Welcome Message from the President

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the first ever Canadian Association of Bariatric Physicians and Surgeons (CABPS) Conference, presented in conjunction with the Ontario Bariatric Network (OBN) and the Centre for Minimal Access Surgery (CMAS). During this Conference, you will hear from leaders in medicine, allied health, mental health and surgery, speaking on the various facets of this often debilitating condition.

Obesity and morbid obesity are not susceptible to successful treatment by only one modality – just as they have many causes, so treatment and prevention involves practitioners from many professions.

One of many highlights of the Conference is the discussion of the development of a national strategy – one that brings together the federal and provincial governments, healthcare and academia to educate the public and healthcare providers on the scope of the obesity epidemic and the prevention and treatment of those suffering from it. You will also have the opportunity to learn about current research, topical issues and new treatments, as well as existing treatments. I hope you will avail yourselves of the expertise of our presenters and speakers.

This Conference is the result of a concerted effort by many people, and I would particularly like to thank our speakers and session chairs who are giving of their time to address the problem posed by obesity in Canada. I also offer my sincere thanks to the CABPS Board of Directors, the Conference Organizing Committee and especially to my Co-Chair, Dr. Laurent Biertho, for their support, dedication and guidance.

Finally, on behalf of the Conference Organizing Committee, I would also like to thank you for attending and hope you find this event interesting, informative and educational.

Sincerely,

CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF BARIATRIC PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS

Mehran Anvari, MB, BS, PhD, FRCSC, FACS

President