



McGill

Faculty of
Medicine and
Health Sciences

Faculté de
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sciences de la santé



FEBRUARY 5, 2021

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF MEDICINE

COVID update: Today we have ~60 patients on our McGill affiliated hospital COVID wards. This represents about 115% of usual DOM bed capacity. Strange that this level feels “reasonable” but I guess not surprising when we think back to being over 200% capacity in the spring and ~150% in January.

COVID Volunteers: Thrilled that we have had many volunteers come forward to provide support on our COVID wards. Moonlighting opportunities for trainees with CMQ licenses are available in hospitals where their don't hold your training card (e.g. CMQ licensed trainees with MUHC training card can moonlight at JGH). Many who have provided pseudoresident shifts are now coming forward to provide MRP/primary attending shifts.

Vaccine: We are grateful that over 85% of DOM physicians have been vaccinated. There is concern about second dose delays but a reassuring publication in the Lancet this week suggests that a delay might be a good thing (https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=3777268).

Heroes: As you'll see below, we are delighted that astronaut Dr. Saint-Jacques is helping us on our MUHC COVID wards. It is a timely and important morale boost. He is particularly impressed with the team work on our COVID wards and gave a shout-out to **Dr. Landry** for her excellent care and exceptional teaching skills.

I also want to spotlight some of our **unsung heroes**: Dr. Pilote highlighted the support on COVID ward she received from two of our colleagues from Medical Genetics: **Dr. Mucha-Le Ny** and **Dr. D'Agostino**. She was impressed with their hard work, diligence and compassionate COVID care.

It takes a village and I'm proud that we are sticking together and coming together across the McGill system to get through this ongoing challenge.

Support from the Stars



Although you may not recognize him through full PPE, Canadian astronaut Dr. David Saint-Jacques has joined the ranks of docs who have been volunteering in great numbers to help care for COVID patients at the MUHC.

Dr. Saint-Jacques, interviewed by CBC's The National and other outlets (see below), said how impressed he is by the exceptional teamwork on the units! (? Better than in the space station)

<https://montreal.ctvnews.ca/canadian-astronaut-swaps-space-suit-for-lab-coat-to-practice-medicine-in-pandemic-1.5287889>

<https://www.rcinet.ca/fr/2021/02/03/lastronaute-david-saint-jacques-travaille-a-lhopital-contre-la-covid-19/>

Congratulations to Dr. Beth-Ann Cummings



Dr. Beth-Ann Cummings, Associate Professor of Medicine and a member of the Division of General Internal Medicine at the Jewish General Hospital (JGH) has been appointed to the role of Assistant Dean, Health Professions Education. Dr. Cummings will work closely with the Vice-Dean, Education and other stakeholders on the implementation of the Education Strategic Plan (Project Renaissance) goals relevant to the Health Professions programs.

Dr. Cummings has made significant contributions to medical education at McGill, most notably as Associate Dean UGME, Chair of the McGill Montréal-Outaouais Committee and as Director of the Clerkship Component of the UGME. Dr. Cummings also played a pivotal role as COVID Relief Initiative Coordinator for Postgraduate Medical Education since March 2020.

Please join us in wishing Dr. Cummings success in her new role.

Congratulations to Dr. Fallavollita



Dr. Sabrina Fallavollita, Assistant Professor in the Department of Medicine, McGill University and member of the Division of Rheumatology at the Jewish General Hospital (JGH), has been appointed to the position of Assistant Dean, Undergraduate Medical Education (UGME), where she will assist in the development, implementation and delivery of the undergraduate medical education program.

Dr. Fallavollita has made important contributions to medical education – as the Component Director of (UGME) Transition to Clinical Practice and as the JGH Site Director for the

Rheumatology Program (PGME), to name only two.

Please join us in wishing Dr. Fallavollita success in her new role.

Announcement of Newly Appointed Faculty



Dr. Carolyne Elbaz was appointed to the McGill Department of Medicine, as Assistant Professor, in October 2020. Dr. Elbaz is in the Division of Hematology.

Dr. Carolyne Elbaz obtained her medical degree and Internal Medicine residency training at McGill University followed by Hematology residency training at Université de Montréal. She has completed the Alexandra Yeo Fellowship in Thrombosis and Hemostasis at the University of Toronto and a Masters in Community Science in Health Practitioner Teacher Education at the Dalla Lana School of Public Health.

Dr. Carolyne Elbaz will be working in benign hematology, focusing on thrombotic disorders and laboratory medicine at Saint Mary's Hospital Centre.

Please join us in welcoming Dr. Elbaz to our staff.

The Class of Medicine 1970 Educational Award for Teaching Excellence and Innovation

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

The MDCM program's Graduating Class of 1970 created this award in order to support a member of the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences who wishes to acquire and/or further develop skills directly applied to the education of medical students and/or residents at McGill University.

For the 2021-22 cycle, (*uniquely*), two awards, of up to a maximum of \$12,000 each, will be available.

The support can be applied to personal professional development (e.g. registration fee for skills-building workshops, travel and tuition for specialized training) or for a 'mini-

sabbatical' (e.g. to secure protected time from clinical responsibilities). The award can also support the training of an outstanding young individual, such as a junior faculty member, who has demonstrated a particular aptitude and interest in educational scholarship.

For more information, visit this link: <https://www.mcgill.ca/ihse/education/class-medicine-1970-educational-award-teaching-excellence-and-innovation>

Note that Applications are due by **May 10, 2021** (funds will be awarded in **September 2021**) and must be submitted to Ms. Claudia Regier (ihse.med@mcgill.ca).

Webinar on Implementing the COVID-19 Toolkit

Please see the below link for details on a Webinar given by Ariadne Labs on "Implementing the COVID-19 Toolkit and Best Practices for Serious Illness Conversations using Telehealth".

This webinar takes place on Tuesday, February 9, from 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. It is free of charge.

All registration information including the registration link and passcode are included in the below link:

<https://ariadnelabs.cmail19.com/t/ViewEmail/j/D8DD675A0C05FD942540EF23F30FED/A88BE288C6F0689416B21F2806CB3AEB>

Best,
Marc

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