottawa

The COA's commitment to fostering international collaboration through hosting the ABC Fellows and the Anica Bitenc tour was exemplified by the success of these programs. These programs provide an exceptional platform for professional exchange, strengthening international collaborations within the global orthopaedic community.



International ABC Fellows (from l to r):

- **Tom Quick** - British Orthopaedic Association
- **Maritz Laubscher** - South African Orthopaedic Association
- **Jonathan Stevenson** - British Orthopaedic Association
- **Anand Segar** - New Zealand Orthopaedic Association
- **Ciara Stevenson** - British Orthopaedic Association
- **Sina Babazadeh** - Australian Orthopaedic Association
- **Xavier Griffin** - British Orthopaedic Association

ANICA BITENC TRAVELLING FELLOW

In this spring, **Dr. Nemanja Jovanovic** from Belgrade, Serbia participated in the Anica Bitenc Travelling Fellowship where he visited five Canadian orthopaedic centres as well the Annual Meeting to engage with experts and professionals, share insights from his tour, and explore opportunities for future collaboration. Thank you to this year's host institutions for their kind participation and to the Canadian Orthopaedic Foundation for managing the fellowship's funding through a bequest from the late Dr. Igor Bitenc.

Canadian Host Sites

1. University of Toronto
2. McMaster University
3. Memorial University
4. Université Laval
5. Dalhousie University



ADVOCACY

8 meetings with government



67% engagement increase for Care Day



GOVERNMENT RELATIONS AND ADVOORTHO

In the spring 2024 campaign leading up to Canadian Orthopaedic Care Day, the COA focused on Ontario-based meetings with MPPs and MPs. We were happy to have the cooperation and partnership from the Ontario Orthopaedic Association, Ontario Physiotherapists Association and the Canadian Physiotherapists Association to lend additional viewpoints during our campaign. Overall, the COA secured eight meetings with Ontario MPPs active in health and labour circuits, and MPs serving on the Standing Committee on Health and Standing Committee on Science and Research. As part of our partnership with HEAL (Health Alliance), we also met with the Parliamentary Secretary for Health and the Shadow Minister of Health. The COA has had 36 meetings with government since beginning government relations activities three years ago.

advortho

The COA wishes to thank the following members for contributing to the COA's AdvoOrtho fund in 2024:

Peter B. MacDonald
Peter J. Dryden
Sukhdeep Dulai
John Campbell
Laurie A. Hiemstra
Gregory Stranges
Steven Papp
Alastair S.E. Younger
James MacKenzie

Kishore Mulpuri
Douglas A. Legay
Ted Tufescu
Jason Werle
Amerigo Balatri
Cassandra Lane Dielwart
Muhammad Albeshar
Arinze Madu

CANADIAN ORTHOPAEDIC CARE DAY 2024

Occurring yearly on the last Wednesday of March, Canadian Orthopaedic Care Day was developed in the Winter of 2021 to unite the orthopaedic community, allied health professionals, supporting organizations, and government officials to celebrate and bring awareness to orthopaedic care across Canada.

For 2024, the overarching themes were **#MSKUnited** and **#MobilityMatters**, highlighting the collective efforts of the orthopaedic community to improve musculoskeletal health and patient mobility. These themes reflected the spirit of collaboration and innovation, focusing on reducing wait times, advancing surgical techniques, and enhancing patient outcomes across the country.

Using hashtags **#CdnOrthoDay**, **#OrthoCareCanada**, **#MSKUnited**, and **#MobilityMatters**, we encouraged participation from orthopaedic surgeons, allied health professionals, residency programs, and provincial and federal government officials on **Wednesday, March 27, 2024**.



Canadian Orthopaedic Care Day

In preparation, over **1,500 government officials** were contacted, along with health reporters and major news outlets, including community newspapers and media platforms across Canada. Their involvement brought significant attention to the challenges faced by the profession and the advancements being made.

