

Feb. 2008



President's Letter

Dear CCMS members:

Happy Chinese New Year! I would like to wish all our members a healthy, happy, and prosperous year of the rat! It has been a pleasure serving as your CCMS President since mid-2007.

Since our last newsletter, many events have taken place. The annual Health Fair on October 7, 2007, made possible through our collaboration with the SUCCESS organization, was a resounding success again. The theme this year was "Medical Advances", and thousands from the general public learned about the latest developments in a number of medical fields. I would like to give a special thank you to Dr. Jessica Chan for all her hard work in once again representing the CCMS on the health fair committee. Having so many physician speakers volunteer their time for this worthy cause was much appreciated.

On October 26-27, we collaborated with the BC Hepatitis program to put on a conference in Vancouver entitled "Liver Update 2007", which featured distinguished local and national speakers. I would like to thank Dr. Thomas Wong for his work in helping to organize the event. The CCMS continues to support the coverage of Adefovir by BC Pharmacare for the treatment of hepatitis B, which is of crucial relevance to our patients. In addition, we are collaborating with the CCMS of Ontario and leading Gastroenterologists such as Dr. Peter Kwan in the creation of a hepatitis B CME learning tool for family physicians.

On January 21, 2008, we held our Career night. It was attended by almost 100 UBC medical students, and was very well received. Nine speakers from various specialties and family medicine provided the students with expert information on career planning. Thank you to all of our medical student and resident representatives for their hard work in making the event a success, and the speakers for volunteering their precious time.

As I reflect on the many events and achievements over the past few months, I also look forward to many more. We are presently planning our annual Chinese New Year party, which will take place on Sat Feb 23 at Victoria Chinese restaurant. This has always been a very popular event, and it will be fun celebrating Chinese new year with everyone! Many useful local CME's organized by the CCMS have taken place in the past year, and there will be more planned for the upcoming year. Also, overseas CME's planned include the Middle East Medical Seminar organized by Dr. Raymond Tong (Feb 27-Mar 19), and the Turkey/Jordan/Israel tour organized by Dr. Howard Liang (Mar 20-Apr 7). Last but not least, please stay tuned for our AGM Gala and Dance in May.

Sincerely,
Edmond S. Chan

CCMSBC is going to have a new website (www.ccmsbc.com). This is our effort to improve the quality of the website. However, the website is currently under construction. Our previous website is no longer used (www.ccmsbc.ca). Sorry for the inconveniences.



Report on INDIA TOUR Nov 19 2007 - Dec 07 2007

The 19 days tour of India has broadened my eyes. We visited one of the recognized World Wonders, saw many magnificent detailed sculptures that rival their renaissance counterparts in Europe, and learned a lot about the genealogy of some of the most significant religions in the world. India is a large and diverse country, we were only able to visit some highlights in a short 19 days.

We visited the impressive Ajanta and Ellora caves that inspired the Dunhuang Mogao Grottoes in China. Then we experienced the solemn atmosphere of the holiest city in India, Varanasi, and witnessed the religious ritual of offerings, bathing and returning of ashes to the Mother Ganges River.

We did not miss the chance to see the Temples in Khajuraho and admired the openness in showing sex centuries ago. The erotic carvings on the walls were for educational purposes; to instruct students about the most ancient enjoyment in life.

Of course, the Taj Mahal needs no introduction. We had our group photo there as it was a landmark in our lives being able to visit this World Wonder. After that, we traveled to the state of Rajasthan on the western side. The cities of Jaipur, Udaipur, Jodhpur and Jaisalmer, characterized by their signature colors, all have their individual charms with aristocratic palaces, pristine lakes, romantic desert sunsets and gorgeous colorful buildings. They also presented a considerable amount of history of this highly regarded part of the country.

With a large Sikh community in Vancouver, one of the highlights was a visit the Golden Temple in Amritsar, the holy temple for the Sikh religion. We were briefed with the principles and philosophies of Sikhism. We also entered the Golden Temple and witnessed the chanting and worshiping in progress.

One thing we learned during the trip was the marriage ceremonies in Indian culture. Our tour guide Luv is a groom-to-be. He described in details how the feasts and rituals were done in their 3-day-marriage celebration. We saw at least two big marriage events during our trip. The size of these events extends beyond even those in China that we are familiar with.

However, India may not be exempt from the common pollution and environmental issues. We took this great opportunity to educate ourselves on and explore the effect of environments on health while on tour. We had CME sessions focusing on how sustainability is important to both developing and developed countries.

A final note: Do you know the most traditional dress of a Jaina Monk? Please ask our group members. You may be very surprised.

Submitted by Dr Howard Liang



Mark The Date : **May 24th, 2008**

Our AGM and Dinner and Dance Gala will be held on May 24th, 2008 at Fairmont Waterfront Hotel. We would like to encourage our members to participate.

Chinese Canadian Medical Society (B.C.) Membership Application



Full \$100 (2 years—January 1,2008 - December 31,2009)
 Associate \$100 (2 years—January 1,2008 - December 31,2009)
 Life \$500
 Student/Resident - Free

Name _____
Office Address _____
Office Tel: ()-_____ Office Fax: ()- _____
E-mail: _____
Home Address: _____
(optional) _____
Home Tel: ()- _____
Mailing Address (check one) Office Home

Academic
Family Practice: _____
Obstetrics/Special Interest: (pls specify): _____
Specialty: _____
Degree: _____
Medical School: _____
Year of Graduation: _____
Postgraduate: _____
Affiliated Hospitals: _____

Social
Language: _____
Hobbies: _____
 Interest in CCMS committee
 Interest in giving lectures/ radio talk

Please make cheque payable to CCMS and return with the completed cheque to:

Dr. Thomas Wong
#2180 Aberdeen Center
4151 Hazelbridge Way
Richmond B.C. V6X 4J7

Ph: 604-233-0068 Fax: 604-233-0078