



**2008 ANNUAL REPORT**

**Manitoba Chiropractors' Association**

**Suite 610-1445 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg, MB R3G 3P4**

**Telephone: (204) 942-3000 Fax: (204) 942-3010**

**Email: [info@mbchiro.org](mailto:info@mbchiro.org) [www.mbchiro.org](http://www.mbchiro.org)**

## **ASSOCIATION REPORTS**

- Manitoba Health
- MPI
- MPI/MCA Joint Liaison
- WCB
- Insurance
- Government Relations
- Family Services
- Communications
- Events Committee
- Continuing Education
- Research Task Force
- Emergency Services
- Sports Events/Sports Med. Council
- MCA Rep to the CCA Board



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## **MCA ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE 2008 REPORTS**

### **MCA Manitoba Health MHSC Committee**

Committee Chair: Dr. Sohrab Canteenwala

Committee Members: Dr. Tim Stuart Dr. Amerjit Dhillon  
Dr. Gord Rust Dr. Rod Thompson

### **Manitoba Health Contract**

The MCA is presently in year 4 of a 5 year contract. Based on the Chiropractic Services Insurance Regulation of the Health Services Insurance Act, the chiropractic adjustment is covered by Manitoba Health, with the pre and post services (non-insured services) paid by the patient or private insurance. At April 1, 2008, this rate was set at \$10.75 (\$11.85 for northern rate).

In 2008 the Manitoba Health Audit and Investigation Department contacted the MCA to assist with their random audit process. The Registrar and Standards Chair provide interpretation to the auditors to show within the DC patient file when and where the chiropractic adjustment was provided. The auditors then correlate this information to what was billed Manitoba Health. On average, it appears 2 – 3 DC's are randomly selected within the pool of all healthcare providers billing services to Manitoba Health on any particular year. Patient files identified are also through random selection. In situations where the department has audited a DC, a post-audit letter is issued and copied to the Registrar.

### **Meetings with Manitoba Health**

Most activities with Manitoba Health in 2008 has been with the Health Professions Regulatory Reform Initiative (HPRRI), and in particular the Legislative Unit of Manitoba Health. During the initial stages of the development of the White Paper (now released January 2009, the Regulated Health Professions Act) and the reserved actions (included in the white paper), the MCA continues to participate in HPRRI meetings with the other regulated health professions. It is expected that these meetings will continue in 2009 to allow progressive discussion within the health professions as the public consultation on the paper begins.

Meetings have been held with the Assistant Deputy Minister to address a request for the Chiropractic Health Care Commission Report of which both parties had made the decision in 2006 not to release. It is the position of the MCA that the report remains as a draft and remains a confidential document.

Communications remain open with the Minister for Healthy Living, who has been an active supporter of chiropractic care.

### **Manitoba Statistics**

The MCA is provided with data relating to the number of chiropractic services billed to Manitoba Health. Attached is the most recent monthly report.