CALGARY | News

Orthopaedic Care Day in Canada marked as provinces continue to struggle with wait times



Surgery (File photo CTV News)

2024 Highlights:

• Social Media Impact:

- **81,593 impressions** from the Save the Date campaign.
- Over **15,000 video views** and a **67% increase in engagement** compared to previous years.
- Instagram and LinkedIn were the most effective platforms, engaging both professional and public audiences.

• Dynamic Video Campaigns:

- Videos from Drs. Pierre Guy, Brendan Sheehan, Kishore Mulpuri, Marcia Clark, Lane Dielwart, and Olufemi Ayeni were a focal point, as well as submissions from patients.
- Residents provided fresh perspectives through video recordings during the Annual Meeting.
- A unique patient perspective video showcased the real-world impact of orthopaedic care.

• Collaborative Success:

- Partnered with over **30 MSK associations and healthcare groups**, including the Quebec Orthopaedic Association, Dalhousie Sports Medicine, Ottawa Orthopaedic Centre, and the Canadian Physiotherapy Association.
- Featured initiatives like Dr. Adrian Huang's combined Care Day and podcast promo and Laurie Hiemstra's spotlight on the Diversity in Leadership Scholarship.

• Media and Government Recognition:

- Coverage by **CTV News Calgary** highlighted the importance of addressing wait times.
- **75 positive responses** from government officials demonstrated widespread recognition of orthopaedic care challenges and progress.

ORTHO INSIDER PODCAST

The *Ortho Insider* podcast has become a leading platform for insightful discussions and collaboration within the orthopaedic community. In 2024, the podcast continued to thrive, offering a mix of timely, thought-provoking content across its episodes. The year began with a special episode featuring Premier Andrew Furey for Canadian Orthopaedic Care Day in March. This conversation showcased the intersection of orthopaedics and public service, offering listeners a unique perspective on leadership and healthcare advocacy. The podcast also captured the excitement and expertise of the COA Annual Meeting in Halifax, where several episodes were recorded, bringing together diverse voices in orthopaedics.

The fall of 2024 was particularly vibrant, with the release of six episodes. Hosted by Dr. Adrian Huang, these episodes featured topics ranging from sports medicine with Dr. Peter MacDonald to international perspectives on orthopaedic care with Drs. Ann Van Heest and Michael Johnson. Highlights included discussions on surgeon wellness with Drs. Sukhdeep Dulai and Kevin Bozic. The fall also saw the release of a four-episode special series in



collaboration with the Canadian Orthopaedic Association Global Surgery Committee (COAGS), spotlighting global orthopaedic care advancements. Featuring experts like Drs. Kishore Mulpuri and Rick Gardner, this series delved into impactful global initiatives, research, and advocacy.

Ortho Insider has continued to foster meaningful connections across the orthopaedic field. By featuring leading professionals, addressing critical healthcare challenges, and emphasizing innovation and collaboration, the podcast has solidified its role as an essential resource for both Canadian and international orthopaedic communities. Available on YouTube, Spotify, and Apple Podcasts, *Ortho Insider* invites listeners to explore the diverse and evolving world of musculoskeletal care.



Femi Ayeni



Peter MacDonald



Sukhdeep Dulai and Kevin Bozic



Michael Johnson and Ann Van Heest



Fares Haddad



Kristen Barton



Supriya Singh and Parham Rasoulinejad



Richard Gardner



Kishore Mulpuri

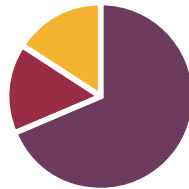


Supriya Singh

EDUCATION

Statistics

- 48.5 Total CME Hours Offered
- 11 Educational Events
- 11 Total Events Accredited by the COA



- 7 International Society Meeting Collaborations
- 6 Provincial Society Meeting Collaborations



WEBINARS

- CORA hosted a webinar in April with members of the Presidential Line about securing employment post-residency, with valuable insights and lessons learned in job seeking.
- In February and April, the COA hosted an English and French webinar in partnership with Choosing Wisely Canada about Environmental Stewardship in Orthopaedics.
- COA Global Surgery hosted a webinar in November about Canadian and International Experience in Global Orthopaedic Surgery Training Programs.

