Words from the Chairman
Michael Shevell

"Change is inevitable. Change is constant"

These words by the 19th century British statesman Benjamin Disraeli in a pithy way state an obvious fact of life.

However our human physiology seeks homeostasis in which every perturbation is responded to in a way that seeks to restore prior equilibrium and balance. Hence the equally obvious and factual observation by Arnold Bennett that; "Any change, even a change for the better, is always accompanied by drawbacks and discomforts."

More than any other medical discipline pediatrics and its sub-specialties are inherently aware of change. Time forces remarkable changes upon our patients and development, as a person or as an organ system, is the scaffolding upon which our assessments, understandings and interventions are framed.

There is no doubt that our Department is in a profound (perhaps unprecedented) period of change. Part of this change is extrinsically imposed by external influences and decisions that necessitate self-evaluation, reflection, and alterations in set ways and approaches. A new hospital with space limitations, forthcoming adjacencies to maternal, adult and rehabilitation service providers, profound modifications in the undergraduate medical curriculum, the implementation of new contractual work rules for resident staff, a government mandated shift to community care provision that redefines the roles of both pediatricians and pediatric sub-specialists, are all examples of such extrinsic changes. As if these extrinsic forces of change are not sufficiently challenging, a brewing ‘perfect storm’ of fiscal constraints is emerging; university tuition freeze coupled with arbitrary funding cutbacks, RM changes in compensation formulas, cuts in Agence & MUHC budgets that are predicated on some 'magical' increased efficiency despite declining resources, research funding shortfalls, and an economy that is not yet fully conducive to philanthropic giving.

But change in our instance is also intrinsic. The Mission/Vision/Values statement adopted by the Department (see below) is an eloquent, explicit elucidation of this intrinsic change. A commitment to patient and family centered care, transparency, accountability, collegiality and collaboration are but a few of the values that impart personal responsibility not only to ourselves, but to others in our community. There is a new leadership membership, style and model now firmly anchored into place. We are no longer each ‘islands in a stream’.

As I look at the varied individual accomplishments enumerated in this newsletter, I am reassured that the Department has the talent, the will, and most importantly the human resources to meet the challenge of change before us. To quote the Daisaku Ikeda; “The question is whether we are to accept change and be swept away by it or whether we are to take the lead and create positive change on our own initiative”.

I have no doubt how the Department will answer this question. We will be masters of our own destiny.

Happy Holidays and
All the Best for the New Year!

Photos taken at the Inaugural Ceremony of the Harvey Guyda Chair, at the Faculty of Medicine’s Holmes Hall, on December 5, 2012
Mission, Vision and Values for the McGill Department of Pediatrics

**Mission:** Through excellence and leadership to optimize the health & wellbeing of infants, children, and youth within the context of their families.

**Vision:** Our mission will be accomplished through the following practices:

1. Comprehensive and complex clinical care at the highest level
2. Dynamic education of professionals involved in pediatric health that puts the needs of learners first
3. Innovative and transformative research in pediatric health at the bench, at the bedside, in the clinics, and in the population at large
4. Effective advocacy on behalf of vulnerable pediatric populations as an engaged partner with the communities we serve
5. Commitment to an effective, efficient, transparent, and accountable organization that encourages professional growth

**Values:** To achieve our mission, we seek to weave the following into all our ongoing activities:

1. Compassionate caring that is at all times in partnership with the children and families we serve; culturally sensitive in its orientation; and shared between disciplines, professions, and allied community-based partners
2. Dedication to knowledge translation that improves pediatric health care practice and outcomes, that is evidence-based in its choices, that is innovative, and that provides objective rationale for policy makers
3. Professionals who are invariably respectful, honest, tolerant, open to change, passionate, transparent, collegial, communicative, inquisitive, and committed to excellence
4. Teamwork and partnerships across disciplines and locales as the best model to provide comprehensive pediatric health care
5. Processes that we continually seek to improve, valuing all contributions, and rewarding excellence and effort
6. Members and leaders who are accountable to each other
7. Commitment to an ingrained ethos of patient safety and quality improvement

---

**Staff Updates:**

**Dr. Karen Watanabe Duffy** has resigned as attending staff from the Division of Pediatric Rheumatology, Department of Pediatrics, Montreal Children's Hospital of the McGill University Health Centre, as of August 1, 2012.