**2007/08 & 2008/09 CHIROPRACTIC PAYMENTS**

| PAYMENT DATE ** | PAYMENT AMOUNT |              | CUMULATIVE AMOUNT     |                       | SERVICES |         | CUMULATIVE SERVICES |                |
|-----------------|----------------|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------|---------|---------------------|----------------|
|                 | 2007/08        | 2008/09      | 2007/08               | 2008/09               | 2007/08  | 2008/09 | 2007/08             | 2008/09        |
| April 15        | \$433,302.15   | \$459,304.35 | \$433,302.15          | \$459,304.35          | 41,772   | 43,330  | 41,772              | 43,330         |
| April 30        | \$409,155.95   | \$518,771.20 | \$842,458.10          | \$978,075.55          | 39,049   | 48,326  | 80,821              | 91,656         |
| May 15          | \$515,393.10   | \$475,114.70 | \$1,357,851.20        | \$1,453,190.25        | 49,145   | 44,186  | 129,966             | 135,842        |
| May 31          | \$482,054.00   | \$513,591.55 | \$1,839,905.20        | \$1,966,781.80        | 45,788   | 47,748  | 175,754             | 183,590        |
| June 15         | \$417,119.35   | \$424,281.25 | \$2,257,024.55        | \$2,391,063.05        | 39,663   | 39,428  | 215,417             | 223,018        |
| June 30         | \$406,613.65   | \$409,614.30 | \$2,663,638.20        | \$2,800,677.35        | 38,648   | 38,036  | 254,065             | 261,054        |
| July 15         | \$316,254.40   | \$359,328.35 | \$2,979,892.60        | \$3,160,005.70        | 30,059   | 33,370  | 284,124             | 294,424        |
| July 31         | \$390,288.75   | \$414,589.00 | \$3,370,181.35        | \$3,574,594.70        | 37,102   | 38,501  | 321,226             | 332,925        |
| Aug. 15         | \$312,504.10   | \$324,138.25 | \$3,682,685.45        | \$3,898,732.95        | 29,711   | 30,114  | 350,937             | 363,039        |
| Aug. 31         | \$371,802.10   | \$370,266.35 | \$4,054,487.55        | \$4,268,999.30        | 35,358   | 34,394  | 386,295             | 397,433        |
| Sept. 15        | \$357,435.95   | \$302,237.50 | \$4,411,923.50        | \$4,571,236.80        | 34,007   | 28,089  | 420,302             | 425,522        |
| Sept. 30        | \$312,499.65   | \$368,934.20 | \$4,724,423.15        | \$4,940,171.00        | 29,705   | 34,251  | 450,007             | 459,773        |
| Oct.15          | \$318,725.40   | \$313,695.25 | \$5,043,148.55        | \$5,253,866.25        | 30,289   | 29,151  | 480,296             | 488,924        |
| Oct.31          | \$368,334.70   | \$391,322.60 | \$5,411,483.25        | \$5,645,188.85        | 34,994   | 36,342  | 515,290             | 525,266        |
| Nov.15          | \$299,032.35   | \$301,309.35 | \$5,710,515.60        | \$5,946,498.20        | 28,420   | 28,005  | 543,710             | 553,271        |
| Nov.30          | \$355,722.15   | \$323,425.50 | \$6,066,237.75        | \$6,269,923.70        | 33,820   | 30,031  | 577,530             | 583,302        |
| Dec.15          | \$296,657.45   | \$277,055.20 | \$6,362,895.20        | \$6,546,978.90        | 28,173   | 25,748  | 605,703             | 609,050        |
| Dec.31          | \$235,029.40   | \$272,879.05 | \$6,597,924.60        | \$6,819,857.95        | 22,322   | 25,335  | 628,025             | 634,385        |
| Jan.15          | \$340,045.95   | \$318,759.00 | \$6,937,970.55        | \$7,138,616.95        | 32,334   | 29,629  | 660,359             | 664,014        |
| Jan.31          | \$612,877.45   | \$623,686.65 | \$7,550,848.00        | \$7,762,303.60        | 58,278   | 57,974  | 718,637             | 721,988        |
| Feb.15          | \$543,129.10   |              | \$8,093,977.10        |                       | 51,663   |         | 770,300             |                |
| Feb.28          | \$495,244.40   |              | \$8,589,221.50        |                       | 47,081   |         | 817,381             |                |
| Mar.15          | \$511,574.45   |              | \$9,100,795.95        |                       | 48,643   |         | 866,024             |                |
| Mar.31          | \$490,630.40   |              | <b>\$9,591,426.35</b> |                       | 46,662   |         | 912,686             |                |
|                 |                |              | <i>Projected</i>      | <b>\$9,314,764.32</b> |          |         |                     | <b>866,386</b> |

**Chiropractic Research Chair at University of Manitoba**

With seed funding for the research chair position coming from Manitoba Health and the members of the MCA, the Canadian Chiropractic Research Foundation (CCRF) finalized the agreement to establish a DC Research Chair at the Faculty of Medicine, School of Medical Rehabilitation. In August 2008, the U of M posted the position. On December 2, 2008, the Registrar and myself had the opportunity to meet with one of the candidates who was in Winnipeg speaking at the U of M campus at HSC. It is expected that a formal announcement on the choice candidate will be made shortly.

**Churchill RHA**

Following the 2007 annual report, the MCA confirms that a formal agreement was reached between the DC and the Churchill RHA.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Sohrab Canteenwala  
Manitoba health Chair



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### MCA MPI Committee

Committee Chair: Dr. Amerjit Dhillon

Committee Members: Dr. Christine Egilson Dr. Howard Leslie  
Dr. Rosalie Pelissier Dr. Mark Symchych  
Dr. Darrin Thorvaldson

First of all, thank you for the opportunity to represent the profession as your MPI committee chair. Thank you to the terrific MPI committee members, the MPI-MCA liaison committee member, and the negotiations committee members who have worked hard and diligently dedicated their time and energy to improve coverage of chiropractic care for Manitobans and chiropractic relations with MPI.

