



Contact CANA:

c/o Alberta Asthma Centre
11402 University Avenue
Aberhart Centre, 3rd Flr
Edmonton, AB T6G 2J3
Phone: (888) 203-CANA (2262)
Fax: (780) 407-3608
membership@canahome.org
Web: www.canahome.org

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Warren Davidson – *Vice Chair*
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Collaborative Partners

Alberta Asthma Centre
A.S.T.H.M.A. C
AstraZeneca
GlaxoSmithKline
Novartis
Nycomed
Pfizer
The Lung Association of AB/NWT

Mission: To develop and implement a comprehensive provincial strategy which promotes and supports excellence in the prevention, promotion, and management of COPD & asthma in Alberta.

Alberta Provincial Respiratory Strategy - Update

Along with our Partners (The Lung Association, Alberta Asthma Centre, Alberta Strategy To Help Manage Asthma & COPD), we are preparing to request funds to establish the Alberta Provincial Respiratory Strategy (APRS), a province-wide strategy that will enable accessible and high quality diagnoses and management of respiratory diseases. To date, there have been 4 consultation meetings, engaging cross-provincial professionals and stakeholders. To get involved, contact us anytime. A number of deliverables have been identified as a result, along with the following DRAFT strategic agreements:

The APRS goal is to improve the standards, outcomes, and cost-effectiveness of respiratory care in Alberta, so that more Albertans have healthy lungs and live full and active lives.

This will be accomplished by supporting interdisciplinary evaluation and care teams; formalizing collaborations, optimizing patient self-management; and coordinating better service access. Initial deliverables include solutions related to spirometry, sleep disorders testing, and disease education.

CANA now services over 200 members and invites you to help drive its activity. There are ongoing opportunities for Task Force and Development Committee involvement. Designed for professionals, our website (www.canahome.org) may be used to access useful links, download our 'Asthma Guideline Summary' and COPD/Asthma services 'Resource Catalogue' (both under 'key resources'), or keep abreast of coming events. We remind you that all CANA members are connected via our Listserve. Please use this avenue to communicate with other Alberta professionals as often as the need arises. Simply create an email using the address cana-L@mailman.ucalgary.ca, or contact us to facilitate on your behalf.

Global Lung Health Symposium – March 2008

Edmonton – This symposium featured international faculty and highlighted that poor lung health is an increasing health problem for resource limited countries as well as vulnerable communities (e.g., First Nations) in Canada.

Highlights

The tobacco epidemic is a global challenge. Data from WHO (World Health Organization) shows that 2/3 of the world's smokers are primarily from 10 countries with 40% of these being from China and India. A new global strategy for tobacco reduction is called *MPOWER* which stands for:

- M**-Monitor tobacco use and prevention policies
- P**-Protect people from tobacco smoke
- O**-Offer to help people quit smoking
- W**-Warn them about the dangers of tobacco
- E**-Enforce bans on tobacco advertising, promotion and sponsorship
- R**-Raise taxes on tobacco

Another area of interest was learning about the use of PAL (Practical Approach to Lung Health), a comprehensive approach to standardize case management of various lung problems. Some of the challenges in standard case management in third world countries include a need for the following:

- government commitment to strengthen the health care system
- involvement of health care providers at primary care and referral levels
- poverty reduction (housing) also has to be addressed
- projects need to be targeted, locally driven
- funding and implementation can benefit from emphasis on outcomes
- sufficient and well planned human resources are needed for successful implementation

Member Profiles

To network, share ideas, and get to know each other better, this section will regularly feature members and their programs. Please send your contributions by email to membership@canahome.org.



Warren Davidson, MD, MHS, FRCP(C) is a Respiriologist and Assistant Professor who practices and does research in Calgary at the Rockyview Hospital - and he is our current Vice-Chair.

Warren completed his medical school training in 1998 at the University of British Columbia and there he subsequently completed his Internal Medicine residency and Respiriology fellowship. In 2005 he completed a two year research fellowship with the Clinical Investigator Program, Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada and also obtained a Master of Health Science Degree from the Department of Health Care and Epidemiology, UBC.

Warren enjoyed working with Tony Bai, who is an internationally recognized researcher in asthma. His experience in Vancouver also included working in the iCapture Centre (James-Hogg Center for Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Research) for 2 years within the Clinical Investigator Program, as well as in St. Paul's Hospital ICU, and at both Burnaby General and Delta Regional Hospitals.

Warren came to Calgary 2 ½ years ago. He was drawn by the research opportunities related to airways disease, which include the commitment to innovative techniques for measuring airway inflammation like induced sputum testing. He was also drawn to the willingness to expand research in the Calgary Health Region.

His 'down time' centres around his wife Tamara and his 2 golden retrievers - Kula and Capri – who he affectionately calls his "boys". When they aren't giving him a workout, Warren likes to spend time hiking, mountain biking, fishing, golfing, SCUBA diving, snowboarding, and snowshoeing (to name only a few!).

Congratulations...

- To Dr. Sheldon Spier, recipient of a CANANA Lifetime Achievement Award in April.
- To all who successfully challenged the 2007 Respiratory Educator certification exams.
- To all members who recently completed the TEACH (smoking cessation counseling) training and the AAIR (allergy, asthma, anaphylaxis in schools) training in Calgary.

Coming Events...

2nd Canadian Respiratory Conference – April 23-25, 2009 in Toronto. Details: www.lung.ca/crc.

Int'l Conference on Chronic Disease Management – November 23-26, 2009 in Calgary. Details: www.cdmcalgary.ca.

7th Alberta Respiratory Disease Symposium – 2010. Details: www.ards2008.com.

Training – Asthma, COPD, Tobacco, Anaphylaxis, Spirometry. Details: Call 1-888-203-CANA.



CANANA's Supporters

CANANA is a not-for-profit Society with no ongoing source of funding. It is with the support from the following agencies that our activities are currently made possible:

Alberta Health and Wellness Population Health Strategies Branch, Alberta Asthma Centre (AAC), Alberta Strategy to Help Manage Asthma and COPD (A.S.T.H.M.A. C), AstraZeneca, GlaxoSmithKline, Graceway, Novartis, Nycomed, Pfizer, and The Lung Association of AB/NWT.

Alberta's respiratory professionals tremendously appreciate your support!