COURSES

- In October, PGY3 and PGY4 residents, along with other participants, attended Modules 2 ('Infection') and 3 ('Biomechanics') of the COA Basic Science Course. A lecture series on interpretation of radiographs reinforces the concepts of clinical, radiologic, and pathological correlation. This course remains COA's longest-running educational offering outside the Annual Meeting, achieving over 90% registrant participation.

ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Under Dr. Glen Richardson's strong leadership and expertise, the Annual Meeting, held in Halifax from June 12-15, was a resounding success. The event embraced the key guiding principles of increasing the amount of clinical programming and interactive education, and fostering discussions surrounding environmental and health system sustainability, while including key opinion leaders and experts from around the world.

The program included collaborative meetings and educational sessions with MSK partner and affiliate organizations including the Canadian Orthopaedic Nurses Association (CONA), MSK Rehab Research Network, the Canadian Medical Protective Association (CMPA) and Orthopaedic Trauma Association (OTA) among others, building off of the outreach developed throughout Dr. Pierre Guy's presidential mandate.

The Annual Meeting prominently featured discussions on sustainable health systems through dedicated symposia that explored innovative approaches to healthcare delivery and environmental stewardship. The Tiered Health Care System Symposium delved into equitable access and resource allocation strategies to address the evolving demands on orthopaedic care. The Environmental Sustainability Symposium highlighted actionable steps towards reducing the environmental impact of healthcare practices, while the session on the use of PAs in practice explored advancements in patient-specific approaches to care. These sessions underscored the COA's commitment to integrating sustainability into the future of orthopaedic care, aligning with global healthcare priorities.

What Was New in 2024

- Ep poster Highlight Sessions
- Interactive live voting in select symposia
- Combined symposium with the Orthopaedic Trauma Association (OTA)
- 24% increase in clinical programming
- 66% increase in industry-led education sessions
- 3 Pre/Post-event subspecialty wet/dry labs (AAC and COFAS)
- CMPA Workshop on Risk Mitigation



Glen Richardson
Program Chair

The Subspecialty Day sessions held on Saturday saw comprehensive programming from every subspecialty track that featured and internationally renowned and expert speakers including Olympian Heather Moyse, Prof. James Calder and leaders of the visiting international Carousel orthopaedic societies.

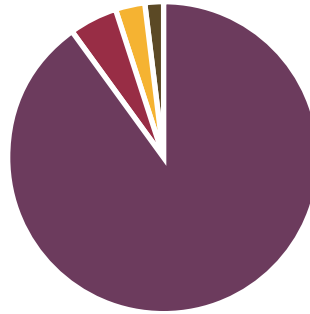
Evaluation Survey Results

- 97% were satisfied with the education offerings
- 98% 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
 - To visit Halifax!

ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

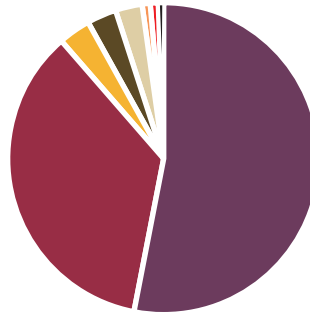
Participant Statistics

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



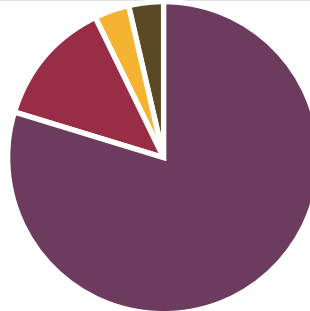
Program Statistics

- 515 Presentation opportunities
- 343 Eposters
- 33 Subspecialty Sessions
- 30 Paper Sessions
- 28 CME Hours Offered
- 8 Epoter Highlight Sessions
- 6 General Sessions & Symposiums
- 5 Workshops/Labs