2008 started off on a positive note with removal of the timelines by MPI for Track 2 care. There were numerous problems with the original timeline. These included patients who could not follow treatment schedules due to illness, vacation, and hours of employment outside of clinic hours. The timelines did not also account for chiropractors missing time from their practices due to post secondary education training, illness, or vacations. With the removal of these timelines, the committee and MPI were anticipating an increased utilization of Track 2.

However statistics provided by MPI showed a utilization rate of Track 2 at less the 2% of all total claims submitted. The MPI committee and liaison committee had anticipated at least 10% of total claims entering Track 2. This lack of utilization by this membership of Track 2 could have a few implications. The first implication was that most of our patients involved in a motor vehicle accident do not have complicating factors that might delay recovery. The second implication was that the membership was not utilizing Track 2 because of the complexity of filling out reports, having the patients complete questionnaires, and monitoring approved visits within each phase of Track 2.

In order to help facilitate the membership with the latter implication, a lunch and learn was organized by the MCA and MPI with Dr. Russ Baron officiating and educating those in attendance. Surprisingly those in attendance at the lunch and learn numbered less than 30. Some of these 30 in attendance included CA's, MPI committee members, and MCA staff. This was a poor reflection of membership involvement but was a clear indicator of why MPI statistics showed our lack of involvement with Track 2.

How can the profession remedy this? The answer to this is quite simple. Do not fear and avoid a process because of a previous negative experience you or a colleague have had with Track 2. Try again and try again where necessary. Most members have not even tried for applying Track 2 but have heard horror stories of trying to apply and the high probability of being rejected. This is simply not true and is a myth that needs to be dispelled. Have a plan. Plan



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ahead for patients filling out questionnaires. Download the questionnaires from the MCA website. Employ your front desk team and CA's to help you. Remember the only one who does not benefit from your involvement is your patient. If you have any questions or concerns, please call me at 663-1551 or email me at [adhillondc@yahoo.ca](mailto:adhillondc@yahoo.ca).

The MPI committee fielded a few calls from the membership involving their MPI cases. The most concerns involved miscommunications between MPI and the claimant. The call center was a re-occurring area of miscommunication. This was attributed to a large turnover of staff at MPI. The MCA was re-assured that training would continue for call center staff. Most of these situations with the call center presented to MPI were rectified informally.

Also brought to the attention of the MPI committee was the whiplash handout included in the claimant package. The MCA-MPI liaison committee felt this document contained many errors and promoted distrust between the claimant toward the chiropractor. MPI and the MCA are currently redrafting this whiplash document.

MPI would like to remind the membership to get your reports in on time to avoid processing delays. Remember the red number on the top right corner of the initial report activates the claim. Any processing of this claim, including processing of your office billing is dependent on this number. So get those reports in. Also, remember that the initial visit is included as the first visit out of the potential 40 in Track 1 claims.

MPI has also informed the MCA that they are currently working on an electronic billing program. This program is still in the initial stages of development and is being investigated further. As with Manitoba Health, this program will be internet based. For those offices not

connected to the internet, prepare ahead for this upcoming change. The MCA will update the membership as we receive more information.

Thank you to those chiropractors who did contact MPI committee members with their concerns of individual case files. These concerns are all directed to Ernie Toews of MPI who has forwarded those concerns to the appropriate people and areas at MPI. Please do not call Mr.

Toews directly. This will avoid conflicts and will keep the MPI committee updated on what our membership concerns are.

Sincerely,

Dr. Amerjit Dhillon  
MPI Committee Chair



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### MCA MPI Joint Liason Committee

Committee Chair: Dr. Lawrence Schledewitz

Committee Members: Dr. Harold Nachtigall Dr. Amerjit Dhillon

The Committee has seen some restructuring occur over the last year with the departure of Drs. Minuk and Miron.

Currently the committee is not meeting as a separate entity and instead meets as part of the MPI Committee. We have one meeting with MPI in the fall of 2008 to discuss billing/payment issues, MPI correspondence to claimants, and Track 2 utilization.

