MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

‘Purpose’ can be defined as “the reason for which something is done or created or for which something exists”. Synonyms include motivation, justification, intention, objective.

Individuals have a purpose that varies through the lifespan. At times opaque and hidden to the individual, and at other times self-evident in every choice they make. Searching and realizing that purpose may be a source of personal angst, or it may be a source of radiance, comfort and equanimity. While contextual and social in its expression, an individual’s purpose simply cannot be dictated or assigned by another.

Organizations are atomically a collection of individuals. Not surprisingly organizations have a purpose too. For most organizations, especially for those that act as economic agents, the quality of purpose may only be articulated by leaders and members at a literal and action oriented level (ie sell more widgets). Frequently missing is a higher aspirational purpose. An aspirational purpose articulates how an organization is making a societal difference above the literal and provides a sense of meaning to its members. An aspirational purpose can serve as a powerful motivator for members to give more of themselves and go ‘above and beyond’ what is expected of them in their ‘job description’.

Our organization is a Department of Pediatrics. Our purpose is articulated in writing in our Mission/Vision/Values statement (https://www.mcgill.ca/peds/about/missionvisionvalues). Our personal narratives and skills are interwoven into a group for which an aspirational purpose is rather evident and easily discerned. Put quite simply; “we make kids and families better”. That is our “why”. That is the reason we do what we do. It’s a pretty enviable, noble and beyond debate aspirational purpose. For us the challenge is not the “why”, but the “how”.

Our ‘how’ includes: clinical activities directed at the most ill and vulnerable of populations; clinical innovation that involves new means of health service delivery and evidence-based guidelines of care; education targeting the next generation of child health professionals and currently practicing professionals; research that is fundamental, clinical, translational, population or systems based in orientation that seeks to add to what is known; knowledge translation and dissemination efforts; advocacy that effects positive policy change; contributions to our provincial, national and international scholarly and academic communities; and efforts that are international in efforts across all the foregoing domains.

“Efforts and courage are not enough without purpose and direction.”

John F. Kennedy

“The two most important days in your life are the day you are born, and the day you find out why.”

Mark Twain

There is thus a multitude of ‘hows’ as listed in the preceding paragraph undertaken to achieve our aspirational purpose. Each and every member of the Department contributes vitally to one or more of the foregoing. Each contribution is valued and contributes in a discrete and important way to our aspirational purpose. We not only “make kids and families better” who come to the MCH or our affiliated clinics, but we also “make kids and families better” who never get that chance.

Yes there are operational challenges that frustrate and hinder what we can do. However they cannot affect our aspirational purpose. This purpose belongs to us and cannot be taken away. Our response to these challenges should be to work with even more purpose. At times this may not be easy and it will require more effort. Digging deeper and reaffirming our purpose will give us the strength to continue forward. By doing so we cannot be defeated by obstacles placed in our path.

After all “we make kids better”. And that should be reason enough.

“He who has a why to live can bear almost any how.”

Friedrich Nietzsche

Have a great summer everyone!

Michael Shevell MD CM, FRCP, FCAHS
STAFF UPDATES

The following individuals were appointed as Faculty Lecturer:
- Hlwelekazi Bomela, Pediatrics (March 2018)
- Lyne-Noelle Chinuara, Pediatrics (March 2018)
- Agnes Frank, Pediatrics (March 2018)
- Jérôme Ouellet, Pediatrics (March 2018)

The following individuals were promoted to Associate Professor:
- Ilana Bank, Emergency Medicine (January 2018)
- Moshe Ben-Shoshan, Allergy & Immunology (January 2018)
- Sasha Dubrowsky, Emergency Medicine (January 2018)
- Maryam Oskou, Neurology (January 2018)
- Laurie Plotnick, Emergency (January 2018) - omitted from Newsletter of Summer 2017
- David Zielinski, Respirology (January 2018)

The following individual was appointed as Full Professor:
- Beth Foster, Nephrology (July 2018)

The following individual was appointed as Emeritus Professor:
- Robert Brouillette, Neonatology, (October 2017)

The following individual was appointed as Joint Emeritus Professor:
- Feige Kaplan, General Pediatrics and Human Genetics (September 2017)