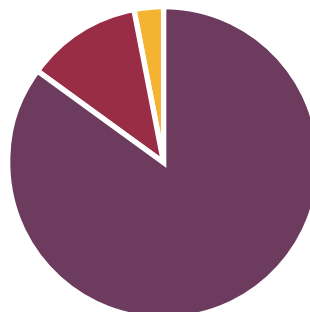
Sponsors and Exhibitors

- 233 Industry Representatives
- 38 Exhibiting Companies
- 11 Sponsors
- 10 Sponsored Lunch n' Learn Sessions



Communications and Marketing

- 260 New Social Followers
- 36 Geo-tagged In-feed Posts
- 9 Podcast Episodes Recorded On Site



LEADERSHIP AND MENTORSHIP

EMERGING LEADERS PROGRAM

The 2024 Emerging Leaders Program supported by Zimmer Biomet, honed the skills of ten aspiring leaders from ten different sites and six different provinces. Of the learners, four were community-based practice surgeons and six from academic settings. Subspecialties represented included arthroplasty, sports, paediatrics and upper extremity. The program balanced group interaction with individualized attention, offering monthly peer check-ins and personalized one-on-one leadership coaching.



DIVERSITY IN LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP

In partnership with Depuy Synthes for the fourth year running, the COA was able to award up to two \$2000 grand prizes and \$500 awards to applicants in 2024 attending a leadership course of their choice. Since 2022, the scholarship was awarded 51 times to successful applicants from seven different provinces. The scholarship is open to all COA members who self-identify as underrepresented in orthopaedics in Canada.



MENTOR FOR A DAY

The Mentor for a Day Program, a standout feature of the Annual Meeting in Halifax, matched eight 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 15. 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. Due to its success, this program will expand in Vancouver 2025 to include medical students mentored by residents. 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

In partnership with the Canadian Orthopaedic Surgery Student Network (COSSNET), over 40 residents registered for the second **Early Exposure to the Cutting Edge** interactive workshop held at the Annual Meeting in Halifax. Students had the opportunity to learn more about various orthopaedic career journeys from surgeons and residents, and engage with leaders and experts while rotating through hands-on stations showcasing various tools and techniques. Through this experience, students gained early exposure to our exciting specialty and to the COA. We would like to thank all table instructors and speakers who volunteered their time to participate in the workshop, as well as Johnson & Johnson MedTech, Dalhousie University, QE II Simulation, and Tactile Orthopaedics for providing materials for the stations.



SUBSPECIALTY SOCIETIES AND AFFILIATES

SUBSPECIALTY SOCIETY HIGHLIGHTS

Arthroscopy Association of Canada (AAC)

- Two successful labs (ultrasound and shoulder) held during the COA Annual Meeting.
- Facilitated the distribution of three research surveys.



Canadian Arthroplasty Society (CAS)

- 13th Annual General Meeting was held in Toronto and included 40 abstract presentations and two stimulating symposia. The Hip Society's Rothman-Ranawat Travelling fellows joined as guest speakers.
- 2nd Annual Virtual CAS Arthroplasty Fundamentals Course for Residents on complex primary hip and knee arthroplasty was held in January 2024.
- Dr. Jason Werle was inaugurated as CAS President for a two-year term and Dr. Gavin Wood was named CAS President-Elect.
- A combined British Hip Society/CAS Global Reach Webinar featuring case presentations by Drs. Jennifer Leighton, Doug Naudie, and Raj Sharma was held in October 2024.



Canadian Orthopaedic Foot and Ankle Society (COFAS)

- Guest speakers at COA Subspecialty Day in Halifax included internationally renowned Drs. James Calder and Kevin Martin.
- Successful foot and ankle cadaver lab post-COA Annual Meeting.



Canadian Orthopaedic Limb Lengthening Association (COLLA)

- Fantastic participation at virtual case-based rounds discussing difficult cases (every 2 months) with faculty from across Canada.
- Successful Annual Meeting Symposium on Case-Based Learning about Post traumatic Deformity Correction with national and international speakers.
- Faculty, residents, fellows and staff from Canada participated in events like the annual ELER (Essentials of Lower Extremity Reconstruction), a free course for residents to teach basic concepts of limb alignment in Dallas; as well as the Baltimore Limb Deformity Course.
- Members of COLLA can also become members of the LLRS (Limb Lengthening Reconstruction Society), part of the AAOS, if interested please contact colla@canorth.org.