**Debbie Friedman** has been appointed as Director of the Canadian Hospital Injury Reporting and Prevention Program (CHIRPP) for the Montreal Children's Hospital, as of November 1, 2011.

**Dr. Audrey Lovett** has been appointed as Director of the Division of Pediatric Dermatology, effective December 1, 2012.

**Dr. Wendy MacDonald** has resigned from her clinical and academic position after a remarkable career of more than 35 years at the Montreal Children's Hospital, effective September 30, 2012. We wish Wendy a retirement that is one of health and the pursuit and enjoyment of the things in life that matter to her.

**Dr. Eva Soos-Kapusy** has obtained her CMQ specialist certification in Pediatric Emergency Medicine and will no longer be considered as an Omni.

**Recruitment:**

**Dr. Holly Agostino** has accepted a position as Full-Time Assistant Professor Clinical (Contract Academic Staff) in the Department of Pediatrics, at McGill University and as staff physician within the Division of General Pediatrics-Adolescent Medicine of the Montreal Children's Hospital of the MUHC, effective November 1, 2012. Dr. Agostino obtained her medical degree (2007) from McGill University and completed her pediatric residency training at the Montreal Children’s Hospital of the MUHC. She then completed her fellowship training in Adolescent Medicine (2012) at the Montreal Children’s Hospital of the MUHC. Dr. Agostino obtained the Claude Giroud Prize in Pediatrics, McGill (2010) and was also the recipient of the Emily Ross Crawford Scholarship at McGill in 1999-2001.

**Dr. Julie Anne Bartholomew** has accepted a position as Full-Time Assistant Professor Clinical (Contract Academic Staff) in the Department of Pediatrics, at McGill University and as staff physician within the Division of Neonatology at the Jewish General Hospital, and at the St-Mary’s Hospital Center, effective December 1, 2012. Dr. Bartholomew obtained her medical degree (2006) from Saba University School of Medicine, Netherlands, Antilles, and completed her pediatric residency training at the Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center (2009). She then completed her fellowship training in Neonatology (2012) at the Tufts Medical Center, Boston, MA.
DIVISION DIRECTORS’ REVIEW:

Dr. Geoffrey Dougherty’s mandate, as Director of General Pediatrics, has been renewed for a period of three years, ending March 1, 2015, and can be renewed for an additional period of two more years by mutual agreement between Dr. Dougherty and the Chair of Pediatrics.

Dr. Bruce Mazer’s mandate, as Director of Pediatric Allergy and Immunology, has been renewed for a period of five years, ending May 1, 2016.

Dr. Jane McDonald’s mandate, as Director of Pediatric Infectious Diseases, has been renewed for a period of five years, ending December 1, 2016.

Dr. Ronald Gottesman’s mandate, as Director of Pediatric Critical Care, has been renewed for a period of five years, ending November 1, 2016.

TEMPORARY/MATERNITY LEAVE REPLACEMENT

Dr. Anne-Marie Goyette is doing a temporary replacement for Dr. Patricia Li, from November 16, 2012 to November 18, 2013.

Dr. Lisa Anne Rasmussen is doing a temporary replacement for Dr. Myriam Oskoui, from October 1, 2012 to September 1, 2013.

CONGRATULATIONS TO …

Dr. Aurore Côté for having been inducted in the McGill Quarter Century Club, at its 44th Annual McGill Quarter Century Club Gala, on October 17, 2012.

Marlene Davis for having been inducted in the McGill Quarter Century Club, at its 44th Annual McGill Quarter Century Club Gala, on October 17, 2012.

Dr. Victor Goldbloom for having been honored by the Vatican for his work in inter-faith relations. He received the Pontifical Equestrian Order of St Sylvester, Pope and Martyr, on Sept 4, 2012.

Dr. Hy Goldman for having on the occasion of the Diamond Jubilee of her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II’s accession to the Throne, received a Commemorative medal on December 10th for “his outstanding contribution to Canada and to Fellow Canadians.”