Division Directors appointments:
- Geoffrey Dougherty, General Pediatrics (December 2017) – renewed to 2020
- Beth Foster, Nephrology (May 2018) – appointed to 2023
- Larry Lands, Respiratory Medicine, (January 2018) – renewed to 2023
- Claire Leblanc, Rheumatology (April 2018) – renewed to 2023
- John Mitchell, Endocrinology (July 2018) – renewal to 2020
- Earl Rubin, Infectious Diseases (March 2018) – appointed to 2023

VIRTUAL SUGGESTION BOX

In December 2017, the Department established a Virtual Suggestion Box at this link: http://freesuggestionbox.com/pub/yxweobj

Constructive suggestions regarding the organization and activities of the Department with respect to any academic area, especially in relation to the now adopted Strategic Plan are welcomed. Suggestions are entirely anonymous, unless an individual chooses to sign personally. The origin of the suggestion is not traceable electronically. Suggestions submitted will be forwarded to the Chief of Department, (Dr. Shevell) for consideration.

You can find a tab linking to the Suggestion Box on our Departmental website: mcgill.ca/peds/

RETIREEMENTS:
- Dr. Marie Beland, Cardiology (March 2018)
- Dr. Robert Brouillette, Neonatology (October 2017) – omitted from Newsletter of December 2017
- Dr. Paul Rossy, General Pediatrics (June 2018)
- Dr. David Waxman, Neonatology (March 2018)
AWARDS & ACHIEVEMENTS

In May 2018, Dr. Nancy Braverman received the Montreal Children’s Hospital Foundation-Award of Excellence (Research).

In April 2018, Dr. Alice Chan-Yip received a McGill University Honorary Doctorate.

In May 2018, Dr. Richard Gosselin received the 2018 CPPD Clinician Educator Award, an annual national award that recognizes pediatric educators across Canada.

In May 2018, Dr. Larry Lands received the Cystic Fibrosis Canada Above & Beyond Award.

In April 2018, Dr. Bruce Mazer and Dr. Larry Lands were each recipients of the MCHF Sessenwein Award.

In June 2018, Dr. Johanne Morel received the Canadian Pediatrics Society Social Pediatrics Interest Group/Janusz Korczak Association of Canada-Award for Advancing Richer Interprofessional & Intersectoral partnerships.

In May 2018, Dr. Pramod Puligandla became the first Canadian pediatric surgeon ever to be elected to the Pediatric Surgery Board of the American Board of Surgery.

In April 2018, Dr. Saleem Razack and Dr. Preetha Krishnamoorthy successfully completed the 2018 edition of the McGill Leadership Development Program.

In June 2018, Dr. David Rosenblatt-Canadian College of Medical Genetics Founders’ Award for Career Achievement.

In January 2018, Dr. Elisa Ruano Cea won the Emerging Scholar in Medical Education Award.

In January 2018, Dr. Kent Saylor was appointed as Director of Indigenous Health Professions Education Program at the Faculty of McGill.

In May 2018, Dr. Adam Shapiro-Department of Pediatrics-Paige & Bernard Kaplan Residents Teaching Award.

In May 2018, Dr. Michael Shevell was appointed Treasurer of International Child Neurology Association.

In June 2018, Dr. Nicholas Steinmetz, was the recipient of the Order of Quebec honor.

In March 2018, Dr. Pia Wintermark received the Emerging Leader in Neonatology Award from the Canadian Pediatric Society.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE DELIGHTED PARENTS!

- Dr. Saleem Razack and Jack Strulovitch welcomed twin babies Nathaniel Zaim and Talia Jennifer on June 3, 2018.
RESEARCH FUNDING

In February 2018, Dr. Kolja Eppert (PhD) received a CIHR Project Grand for Novel targeted therapeutics against leukemia stem cells. ($665,550)

In February 2018, Dr. Cindy Goodyer received a CIHR Project Grant for Impact of the organophosphate ester flame retardants (OPFRs) found in the Canadian environment on the reproductive system. ($956,250)

In April 2018, Dr. Paul Goodyer received an operating grant for project Novel aminoglycoside read-through therapy for nonsense mutations. Genome Québec/Genome Canada GAPP with partners Cystinosis Research Foundation and Eloxx Pharmaceuticals. ($2,053,143)

In March 2018, Dr. Indra Gupta and Dr. Aimee Ryan received the 2018 KFOC (Kidney Foundation of Canada) Biomedical Research Grant from the Kidney Foundation of Canada. ($100,000)

In April 2018, Dr. Nada Jabado (PhD) received major funding for a LSARP grant from Genome Quebec for Personalized therapy approach to childhood brain cancer. ($12,980,000)

In January 2018, Dr. Meranda Nakhlia received a CIHR grant for Evaluation of a group education program to improve the transition from pediatric to adult care for emerging adults with type 1 diabetes. FRQS-2. ($443,700)

In February 2018, Dr. Julia von Oettingen received funding by UNICEF for a national iodine study in Haiti in collaboration with the Ministry of Health. ($100,000)

In March 2018, Dr. Maryam Oskoui and Dr. Michael Shevell received funding for Project iCAN: Kids Brain Health Network Proto-Impact Project award. ($200,000)

- Dr. Catherine Goudie – Chercheur Boursier Clinicien – Jr1
- Dr. Meranda Nakhlia - Chercheur Boursier Clinicien – Jr2
- Dr. Julia von Oettingen - Chercheur Boursier Clinicien – Jr1

FRQ-S Training Award:
- Dr. Gabriel Altit

Omitted from Newsletter of Winter 2017:
In October 2017, Julia von Oettingen of Endocrinology received the Dr. Donald A. Henderson Prize for Outstanding Global Health Research from the McGill GHP for her publication titled “Population Survey of Iodine Deficiency and Environmental Disruptors of Thyroid Function in Young Children in Haiti”.

--- CONDOLENCES ---

Our condolences to Drs. Allison + Michael Shevell + Dr. Annette Majnemer on the loss of a mother, grandmother and mother-in-law (Rejeanne Shevell) on March 30, 2018 and on the loss of a step-father, grandfather and father-in-law, (Romek Pilczer) on June 8, 2018.
RESIDENTS AWARDS

General Pediatrics
Alex Deragon- Pediatrics Resident Research Day- best poster presentation- McGill
Marie-Pier Guilbault- Association de Pédiatres de Québec (APQ) resident award
Matthew Magyar- Canadian College of Microbiologists Poster Award
Norah Nahaas- Pediatrics Resident Research Day- best podium presentation- McGill
Maria Psihogios- Dr. Ezra Lozinski Prize in Clinical Medicine awarded to a McGill resident who displays outstanding qualities of compassion, understanding, and acceptance of ongoing care.
Marcel Severe- Association de Pédiatres de Québec (APQ) resident award

Pediatric Critical Care
Christina Maratta won a 2018 Canadian Critical Care trials group (CCCTG) Education Travel Award

Pediatric Emergency Medicine
Kristen Lambrinakos-Raymond- local nomination, Annual Resident and Fellow Research Competition; represented the MCH at the national competition in Winnipeg; selected to present her research results at the Pediatric Academic Societies Meeting this spring.

Pediatric Neurology
Fatima Al-Amrani- 2018 Annual Claude Giroud Award in Pediatrics
Abdulla Alawadhi- 2018 CACN President’s Prize
Laurence Gauquelin- McLaughlin grant from Université de Laval

DEPARTMENTAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

January 2018
12 Drs. Marc Beltempo
19 Dr. Robert Sternszus
26 Dr. Myriam Srour

February 2018
02 Dr. Elisa Ruano Cea
09 Pediatrics Emergency Room Core Staff
16 Dr. Bernard Rosenblatt
23 Dr. Elene Khalil

March 2018
02 Dr. Sharon Abish
09 Aude Exertier and Patricia Gauthier
16 Dr. Kolja Eppert
23 Dr. Aris Hadjinicolaou and Dr. Matthew Magyar
29 Dr. Meranda Nahkla

April 2018
06 Dr. Ilana Bank
13 Dr. Moshe Ben-Shoshan
20 Dr. Sasha Dubrovsky
27 Dr. Maryam Oskoui