Questions or concerns regarding MPI should first go to the chair of the MPI Committee (Dr. Amerjit Dhillon) who will forward the appropriate items to our attention.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Lawrence Schledewitz, Chair  
MCA-MPI Joint Liaison Committee

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### Workers Compensation Board Committee

Committee Chair: Dr. Brian Graham

Committee Members: Dr. Richard Thiessen Dr. Dan Wilson  
Dr. Gord Rust Dr. Gerald Chartier

WCB statistics that may be of interest for data relating to the category of sprains, strains and tears:

- Average cost per time loss claim in 2007/2008 (including income replacement) when treated by physiotherapist was \$8,946.56. The same when treated by a chiropractor in 2007/08 was \$4,955.78.
- Average days lost per claim in 2007 where treated by: an MD – 42.21 days; Chiropractor – 34.39 days; and Physiotherapist – 66.81 days.

This past year members brought a number of concerns/situations to the attention of the WCB Chair, including:

- *Is there a deadline for billing submissions?* No, there is not.
- *Can WCB chiropractic consultants transfer chiropractic patients to another healthcare provider (such as a physiotherapist)?* WCB explained that it is a rare occurrence, usually



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- based when recuperation has stalled and WCB gets involved to see what options are available.
- *A chiropractor being told that he does not get to find out the reason for why a claimant appears to be cut off from care:* WCB advises that chiropractors may seek this information \*\*\*\*but would only have to get permission if it is an employee/employer problem.
- *Case managers not providing their full name to a chiropractor:* WCB has reminded all case managers that when asked they are to provide their full name.
- *Delays in processing claims:* their reason was a new computer upgrade. Thanks Mr. Holland; WCB has added staff and cleaned up this problem.

**C. E. Opportunities:** Two speakers' names for continuing health education seminars were forwarded to WCB for 2008; any ideas by the membership for 2009 would be appreciated.

In October the MCA hosted the *MCA/WCB Joint Liaison meeting*. The WCB representatives included Mr. Dan Holland, Director of Healthcare Services and Mr. Bernie Mazur, Director of Short Term Claims.

Some issues addressed in the meeting:

1. Where a chiropractor has a concern about patient care being directed to another profession, they should speak to Mr. Bernie Mazur.
2. The MCA sought consideration of WCB to withdraw the chiropractic extremity guidelines.
3. The MCA requested to have input on the next printing of the Back to Basics booklet, potential to participate in joint ventures with future WCB ad campaigns, and with the WorkSafe department on injury prevention strategies. The MCA also requested consideration to future WCB posters and pamphlets that the word "medical" be replaced with "healthcare"

At this time the MCA would like to thank Dr. Dan Wilson for his years on the WCB Committee and regret to say he has stepped down due to other commitments.

As members run into any WCB issue, please advise the WCB Chair. Hopefully the MCA can assist in resolving the concern and monitor matters in an effort to recognize future trends.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Brian Graham  
WCB Committee Chair

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## MCA Insurance Committee

**Committee Chair:** Dr. Gord Partridge

**Committee Members:** Dr. Russ Baron  
Dr. Brett Carter



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This year has shown that the issues involved around third party payment will continue to need close attention as Insurance companies continue to look for new and old ways of controlling costs. There have been an increase in audits of practitioners, questions regarding scope of practice and inquiries regarding billing practices. For example, there have been inquiries from insurance companies related to but not limited to: smoking cessation, traction, office fees, orthotics, interferential current, file audits, shock wave therapy, inter provincial standards, multiple visits per day, x-rays, continuity of fees, wellness plans, advertising, acupuncture, scope of practice legislation and care of children. Questions and/or concerns from the insurance industry have been fielded from and are monitored by many provincial jurisdictions. As Chiropractic practice becomes more diverse and chiropractors look for new services to offer (and bill insurance companies for), insurance companies will respond through greater scrutiny and regulations.

One such measure is the Health Provider Agreement from Blue Cross that has just arrived in your office this month. This document has already been sent to Physiotherapists and Massage

Therapists, with other groups to follow. Agreeing to their terms allows continued assignment of benefits for your office. Refusal will terminate the ability to bill Blue Cross directly for your patient.