Dr. Ronald Gottesman for having been inducted in the McGill Quarter Century Club, at its 44th Annual McGill Quarter Century Club Gala, on October 17, 2012.

Dr. Fahed Halal for having been inducted in the McGill Quarter Century Club, at its 44th Annual McGill Quarter Century Club Gala, on October 17, 2012.

Dr. Gilles Julien for having received a Medal of Honor of the National Assembly, an honor awarded exceptionally to personalities deserving recognition of all members of the National Assembly.

Dr. Preetha Krishnamoorthy for having been the 2012 Osler Award Recipient for outstanding teaching.

Dr. Constantin Polychronakos, for having been named a Fellow of the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences, one of the highest honors for individuals in the Canadian health sciences community.

Dr. Célia Rodd for having been a key participant in the CPEG working group that generated new, national growth curves for children and adolescents in Canada. These curves will be used frequently by pediatricians and pediatric subspecialties.

Dr. Charles Scriver, for having received the prestigious Medal of Honour from the Health Research Foundation for his outstanding contributions to health sciences and public health innovation. Joining Dr. Scriver in receiving this award is Mr. Arnold Steinberg, Chair of the McGill University–Montreal Children’s Hospital Research Institute from 1972 to 1990 and current Chancellor of McGill University. This award was received during a ceremony held in Toronto on November 14, 2012, co-hosted with the Prix Galien Canada.

Dr. Ernest Seidman for having been renewed as Canada Research Chair (Tier 1) in Immune Mediated Gastrointestinal Disorders for another period of 7 years.

Dr. Atul Sharma for having been a key participant in the CPEG working group that generated new, national growth curves for children and adolescents in Canada. These curves will be used frequently by pediatricians and pediatric subspecialties.

Dr. Michael Shevell for having received a $15,000 grant to conduct a symposium on Cerebral Palsy, in Cape Town, South Africa.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE DELIGHTED PARENTS

Mylene Dandavino and her husband Brian Seivewright on their baby boy (Alec), born on July 30, 2012.

Mariam Oskoui and her husband Paul Fitzgerald on their baby boy (Sam Elias), born on October 23, 2012.

Patricia Li and her husband Matthew Ferguson on their baby boy (Liam Kwun Tai Ferguson), born on November 7, 2012.
AND CONGRATULATIONS TO THE DELIGHTED GRAND-PARENTS

Sylvie Sahyoun on her first grand-daughter (Adèle Margot), born on November 1, 2012. Sylvie is also step-grandmother to three little boys: Jason (5 years old); Thomas (4 years old) and Sebastian (2 years old).

AND CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Dr. Bruce Mazer and his wife Barbara Mazer on the wedding of their youngest son Ariel to Gila Twersky, in Jerusalem, on November 26, 2012.

THE MONTREAL CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL OF THE MCGILL UNIVERSITY HEALTH CENTRE:

Dr. Harvey J. Guyda’s Retirement

Dr. Harvey J. Guyda retired from his position as Associate Executive Director of the Montreal Children’s Hospital on September 30, 2012. The entire Department of Pediatrics would like to thank Dr. Guyda for his devotion as Chair, Endocrinologist, Researcher, Teacher, Administrator, Child Health Advocate and “Santa Claus!” during his many years at the Children’s. In the meantime, the Council for Services to Children and Adolescents recommended the appointment of Dr. Micheline Ste-Marie as the Interim Associate Executive Director until a replacement to Dr. Guyda is named.

Appointment of the new MCH Associate Executive Director

A Search Committee, led by Mr. François Laurin, Chairman of the Council for Services to Children and Adolescents, recommended the appointment of Mrs. Martine Alfonso, as the new Associate Executive Director of the Montreal Children’s Hospital, effective January 7, 2013. For 14 years, Mrs. Alfonso worked as a physiotherapist before becoming part of the management leadership at the Institut de Réadaptation Gingras-Lindsay de Montréal in 2003. In 2009, she joined the MUHC team and became Administrative Director of the Neuroscience Mission. Two years later, with the passing of Dr. D. Coleman, Mrs. Alfonso was named Interim Director of the Montreal Neurological Hospital (MNH). We wish Mrs. Alfonso tremendous success in her new role as Associate Executive Director of the Montreal Children’s Hospital.