May 2018
04 Dr. Pramod Puligandla
11 Dr. David Zielinski
18 Dr. Lianne Kopel
25 FRQS Salary Support Recipients Drs. Julia von Oettingen, Catherine Goudie, Meranda Nahkla

June 2018
01 Paul Goodyer
08 Dr. Robert Barnes – Surge Team work
15 Dr. Brouillette and Dr. Seidman
22 Graduating Residents

To read acknowledgements, please visit: www.mcgill.ca/peds/mission/acknowledgements

2018 Clinical Bursary Award recipients (funding for training for 2019-2021)
- Dr. Marina Mir-Parramon (Pediatric Emergency Medicine)
- Dr. Lona Mwenda (Pediatric Critical Care)

2018 Alan Ross Bursary recipient (funding for training 2019-2021)
- Dr. Angeliki Makri (Pediatric Endocrinology)
**Pediatric Medical Grand Rounds**

**January 2018**
10  
**7th Annual Donald and Elizabeth Hillman Global Child Health Lecture, “Global Child Health: Challenges and Opportunities”** - Dr. Zulfiqar A. Bhutta, Hospital for Sick Children
17  
Department of Pediatrics Town Hall Meeting
24  
Family Literacy Day. **Hearing: First step to Literacy: The Importance of Auditory Stimulation in Children** - Dr. Audrey Hardy, Montreal Children’s Hospital
31  
Pro-Bono Legal Services at the MCH: A Medical Legal Partnership. A Frist in Quebec - Patricia Gauthier, MCH Social Service & Aude Exertier, Triage Lawyer

**February 2018**
07  
MCH Emergency Department Joint Rounds - The Pediatric Emergency Department Healthcare Team, Montreal Children’s Hospital
14  
Social Accountability and Specialty Education in Pediatrics: Much More Than “…Everyone Learns to Read and Write…” - Dr. Saleem Razack, Montreal Children’s Hospital
21  
Cedars Cancer Centre Dr. Blair Whittemore Lecture in Pediatric Oncology, “It’s been 5 years….. now what?” Long Term Follow Up of Childhood Cancer Survivors - Dr. Sharon Abish, Montreal Children’s Hospital
28  
Focus on Host vs. Pathogen: Saving Newborn Lives Through a Paradigm Shift - Dr. Tobias Kollman, Infectious Disease, BC Children’s and Women’s Hospital

**March 2018**
07  
Northern and Native Health and Sociocultural Consultation and Interpretation Services (SCIS) Joint Rounds. The Indigenous Cancer Journey: The Truth & how to Reconcile. – Dr. Jason Pennington, University of Toronto.
14  
Role Modeling – Helping You make the Implicit Explicit. – Dr. Robert Sternszus, Montreal Children’s Hospital
21  
Pediatric Jeopardy. – Dr. Matthew Maggyar, Dr. Aris Hadjinicolaou, Montreal Children’s Hospital
28  
Pediatric Transition to Adult Care – Bridging the Gap. Pecha Kucha / Lightning Talks and Panel Discussion. - Montreal Children’s Hospital Medical Staff: Dr. Lorraine Bell, Paule Comtois (Nurse), Dr. Jennifer Landry, Dr. Suzanne MacDonald, Dr. Meranda Nakha & former pediatric patients.

**April 2018**
04  
11  
Pediatric Ethics Conference. Moral Distress and Compassion Fatigue: Inherent Risks of Healthcare Practice? - Dr. Wendy Austin, University of Alberta.
18  
25  

**May 2018**
02  
Francoeur Family Foundation Lecture. RAG Deficiency: Two Genes, Many Phenotypes. - Dr. Luigi Notarangelo, National Institutes of Health, Maryland, USA.
09  
School of Physical and Occupational Therapy (SPOT) Joint Rounds. Youth Engagement: Exploring Meaningful Ways to Collaborate with Patient-Partners. - Dr. Dolly Menna-Dack, Kids Rehabilitation Hospital, Toronto.
16  
Department of Pediatrics Town Hall Meeting with Dr. David Eidelman, Dean, McGill University.
23  
13th Annual Charles R. Scriver Lectureship. Microtubules; Early Brain Development and Inherited Brain Malformations - Dr. Roderick R. McInnes, Jewish General Hospital.
30  
Donald Cohen Lectureship in Childhood Autism. Atypical Behaviors in Autism – Diagnostic Implications. - Dr. Margaret L. Bauman, Boston University School of Medicine.