This year the Insurance committee has attempted on an ongoing basis to educate, inform and work with all companies as their concerns arise. Meetings have taken place with Great West Life and Blue Cross on many of these subjects and future meetings are pending. The ultimate goal is to portray the MCA to our business partners as the ethical, competent and effective organization that we are. Ongoing dialogue continues to be the most effective way of maintaining that our mutual relationship best serves the people of Manitoba.

The Practice Management Program (PMP) continues to grow in practitioner utilization. An extensive hardware upgrade was completed this year which will allow this software to be continually upgraded with the newest technology. Later in 2009, the Chiro Write software will be available to Manitoba practitioners, which will allow a state of the art ability to integrate forms and record keeping electronically into your practice. Improvements on third party payments are also scheduled this year as well as many other improvements already integrated into the 2009 upgrade. Work is beginning with MPI regarding the integration of electronic billing with PMP.

If you have any questions, concerns, connections or suggestions regarding third party insurers the Chair, would love to hear from you. As always your documentation of beefs or bouquets, aid this committee in improving this portfolio.

Respectfully submitted,

Gordon Partridge B.Sc., D.C  
MCA Insurance Committee Chair



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### MCA Government Relations Committee

**Committee Chair:** Dr. Brian Graham

**Committee Members:** Dr. Mike Plueschou Dr. Troy Thornton  
Dr. Christian Chatzoglou Dr. Zsolt Egey-Samu  
Dr. Dan Wilson

Canada had a Federal election in 2008 and many thanks to all members who supported the candidates and parties, both physically and financially. We hope to improve our relationship with our elected officials every year. We encourage members to contact their local MLA's and MP's to speak on matters or issues about health and chiropractic ... and give them a hand in their riding. The GR Committee will continue to supply members with dates for local political events and meetings.

Locally, I had a few meetings in 2008 with our local MLA, Mr. David Faurschou, about the future of Health Care in Manitoba. He has been very receptive, listened to a number of my

CD's on health and asked very insightful questions afterward. Please, all members make some effort to contact and develop a relationship with your MLA. Thanks to those Chiropractors who are doing this already.

Portage la Prairie's new Federal MP, Candice Hoepfner, is very receptive and seems very supportive of alternative health options. Everyone get in the trenches and help out and educate. Perhaps, through all of our efforts, the government may eventually start to look at "Health Care" instead of focusing on "Sick Care".

#### *Attendance at Political Fundraisers:*

The NDP Breakfast with the Premier – May 22<sup>nd</sup> 2008. Once again the profession had a presence at this event.

The PC 2008 Spring Dinner, June 23<sup>rd</sup> – Guest Speaker – Hon. Peter MacKay. There were a significant number of attendees from the MCA – thanks Dan and Gord.

The PC Tory Cup Golf Tournament was Aug 20<sup>th</sup> at Bel Acres. Dr. Miron and I golfed and we were able to spend some time with Hugh McFadyen and Bonnie Mitchelson as well as other MLA's. Overall it was a great experience.

The NDP Dinner with the Premier was held Oct 17<sup>th</sup>. We had 2 tables of chiropractors and many thanks to my committee and the MCA staff for their efforts in coordinating this event, especially Dr. Troy Thornton. We were able to do PR with some Federal and Provincial politicians; great evening.

Great work Chiropractors! That said, it is incumbent upon each of us to participate in these events and ensure the chiropractic profession is visible and is educating. It would be greatly



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appreciated if those who have not been out for awhile buy a ticket and contribute to the effort in 2009. If you cannot attend, the GR Committee will do their best to fill the seat with our newest members.

I regret to mention that Dr. Mike Plueschow, Dr. Christian Chatzoglou and Dr. Dan Wilson have all resigned from the Government Relations Committee. I thank them for their time and involvement. Any Chiropractors with enthusiasm about politics and interested in being on the committee, please give me a call.

Let's keep working on repositioning ourselves at the top of the Wellness Ladder. As a team, we need to ensure our elected officials know how Chiropractic care impacts Manitobans and help remove the barriers to access.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Brian Graham  
Chairman of Government Relations Committee

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## MCA Family Services And Housing Committee

**Committee Chair:** Dr. Dan Wilson

**Committee Members:** Dr. Gerald Olin Dr. Tracey Hamin  
Dr. Janet Bernstrom

The service tariff fee for Manitobans receiving chiropractic treatment through the Family Service Program is currently \$10.75 per visit. The Family Service Program covers the cost of the adjustment only, at a fee equal to the Manitoba Health Service chiropractic tariff. At present, no service other than the chiropractic adjustment is covered under the Family Services Program.