Intensive Ambulatory Care Service (IACS) Changed their Name:

Effective November 2012, the Intensive Ambulatory Care Service changed its name, to the Complex Care Service (CCS), to better reflect the population it serves.

KUDOS!

Dr. Martin Bitzan spent 2 ½ weeks in October 2012 (Oct 6 to 23) in the Division of Nephrology at the CHU Hussein-Dey, Hôpital Pr Nefissa Hamoud (Ex-Parnet) in Algiers and the CHU Tlemcen (near Oran) as an Educational Ambassador of the International Society of Nephrology (ISN). He gave various presentations at both hospitals and at a national “Journée scientifique” on the topics of HUS and treatment of acute kidney injury in children, and participated in patient rounds and clinical case discussions. The specific needs of children with acute and chronic kidney disease, including dialysis and transplantation, have only begun to be addressed in this country which has a high rate of genetic renal (and other) diseases. Dr. Bitzan has been invited to return to Algeria in 2013 to contribute to strengthening pediatric renal care.

Group of Nephrology residents with Martin Bitzan at Hôpital Pr Nefissa Hamoud (Ex. Parnet) in Algiers

Weekly Departmental Acknowledgements

July 2012

6 - Dr. Guilerme Sant’Anna
13 - Dr. Sharon Abish
20 - Dr. Kent Saylor
27 - Dr. Jade Seguin

August 2012

3 - Drs. Maryam Oskou and Pia Wintermark

September 2012

7 - Dr. Stephen Liben
14 - Dr. Harley Eisman
21 - Dr. Mitch Shiller
28 - Dr. Wendy MacDonald

October 2012

5 - Dr. Harvey Guyda
12 - Dr. Blair Whittemore
19 - Dr. Annette Majnemer
26 - Dr. Ron Gottesman
November 2012
2 - Drs. Elene Khalil and Ilana Bank
9 - Dr. David Zielinski
16 - Dr. Louise Auger
23 - Dr. Elisa Ruano Cea
30 - Nephrology Liaison Group in Bangalore, India: Our pediatric nephrologists, special mention to Drs. Paul Goodyer (McGill) and Kishore Phaedke (SJMC) and Drs. Martin Bitzan, Michele Zappitelli and Indra Gupta who have travelled to Bangalore. Also “JP Capolicchio from the Department of Pediatric Surgery has also journeyed to Bangalore and Chantal Barnard from Pathology will be going shortly. In addition Sonia Champoux of the MCH nursing staff and Nikki Rink, as a pediatric nephrology fellow, have gone to Bangalore for knowledge dissemination.”

December 2012
7 - Adam Shapiro
14 - Staff from the Chair’s Office and from PMG

MCGILL FACULTY OF MEDICINE

News from the McGill Pediatric Residency Program Committee (RPC):

Starting with this edition of the Department Newsletter, we will have a regular bulletin to update you on the activities of the Pediatric Residency Program Committee (RPC).

What’s the role of our RPC?

Our main mandate is to ensure that the training program meets the various standards set forth by the Royal College, in terms of meeting learning objectives, covering content and evaluating residents, as well as ensuring the availability of required resources to do so. Our mandate also involves monitoring the quality of the training, addressing related concerns and ensuring their resolution.

Four subcommittees assist the Pediatric RPC in its task:

-the Selection Subcommittee reviews CaRMS and Visa-sponsored application files, proceeds to interviews and provides recommendations on selection of new residents.

-the Promotion Subcommittee ensures that each resident meets Promotion requirements, identifies residents in difficulty, provides recommendations on remediation as required and monitors their progress.

-The Curriculum and In-Training Examination (CITE) Subcommittee is composed of Faculty who are primarily responsible for the development of our teaching curriculum and of evaluation activities (OSCE, Card sessions, STACERS or “mirror exams”, etc…).

-Last, the Advanced Pediatric Training Subcommittee (APC) reunites Faculty who oversee the training of R4 pediatric residents, as well as of the various General Pediatric Fellowships (Academic, Social, Neonatal F/U and Complex Care).