Canadian Orthopaedic Trauma Society (COTS)

- Dr. Prism Schneider inaugurated as the new COTS President and Dr. Aaron Nauth as the Vice-President
- A new logo and web site have been developed (weareCOTS.ca)
- COTS Highlight symposium at the 2024 OTA Annual Meeting showcased impact of COTS evidence based research on the management of the poly-trauma patient
- Presented practice-changing studies at the COA, OTA, and AAOS Annual Meetings regarding the optimal bone graft and an RCT comparing suprapatellar vs. infrapatellar nailing.



Canadian Paediatric Orthopaedic Society (CPOS)

- Established the CPOS Standards Committee to enhance alignment across orthopaedic training programs.
- Hosted a session on EDI in orthopaedic training at COA with Drs. Ann Van Heest and Simon Hadlow.



Canadian Shoulder and Elbow Society (CSES)

- Inaugural Biennial CSES meeting in Toronto. This two-day meeting successfully fostered networking and learning among colleagues and increased membership.
- Patrick Chin inaugurated as the new CSES President.
- CSES Executive Members were nationally recognized for their shoulder and elbow research efforts. Drs. Diane Nam was the recipient of the J. Edouard Samson Award, Jarret Woodmass received the Canadian Orthopaedic Research Legacy award and Peter Lapner received the CSES Research Grant.



The Wrist and Elbow Society of Canada (WECAN)

- Awarded 'Top 10' projects at American Society for Surgery of the Hand 2 years in a row.
- 385K Grant funding from The Arthritis Society of Canada – Strategic.



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 MSK Rehab Network as a guest society at the Annual Meeting.
- 9 presentations were featured in the Top Canadian Research Paper Session. The 2024 Founder's Medal was awarded to Ikran Ali (University of Toronto).
- Introduced the Cy Frank Future Leaders Session at the Annual Meeting with presentations by orthopaedic surgery residents who participated in the Clinician Investigator Program.
- The annual MacNab Lecture was delivered by Dr. Emil Schemitsch (Western University) on the topic of clinical research in orthopaedic trauma.

Canadian Orthopaedic Residents Association (CORA)



- Hosted resident-specific programming at the Annual Meeting including symposium on Research as a Resident featuring Bone and Joint Journal Editor, Professor Fares Haddad and JISAKOS Editor and COA President, Dr. Olufemi Ayeni.
- Virtual Fireside Chat discussing finding a job post residency with Drs. Laurie Hiemstra, Olufemi Ayeni and Sukhdeep Dulai from the COA's Presidential Line.
- Episode of Ortho Insider Podcast featured Resident-perspective with Dr. Kristin Barton.

Canadian Orthopaedic Surgery Student Network (COSSNET)



COSSNET
CANADIAN ORTHOPAEDIC
SURGERY STUDENT NETWORK

- On this year's Match Day, the COA announced its collaboration with the Canadian Orthopaedic Surgery Students Network (COSSNET). This national interest group connects aspiring orthopaedic surgeons with

resources, mentorship and opportunities for growth in the field. The COSSNET collaboration gives us the opportunity to mentor and engage with medical and undergraduate students. At the Annual Meeting in Halifax in June, the COA and COSSNET co-hosted the Early Exposure to the Cutting Edge workshop for medical students and participated together in other pipeline events in Canada offering early insight into a career in orthopaedic surgery to our next generation colleagues.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR DIAMOND SPONSOR ZIMMER BIOMET

"You talk the talk, Quimby, but do you walk the walk?"
Chief Wiggum

In the fall of 2023, I joined the Canadian Orthopaedic Foundation for an episode of their podcast. Over the course of an hour, I talked—a lot—about what it means to be a trusted partner. Two topics were important to me: the unique value of the connected and collaborative nature of Canadian orthopaedics, and the opportunities that characteristic created to do innovative things.