Pre-approval is required for chiropractic treatment coverage under the Family Service Program. The pre-approval process requires that the treating chiropractor complete a "Recommended Patient Care" form. Once completed, the "Recommended Patient Care" form should be signed by both the doctor and patient, then faxed to Family Services at 945-3930. Chiropractic coverage may be retroactively approved for up to 30 days, therefore it is not necessary to withhold treatment until approval is received.

The Chiropractic Review Panel meets regularly to review submissions. On behalf of the Board and membership I would like to thank the each committee member for their valuable assistance. As this will be my final report in the capacity of Family Services Chair, I would like personally thank all current and past committee members and the general membership for your dedicated efforts to bring chiropractic care to those Manitobans in need. Effective January 2009, Dr. Gerald Olin will chair the Family Services Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Wilson, B. Sc., D.C.  
Family Services and Housing Committee Chair



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### Communications Committee 2008 Annual Report

**Committee Chair:** Dr. Bill Mulhall / Angelo Nikitas

**Committee Members:** Dr. Paul Kisil Dr. Christine Egilson  
Dr. Steve Gall

The MCA website was launched in early 2008 reflecting a more modern image for the Association. The website has created a forum for patients to gain more information about

Chiropractic health care. Also, Chiropractors have access to all information through a members side of the site. With proper utilization, this website can make our Association more environmentally friendly by almost eliminating the use of paper and can increase efficiency by limiting the need for traditional mail services. Dr Bill Mulhall has spearheaded the new website and has spent countless hours contributing to this project. The committee acknowledges and greatly appreciates his sacrifice of time and effort.

The first phase of the "Manitoba Chiropractors Making Life Better" campaign was launched in September 2008 with the help of Direct Focus Communications. The campaign was geared to illustrate the long term value of chiropractic care, expand the public awareness and perception of chiropractic and to steer patients toward seeing a chiropractor. A key driving force in development was moving the association towards the issue of long term care without walking away from the injury based business. The mass media campaign includes television ads to support the provincial campaign, radio spots to insure coverage in the rural areas, plus community newspaper advertisements with each member receiving a media kit with posters and direct mailers. Phase two of the campaign is set to launch in March 2009.

Respectfully Submitted,

Angelo Nikitas  
Program Development Coordinator  
For Communications Chair

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### MCA Events Committee

**Committee Chair** Dr. Richard Tapper/A. Nikitas,

**Committee Members:** Dr.Christine Egilson Dr. Glen Bailey  
Dr. Ann Kryzelewski Dr. Bill Mulhall  
Dr. Heather McLeod Dr. Paul Kisil  
Dr. Gilbert Miranda Dr. Steve Gall



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On June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2008 Manitoba Chiropractors' Association hosted its annual Charity Golf Tournament in support of Siloam Mission at Kingswood Golf and Country Club. The profession is happy to announce that we had another successful event through the collective efforts of our members and corporate partners.

All proceeds from the tournament were donated to Siloam Mission to help Manitoba's most needy. As the largest homeless shelter in the province of Manitoba, it serves the basic needs of food, shelter and healthcare to 400 to 500 Manitobans each day. Winnipeg is known as a caring community and we share in this duty to assist those who are less fortunate. For example, the chiropractic clinic at Siloam Mission operates two days per week, staffed by licensed Doctors of Chiropractic who volunteer their time and services to those less fortunate.

The day was not notable for amazing golf, but it was noteworthy for helping raise over \$8,500 for Siloam Mission. I would like to personally thank, Dr. Christine Egilson, without her hard work this tournament would not have been possible.

Respectfully submitted,

A.Nikitas, Program Development Coordinator

For Events Committee Chair

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## MCA Continuing Education Task Force Committee

**Committee Chair:** Dr. Bill Mulhall

**Committee Members:** Dr. Stephan Cooper                      Dr. Dave Fraser

In 2008 the Committee worked to bring several top notch speakers to Manitoba through co-sponsorships. Starting with the Spring AGM the MCA teamed up with Foot Levelers to present Dr. Mark Charette, a world class instructor on the management of extremity issues. This program attracted a large cross section of the membership. While the focus of this eight hour program was the lower extremities, Dr. Charette managed a quick review of the upper extremities as well. An unexpected bonus! With the help of the International Chiropractors' Association, the MCA was honored to host Dr. Daniel Murphy, a leading expert on Whiplash management. This twelve hour class reviewed the latest research on whiplash, the inflammatory process, and its management. In conjunction with the November SAGM, the MCA held a four hour Radiology Review with Dr. Marshall Deltoff DACBR, FCCCR. He reviewed a practical way to approach and describe radiographic findings.