**June 2018**
06  
48th Annual Alton Goldbloom Lecture. Interventional Genomics: A New Era on the Horizon. – Dr. Ronald D. Cohn, Hospital for Sick Children.
13  
20  
Frank M. Guttman Visiting Speaker Lecture. Keeping up with Exponential Change in Medicine: Paddle or Perish! – Dr. Todd A. Ponsky, Akron Children’s Hospital, Akron, Ohio, USA.
Executive Associate Chair Report

Renewal Day April 12, 2018

Our renewal day this year was focussed on our Academic Mission and what it means to us individually. Multiple presentations prodded us into thinking more deeply about possible personal decisions. Much involved the Research aspect of academia, and Patricia Fontela along with Pia Wintermark and their Departmental Research Working Group have gathered the salient points from the Renewal Day and in a methodical way will be addressing each question and opportunity and sharing them with the Department throughout the coming year.

Dr. Lesley Fellows, newly appointed Vice Dean of Academic Affairs led us on an introspective journey as we brainstormed about what “Academics” means to each of us. She divided the discussion into the What, Where, and Why of Academic life.

What
We broke this sector down into Teaching, Research, and other University activities: curriculum planning at multiple levels, including Osler Fellowship, bedside teaching at all levels, lectures for students and residents, grant writing, research collaboration with established PIs, establishing a culture of curiosity and asking questions, but stretching out also into peer review, mentoring at all levels, and advocacy at the University or in the community.

Where
These activities were envisaged as taking place at the MCH, in community clinics, at home, in McGill, at national, international and global levels, but mainly “in your own head”.

Why
The “why” was a little more existential as we discussed about how these endeavors simply are enjoyable, they allow us to realize how good we are as academicians, how these efforts allow us to be “the best we can be”. We highlighted the sense of contributing to a greater good, with an opportunity to influence public policy but also the excellence of the McGill teaching curriculum, with an overall sense that we believe we can make things better for our responsibility: the children. It also allows us to give back and pay forward, as we realize how grateful we are for the mentors who taught us.

Obviously one response to these discussion points is “you had to be there to sense the energy and hope and determination in the room”. However I thought it would be helpful to share these ideas with the staff who were unable to attend so that all could see that the Department remains a vital, thoughtful, and energetic group.

Dr. Emmett Francoeur
Executive Associate Chair

The recipients of 2018-2019 MSSA Innovation Fund are:

Moshe Ben-Shoshan - Anaphylaxis in the Emergency Room: Are we treating it poorly
Patricia Fontela - Reducing unnecessary use of antibiotics in critically ill infants with viral bronchiolitis
Patricia Li - Transforming care for the most vulnerable children: piloting and evaluating a Newcomer Navigator for the Montreal Children’s Hospital Multicultural Clinic
Samara Zavalkoff - PAD your ICU- Phase 2
Tanya Di Genova - Quality Improvement Initiative: Implementation of a Surge and Overcapacity Plan at the Montreal Children’s Hospital
GENERAL PEDIATRIC RESIDENCY TRAINING PROGRAM NEWS

NEWS FROM THE MCGILL PEDIATRIC RESIDENCY PROGRAM COMMITTEE (RPC):

The arrival of summer always brings with it the bittersweet end of the academic year, with the notable highlights of 2017-2018 being the innovative work being done by our program in moving forward Competence by Design, enhancing the culture of research and scholarship, building a culture and curriculum that promotes resident well-being and resilience, and enhancing collaborations with our community based teaching sites. We are so proud of the hard work and accomplishments of all of our residents and we are delighted to soon be welcoming our 8 new Pediatrics R1s, as well as 3 new R1’s in Pediatric Neurology and Medical Genetics on July 1.