One year later I'm proud that Zimmer Biomet established support for an innovative, platform-agnostic, multicentered trial focused on orthopaedic robotics. That kind of concept doesn't often get consideration, but our leadership saw the potential power of running it within a large clinical community that eschews typical competitive dynamics.

I believe the strength of that community is anchored by the work of the COA to connect Canadian orthopaedics and is the reason we continue to be a proud supporter of the Association and its myriad objectives. In fact, the innovations from the COA help us think about ways we

can enhance our support, too; in 2024 we built off our ongoing support of the Emerging Leaders Program and ran spring and fall events focused on lessons for early career surgeons from established peers.

Its years like this, when we can extend core support of our orthopaedic partners in new and innovate ways, that really excite us. We're walking and looking forward to the year ahead.



ZIMMER BIOMET
Moving You Forward.™



Luke Windisch
VP & GM, Zimmer Biomet Canada

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

The COA would like to acknowledge the support of our 2024 sponsors and industry partners.

DIAMOND	PLATINUM	BRONZE	
 ZIMMER BIOMET Moving You Forward.™	Johnson & Johnson MedTech	B:OMARIN® Smith+Nephew	
EVENT			
 bioventus®	 sanofi	 OLIGO MEDIC+	 solventum
 PENDOPHARM	 Lima Corporate IS NOW	 enovis™	 stryker®

EXHIBITORS

- Aroa Biosurgery Limited
- Biocomposites
- BioMarin Pharmaceutical
- Bioventus
- Canmax Medical Imaging Inc.
- CONMED
- DePuy Synthes
- Enovis
- Essity
- Ethicon Canada
- Far North Sales
- GE HealthCare
- Getinge
- Globus Medical
- Induce Biologics USA
- Integra LifeSciences
- Kids' Health Links Foundation / Upopolis
- Lima Orthopaedics Canada Inc.
- MedEnvision
- Medicana inc.
- MicroPort Orthopedics
- Molnlycke
- OligoMedic
- OrthoPA Network
- OrthoPediatrics
- OrtoPed
- Össur Canada Inc.
- Owens MacFadyen Group
- Pendopharm
- Pensum Regenerative Medicine
- Perfuse Medtec Inc
- Smith & Nephew
- Solventum
- Spring Loaded Technology
- Stryker
- Tactile Orthopaedics
- Tribe Medical
- Zimmer Biomet Canada

LOOKING AHEAD: A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT-ELECT

A warm greeting to all my friends and colleagues across Canada—and beyond. I am deeply honoured to serve as the next President of the COA. This opportunity is both humbling and exciting, allowing me to contribute to our vibrant community and make a meaningful, long-lasting impact.

Being part of the COA leadership team has given me a profound appreciation for the exceptional initiatives and activities that define our Association. These accomplishments are made possible through the dedication of our members, the hard work of our administrative team, and the support of our industry partners. Highlights include the Diversity in Leadership Scholarship, the Emerging Leaders Program, international travelling scholarships, CME opportunities, and national advocacy initiatives.

I am thrilled to announce the theme for my Presidential year: "From Surviving to Thriving: Supporting Patients by Supporting Surgeons."

We are all navigating increasing challenges in delivering optimal patient care. Political and cultural pressures, further intensified by the COVID-19 pandemic, have deeply affected surgeons, surgical trainees, our families, and our patients. Now more than ever, we must come together to change the environment and culture surrounding hospitals and orthopaedic care delivery.

This transformation begins with high-level advocacy to address the institutional factors contributing to burnout. Healthy surgeons are essential for achieving the best outcomes for patients, and healthy surgeons require supportive workplace environments that promote effective and efficient care. Over the coming year, we will work as a community to develop tools and strategies to support advocacy and drive meaningful policy change—improving conditions for both our surgical teams and the patients we serve.

By joining forces, we can create better working environments and enable sustainable, high-quality care for Canadians. I look forward to working alongside all of you and the COA leadership team to achieve these goals.

Together, we can make a lasting difference!



Sukhdeep Dulai
President-Elect