The Committee looks forward to building our relationships with co-sponsors in the future and are working on a full compliment of Continuing Education for 2009.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dr. Bill Mulhall, Chair

Continuing Education Committee



## 2008 ANNUAL REPORT

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### Research Task Force Committee

**Committee Chair** Dr. Stephan Cooper

**Committee Member** Dr. Allan Daien Dr. Deborah Allen  
Dr. Geoff Gelley

A significant turn over in the makeup of the committee occurred in 2008. The committee would like to thank former committee members Dr. Chris Chatzoglou, Dr. Martin Gurvey, Dr. Sony Canteenwala, and Dr. Deborah Allen for all their work.

The initial focus of the research task force was to build a functional committee and to this end Dr. Geoff Gelley and Dr. Alan Daien have volunteered their time. In October of 2008 the task force sat to discuss the future direction of the committee.

The committee will sit quarterly to discuss issues related to chiropractic research, offer opinions to the Board and other committees based on critical appraisal of the scientific literature, and endeavour to foster a culture of research in Manitoba. To facilitate these goals, subscription to scientific journals and access to scientific studies was considered to be imperative. The lack of access to high quality research has been identified as a barrier to the incorporation of new research findings designed to improve clinical outcomes<sup>1</sup>. Subscription to the following journals will be pursued in 2009:

- The Journal of Manipulative and Physiological Therapeutics
- The Journal of the Canadian Chiropractic Association
- Clinical Chiropractic (previously The Journal of the British Chiropractors Association)
- The Research Review

The research chair position at the University of Manitoba has been approved and is currently seeking DC, PhD candidates in spinal biomechanics and neurophysiology. The University of Manitoba Faculty of Medical Rehabilitation has presented two public talks by Dr. Steven Passmore, in which he presented his research interests, previous study, and experience.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dr Stephan Cooper, Chair  
Research Task Force Committee

1. Haynes B, Haines A. Getting research findings into practice: barriers and bridges to evidence based clinical practice. BMJ 1998; 317:273-6



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### **Emergency Chiropractic Services Committee**

**Emergency Chiropractic Services Committee Chair:** Dr. Brent Van Den Bussche

The purpose of the emergency service is to ensure that chiropractic care is available to both established patients as well as new patients during weekends and holidays. This service is for

Winnipeg and the surrounding areas, and has been a great service for the patients as well as the chiropractors on call. The service provides an alternative for "emergency" situations. For the doctor on call, it provides time to care for and introduce an otherwise non-chiropractic patient

to Chiropractic. In short, it provides patients with other healthcare options, rather than suffering with pain or incurring a wait list in a medical establishment.

A patient will call the central phone number, which they obtain from the Yellow Pages, or their chiropractor's answering machine. They are requested to leave their phone number using their touch tone phone. The D.C. on call makes contact with the patient to arrange for an office visit. After care is provided, the doctor instructs the patient to return to their regular chiropractor for any necessary follow-up care. A notice is also forwarded via fax or mail to their regular treating chiropractor, identifying the doctor on call, treatment given and the outcome. Unfortunately the pager system has demonstrated an incompatibility with rotary phones. At this time, these patients cannot access the emergency service.

Currently there are seven doctors on the emergency service.

Hours: Friday 6pm-10pm

Saturday/Sunday/Holiday: 8am-10pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Brent Van Den Bussche, D.C., Chair  
Emergency Service Committee

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### **MCA Sports Committee/Sports Medicine Council**

**Committee Chair:** **Dr. Gord Partridge**

I continue to represent chiropractic as an active participant on the sports medicine council board. The board is responsible for putting forth policies and educational tools regarding health care and sport. The big news is the relocation of the Sport Manitoba building on Main Street to the Exchange District. The plans for expansion of facilities are impressive and include increased office space, Manitoba Sports Hall of Fame and a field house training centre. I believe it is very important to insure that the chiropractic perspective on health and performance is reflected in policy and presence at this level.