This also marks the time of year where we have to say goodbye to residents who have spent the last 3 or 4 years as part of our family. Our graduating residents are:

- Zahraa Al Lawati (pursuing a PICU residency at McGill)
- Alexandre Deragon (pursuing an ER residency at the University of Ottawa)
- Marie-Pier Dumas (pursuing a Respirology residency at McGill)
- Vanessa Gadoury-Levesque (pursuing an Allergy & Immunology residency in Cincinnati)
- Aris Hadjinicolaou (pursuing a Neurology residency at the University of Toronto)
- Matthew Magyar (pursuing an Infectious Diseases residency at the University of Ottawa)
- Natalie Mathews (pursuing a Hematology-Onco/ology residency at the University of Toronto)
- Maria Pishogios (pursuing an Adolescent Medicine residency at the University of Toronto)
- Marie-Pier Guilbault (beginning her practice at Cité de la Santé)
- Rawan Hammad (pursuing a Hematology-Oncology residency at the University of Toronto)
- Enass Raffa (pursuing a Hematology-Oncology residency at the University of Toronto)
- Marcel Severe (beginning his practice at Hôpital du Sacré-Cœur de Montreal)
- Allison Shevell (pursuing a PICU residency at the University of Toronto)

We are extremely proud of all of our graduates and wish them all the best for their future careers!

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank our fantastic administrative team, Diana Gorea, Alessandra Tedeschi, Bobbie Carin, Stephanie Larocque, Angi Bentivegna, and Sophie Maurice who are an incredible support to the program and to the residents.

It has truly been a wonderful first year as Program Director and Associate Program Director for us and we are greatly looking forward to the year ahead.

Wishing you all a wonderful summer!

Rob and Olivia
Director and Associate Director
Pediatrics Residency Program

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We would like to thank the Graduation Planning Committee and its Chair, Dr. Elisa Ruano Cea, and the trainees who contributed to the organization of the Graduation Ceremony held on June 22:

- Zahraa Al Lawati
- Chelsea Ash
- Rosalie Cavin
- Nathalie Fortin
- Catherine Rich
- Nehal Shata
Associate Chair (Education) Report

Dear Colleagues,

The dedication and collaboration of our departmental teachers and educators has enabled our department to continue to be an educational role model and pioneer regarding many initiatives including:

1. **Department of Pediatrics’ Education and Training webpage** The Education and Training section of the Department of Pediatrics’ website ([https://www.mcgill.ca/peds/education-training](https://www.mcgill.ca/peds/education-training)) continues to be updated with important information. In addition, we will soon have a new section called *Educational Innovations*. If you would like to post information related to a cross-cutting educational initiative or if you would like to provide website-related feedback (e.g. Information that was difficult to find, additional information that you would like posted), please contact Dr. Laurie Plotnick (laurie.plotnick@mcgill.ca).

2. **Helen Karounis Agora Program (H-KAP)**
   **SAVE THE DATE for the Inauguration - Wednesday, September 26th 8:00-9:00 am**
   The Helen Karounis Agora Program (H-KAP), which will begin in the 2018-19 academic year, is designed to engage retired members of the McGill Department of Pediatrics to participate in teaching within the Department. These H-KAP Fellows will receive hospital privileges and an appointment from the McGill Faculty of Medicine, will be invited to attend an annual McGill Faculty Development workshop related to their role in the program and will be recognized at the annual resident graduation ceremony.
   The inaugural event will include a guest speaker and the presence of the H-KAP fellows and Dr. Karounis’ family. Please reserve this special event in your calendars!

3. **Institute for Pediatric Simulation**
   Dr. Ilana Bank, as Director of Simulation for the Department of Pediatrics, in collaboration with the Pediatric Simulation Team has been making great strides in establishing the Institute for Pediatric Simulation (IPS). The IPS will, for now, be housed on the 8th floor and will include a procedural skills simulation room, storage for the simulation equipment and an administrative area. Funding from the Wendy MacDonald Chair Fund has enabled the purchase of the following equipment to enhance this initiative: SimCapture which will enhance and automate simulations using video capture, simulator data integration and reporting ([https://www.blinemedical.com/pdf/simcapture.pdf](https://www.blinemedical.com/pdf/simcapture.pdf)), Trauma Man with Sono Skin enabling Point of Care UltraSound to be integrated into simulated trauma cases, and additional iPads to convert low fidelity mannequins into medium fidelity. If you would like help from the Pediatric Simulation Team to set up a simulation activity (either in the procedural skills room or in-situ in your clinical area), please contact Melissa Acciaioli, MCH Simulation Program Administrator, at mchsimadm@gmail.com.