Who sits on the Pediatrics RPC?

In this first edition of our bulletin, presentations are in order. The following colleagues represent you or your division on our committee:

Richard Gosselin Program Director
Alexandre Barbier RVH representative
Farhan Bhanji Curriculum (R1-3), ER, PICU
Shirley Blaichman Community-Based Pediatricians
Evelyn Constantin Research (R4)
Mylène Dandavino Curriculum (R4)
Giosi DiMeglio Subspecialties
Shuvo Ghosh Research (R1-3)
Lajos Kovacs JGH representative
Preetha Krishnamoorthy Undergraduate Med. Education
Catherine Millar Wards and in-patient rotations
Michael Shevell Department Chair

The following residents have been elected by their peers to act as their representatives on the RPC:

Dr. Gillian Seidman R1 Rep
Dr. Janie Desrochers RII Rep
Dr. Samar El Tarazi RIII Rep
Dr. Robert Sternszus RIV Rep
Dr. Catherine Nolin Chief
Dr. Jade Séguin Chief

What have been recent “hot topics” on the RTC?

Over the last 2 years, the following topics have been of particular importance to our committee:

- The 2011 FMRQ contract and new working hour’s regulations
- Developing tools to promote direct observation of residents, including the Mini-CEX
- Ensuring adequate backup of junior residents in delivery rooms
- Developing the R4 year curriculum, in the context of the reduction of training from 5 to 4 years in Québec
- And the following, which are standing items on our committee: monitoring the learning environment, ongoing rotation reviews and addressing residents’ concerns.
What have been recent “hot topics” on the RTC?

Over the last 2 years, the following topics have been of particular importance to our committee:

- The 2011 FMRQ contract and new working hour’s regulations
- Developing tools to promote direct observation of residents, including the Mini-CEX
- Ensuring adequate backup of junior residents in delivery rooms
- Developing the R4 year curriculum, in the context of the reduction of training from 5 to 4 years in Québec
- And the following, which are standing items on our committee: monitoring the learning environment, ongoing rotation reviews and addressing residents’ concerns.

What is the feedback received from our residents on the program?

In June of the last two years, our chief residents have been conducting a survey with the group of residents, to collect feedback on our program, which provides directions to our RPC in identifying areas to improve.

The 2012 report highlighted many positive aspects. These include our Annual joint MCH-HSJ Pediatric Residents Research Day, the Annual Pediatric Residents retreat, and more generally the residents’ group dynamic, their interaction with Faculty as well as the hospital’s patient volume and variety. Some rotations receive high praises, including Rheumatology, Endocrinology, Social Pediatrics and IACS, now known as Complex Care.

Besides issues that are specific to individual rotations, concerns of a more general nature that are expressed by residents, and which require our attention include: ability to perform enough procedures, in particular tracheal intubations, the heaviness of clinical responsibilities in some clinical care areas, as well as ensuring due process in situations of perceived mistreatment. Each concerned rotation coordinator was provided with specific information relating to these concerns earlier this fall.

We hope that you’ve appreciated this first RPC bulletin and would like to invite any question of suggestions for future ones.

Richard Gosselin
Director, Pediatric Residency Program

THE MCGILL UNIVERSITY HEALTH CENTER (MUHC):

Director-General and Chief Executive Officer of the McGill University Health Centre (MUHC)

The MUHC Board of Directors announced that it has accepted the unanimous recommendation of the Selection Committee and appointed Mr. Normand Rinfret as Director-General and Chief Executive Officer of the McGill University Health Centre (MUHC) for a four-year mandate.

The 2012 MUHC DIRECTOR GENERAL’S AWARDS GALA:

Dr. Elisa Ruano-Cea, currently in the Academic General Pediatrics Fellowship Program at McGill (MCH 2012-2013), is the recipient of the 2012 MUHC Director General’s Award, presented to her on the MUHC Director General’s Awards Gala, held on November 17, 2012.

THE RESEARCH INSTITUTE AT THE MONTREAL CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL OF THE MCGILL UNIVERSITY HEALTH CENTRE

EXTERNAL FUNDING RESULTS

Dr. Sam Daniel has received a grant of $239,476 from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) over a three-year term for a project entitled “Multicenter pilot study on assessment and prevention of platinum-induced ototoxicity.”