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The opportunity for more chiropractic presence at sporting events from the neighborhood to the International level continues to be lacking. There have been many high profile sporting events that have requested our involvement, but have been passed by because the profession was

unable to provide volunteers. I believe that sport is an excellent way to promote the profession and give back to our community. Any one that is interested in participating or is involved in an event should please call me.

Respectfully submitted:

Gordon Partridge B.Sc., D.C.  
Sports Medicine Council/Sports Chair

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## **Manitoba Representative to the CCA Board of Governors – Dr. Dan Wilson**

2008 was a year of steady progress for the CCA with significant activity in all of its core program areas: government relations, research and communications. Recognition of the profession in Ottawa continues to grow, our university-based Chiropractic Research Chair program continues to gain momentum, and new communications products for members have been very popular. Here are some of the highlights from a busy and productive year.

### **2009 CCA Executive**

Effective November 2008, Dr. Richard Valade of Quebec became President of the CCA. He is supported by the CCA Executive, consisting of: Dr. Dick Gehrke of Alberta, as Chair; Dr. Eleanor White of Ontario, as Vice-President; and Dr. John Corrigan of Saskatchewan, as Secretary-Treasurer. Mr. James Duncan continues as Executive Director.

### **2008 Review**

2008 was a year of steady progress on many fronts at the CCA. The year kicked off with publication of the report of the Bone and Joint Decade Task Force on Neck Pain and Its Associated Disorders. Canadian chiropractors served on this prestigious research group and this important study received media attention in both professional health care publications and consumer media. The CCA disseminated the stroke study and a summary of the Task Force findings to members and these reports can also be found on the CCA website.



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The CCA's federal government relations program made many advances this year. Most notable is the establishment of a team of CCA/RCMP assessors, appointed by the CCA in cooperation with provincial associations, to assist with the implementation of a new RCMP chiropractic policy. This new policy recognizes the value of chiropractic care for both acute phases and maintenance protocols and includes: 25 acute care treatments (no referral required) and one maintenance treatment every 14 calendar days (no referral required).

Work has also started on the development of a national ambassador program with the goal of identifying a CCA ambassador in every federal riding to act as a liaison with federal MPs, government agencies and other national stakeholders in the health care system.

Communications activities in 2008 again focused on services to members. The national CCA membership survey re-affirmed that the Board and Committees are on the right track with very high levels of agreement with the CCA's priorities. Almost 80 per cent of members reported that they are satisfied with the performance of the CCA.

The Best Foot Forward, falls prevention public education program, which launched in the first quarter of 2008, was praised by the Public Health Agency of Canada and has proved popular both with members and provincial associations as a networking tool. The Golf Stretch and newly released Hockey Stretch pamphlets available from the CMCC Bookstore have become very popular. The CCA Communications Committee is near completion of a new web based patient exercise program called "Fit-In 15". Launch of the program is expected in April 2009.

On the research front, CCA members now have free access to the online Cochrane research database and two new university-based Research Chairs have been established. Dr. Jason Busse takes up the CCRF/CIHR Chiropractic Research Chair at McMaster University and Dr. John Srbely was awarded the CCRF Professorship in Spine Biomechanics and Neurophysiology at the University of Guelph.

The Board has moved steadily ahead with implementation of the recommendations from an operational review conducted in 2007. Of note is a review of the CCA Bylaws with the intention of ensuring they mirror current best governance practices.

The year ahead will see the World Federation of Chiropractic Biennial Congress come to Montreal. The CCA is the co-host and platinum sponsor of this international event which will see researchers and clinicians from around the world convene in Canada. Considerable work has gone into the planning of this stellar conference which will be a wonderful opportunity to showcase chiropractic in Canada and learn from colleagues around the world!

The CCA Report is printed and mailed to members three times per year. CCA Updates and Communiqués are e-mailed to members at regular intervals or as necessary. Members are encouraged to read the correspondence to maintain a current knowledge of developments / initiatives across our nation.

No report can cover all of the many interactions and initiatives that have taken place over the past twelve months, and there are many unsung heroes who have made valuable contributions in many ways. To all of you, the CCA extends its sincere thanks.

I thank the MCA Board and the membership for your support over the last two years. I look forward to continuing serving as Manitoba Governor to the CCA in 2009 and 2010.