4. **Clinical Bursary Recipients**
   The Clinical Bursary evaluation process has undergone significant revisions. Most recently, given the MSSA trainee funding plan, the awarding of the Clinical (and Alan Ross) bursaries is now based solely on the candidates’ credentials (i.e. no longer includes divisional needs). There were a total of three applicants this year for the two Clinical Bursary awards (two from Pediatric Critical Care and one from Pediatric Emergency Medicine).
5. **OSCE, observed H&Ps, STACERs**
   Drs. Jade Seguin and June Ortenberg have brought the OSCEs, observed History & Physicals (H & Ps), and STACERs to a new level. High resolution cameras installed in the 2nd floor clinic rooms now permit observation of the residents remotely which has increased faculty participation and improved the authenticity of the assessments. In June, H&Ps for R1s and R2s will be run at the McGill Simulation Centre using Standardized Patients to optimize faculty participation as evaluators and avoid the challenges of patient “no-shows”.

6. **Collaboration with Patient and Family-Centred Care (PFCC)**
   Marie-Claude Proulx, PFCC Coordinator, met with the Divisional Directors to highlight the importance of including the perspective of patients and families in educational activities. Marie-Claude provided multiple examples of ways in which PFCC can participate in educational programming and activities. Please contact Marie-Claude (marie-claude.proulx@muhc.mcgill.ca) to optimize your educational activities.

7. **MSSA-Funded Trainees**
   Natalie Ross has been actively meeting with Division Directors and Program Directors to establish a clear and streamlined departmental recruitment process for MSSA-funded subspecialty residents and fellows including recruitment process guidelines, web enhancement, and improved communication strategies.

8. **Pediatric Program Directors’ meetings**
   In order to optimize PGME-related activities for all divisions and at the request of all the Pediatrics program directors, Laurie Plotnick (in her role as Associate Chair of Education) has begun Pediatric Program Directors’ meetings three times per year. These meetings have already resulted in 1) a process for regular bidirectional communication between our Department and the PGME Office, 2) forum to highlight opportunities on which programs can capitalize and challenges which can be addressed by the Associate Chair of Education and 3) increased collaboration between the pediatric programs such as an orientation boot camp for all subspecialty residents and fellows and a unified approach to addressing common accreditation requirements.

9. **Administrative Excellence Centre (AEC) Audit**
   The AEC in collaboration with Drs. Shevell and Plotnick are finalizing a proposal regarding administrative support that has taken into account the administrative audit as well as input from Program Directors and other departmental educators. This proposal will be presented to the Faculty of Medicine in June. Thank you to Diana Gorea, Denise Pearce and Cassandra Fusco for leading this initiative. Stay tuned for more information.

Laurie Plotnick MDCM, FRCP
Associate Chair (Education)
Associate Chair, Clinical Operations

Mylène Dandavino, MDCM, MSc, MHPe
SUMMER BED CLOSURES:
OUR NEW, NECESSARY REALITY

BY MYLENE DANDAVINO
ASSOCIATE-CHAIR, CLINICAL OPERATIONS

It used to be that if you walked the wards during the summertime, you would pass rooms with neatly made but empty beds, waiting to be occupied. Ward personnel had a lighter workload and would finally be leaving on time after their shifts, or even sometimes go outside for ice cream teaching rounds, to enjoy the sun.

But if you wander the B09C pod today, you will encounter silence, door locking contraptions and dimmed lights, as beds have been closed for our -typically- less busy period. In order to optimize our operation budget, we have, for the last 3 years, aligned our bed capacity with our actual demand, leading to high percentage occupancy all year round. What used to be a trough in operations, a short time to recover from the wild winters, is now a thing of the past, and instead is 'business as usual'.

We are currently working on a creative and innovative bed opening plan for the upcoming year, to ensure that the right beds are open at the right time, in order to add flexibility, optimize flow and more easily react to surges in demand. Stay tuned, and if you happen to pass by the wards this summer on a beautiful sunny day, please bring some ice cream!

Psst! Please let me know what you think of the new clinical operations infographic newsletter!