Dr. Reggie Hamdy has been awarded $452,508 over a three-year term by the CIHR for the study entitled “The effect of a hybrid and injectable nanoparticle PMP delivery system on bone regeneration during distraction osteogenesis.”

Dr. Lily Hechtman, in collaboration with co-investigators Drs. Nathalie Grizenko, William Harvey and Ridha Joobe of McGill University, has received a grant of $968,219 from the CIHR for a term of five years in support of “Efficacy of careful medication and tailored case management follow up treatment for children with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder.”

Dr. Pierre Lachapelle, in collaboration with co-principal investigator Dr. Sylvain Chemtob of the CHU Sainte-Justine, has received $573,183 from the CIHR for a five-year term in support of “Oxygen and brain injury in the newborn: unprecedented role for fatty acid receptors and characterization of potential therapeutics.”
Dr. Bruce Mazer has received a grant of $172,467 from AllerGen for a two-year term in support of “Disease modulation clinical tolerance study.”

Dr. Annette Majnemer, in collaboration with Principal Investigator Dr. Adam Kirton of the University of Calgary and several colleagues from the universities of Calgary, Edmonton and Toronto, has been awarded a three-year grant of $270,000 by the Heart and Stroke Foundation for the study entitled “Enhancement of developmental motor plasticity in perinatal stroke with transcranial direct-current stimulation.”

Dr. Caroline Quach has been awarded $38,500 by the Public Health Agency of Canada to conduct “A literature review to support evidence-based recommendations for pneumococcal vaccines.”

Dr. Janet Rennick has received a grant of $845,099 over a five-year term from the CIHR to conduct the project “Children’s psychological and behavioral responses following pediatric intensive care unit hospitalization.”

Dr. Celia Rodd has been awarded a grant of $25,000 from the Go Foundation for the project entitled “Idiopathic infantile hypercalcemia in Canadian children: what is the role of CYP24A1?”

Dr. Ernest Seidman’s Tier I Canada Research Chair has been renewed for a seven-year term by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR).

Dr. Michael Shevell, co-investigator, with Principal Investigator, Dr. John J. Connolly of the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia and colleagues in the US and Canada, has been awarded $100,000 US over a two-year term by the Cerebral Palsy International Research Foundation to carry out “Targeted next generation sequencing of candidate genes in 193 cerebral palsy patients.”

Dr. Pia Wintermark has received a Junior 1 Chercheur-boursier clinicien career award and an establishment grant from the Fonds de recherche-Santé Québec (FRQS) in support of her research entitled “Comment identifier précocement les nouveau-nés à risque de développer des lésions cérébrales malgré le traitement par hypothermie.” In addition, Dr. Wintermark has received a grant of $300,000 for a three-year term from the Hospital for SickKids Foundation in support of her project entitled “Early identification of asphyxiated newborns at risk of developing significant brain injury despite hypothermia treatment.”

AWARDS AND HONOURS

Congratulations to Trainees:

Ms. Xiaoyang Liu, an MD/PhD student in Dr. Nada Jabado’s laboratory, who received the August 2012 Étudiants –chercheurs étoiles Award from the Fonds de recherche du Québec-Santé, in recognition of her exceptional research contribution in the Fonds Santé category. Ms. Liu also received a 2012 Graduate Student Prize of Excellence for child health research from the Foundation of Stars.

Dr. Melodie Mograss, a post-doctoral fellow in Dr. Evelyn Constantin’s laboratory, who received a 2012 Prize of Excellence for child health research in the postdoctoral category from the Foundation of Stars.

OUR CONDOLENCES GO OUT TO:

Dr. Sharon Abish on the loss of her father, Mr. Frank Abish, who passed away on October 27, 2012.

SPRING 2013 TOWN HALL MEETING WITH DEAN EIDELMAN

Wednesday, May 22, 2013

8:00 a.m.

Forbes-Cushing Amphitheatre (D-182)

Breakfast will be served at 7:30 a.m.

YOU ARE ALL ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND