



December 2022

**MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF EMERGENCY MEDICINE**

Dear McGill EM Faculty,

As we get set to wrap up another extraordinary year, I'm reminded of the incredibly special community that is McGill Department of Emergency Medicine.

While the holidays represent different things for all of us, they are often a time for gatherings with family and friends, caring, giving, tradition, and celebration. We each observe our cultural customs in our own ways, and we honor the rich diversity of backgrounds here in our EM community, where we value and respect diversity and embrace each other's uniqueness. It is these very values that draw each of us together.

As Chair of the McGill EM Department, I am privileged to work with and learn from so many committed colleagues. We are now nearing the three-year mark of COVID-19, a global event that has deeply affected how we work. In the last few years, our community has faced extraordinary upheaval and change. Over the last year, I have witnessed the benefit of the exemplary engagement of our colleagues to make EM department what it is today, and I observe daily that the EM faculty is filled with creativity, thoughtfulness, and resilience. Your collective efforts and commitment continue to inspire innovation and compassion in learning, teaching, conducting research, and all the work we do for our program and mainly for our learners.

We have worked together remarkably well given our different roles and responsibilities, perspectives, and experiences of the last 12 months.

A huge event this past October has been our EM 50 celebration. This was no small feat and required hard work, dedication, and team work on everyone's part. Our EM community came together in a way that was truly exceptional and made this historic event a tremendous success. This celebration was a testament to our tenacity and dedication over the last half of a century.

Finally, I also want to extend a heartfelt thank you to the administration personnel who continue to share their knowledge and expertise and continue to support us in our daily activities. A special mention to the AEC8 team led by the newest arrival to the team, Maria-Isabel Ramirez, whose commitment and guidance is exemplary. A very special mention to Kimberly for braving the front in these challenging times. A very warm welcome to Lynda Bray

Distribute via listserv: [MCGILL\\_DEPT\\_EMERGENCY\\_MEDICINE@LISTS.MCGILL.CA](mailto:MCGILL_DEPT_EMERGENCY_MEDICINE@LISTS.MCGILL.CA)

who has already proven to be indispensable. I would also like to mention Teresa Alper, who has retired this past year. It was a privilege to work with Teresa for the past 4 years.

Let's remember how much we've accomplished in this extraordinary time, individually and collectively and let's continue to support each other.

Wishing you, and your loved ones, good health and happiness now and in the year to come.

Happy Holidays

Dr Marc Afilalo

### LAUNCH OF THE SPRING 2023 PROMOTIONS CAMPAIGN

This notice is intended for faculty members in the Department of Emergency Medicine who are interested in being considered for promotion:

1. From Faculty Lecturer to Assistant Professor
2. From Assistant Professor to Associate Professor
3. From Associate Professor to Full Professor

**Consult the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences Website for detailed information on criteria for promotion to:**

1. [Assistant Professor or Associate Professor](#)
2. [Full Professor](#)

**Consult the [McGill Department of Emergency Medicine: Process and Criteria for Academic Promotion](#) for additional insight specific to Emergency Medicine** (login using McGill credentials required to access this document).

**By January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023:** Notify [aec8-academicaffairs.fmhs@mcgill.ca](mailto:aec8-academicaffairs.fmhs@mcgill.ca) by email if you are considering applying for promotion and submit an up-to-date curriculum vitae using the [McGill cv format](#), clearly indicating the frequency and duration of hours for professional and academic activities.

**By January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023:** Potential applicants submit their completed application to the departmental office. Submit to [aec8-academicaffairs.fmhs@mcgill.ca](mailto:aec8-academicaffairs.fmhs@mcgill.ca)

The departmental promotions committee will meet in February/March 2023 to review applications and final dossiers will be submitted to the Faculty Promotions Committee's office by the April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023 deadline.

### WELLNESS CORNER

With the holiday season fast approaching, the DEM Wellness Committee would like to wish all our members and their families a healthy, joyful, restful, and meaningful time.

It's been a hard few weeks following an impossibly rough few years, and things aren't looking much easier for the short-term. We are with you in the trenches, and we feel your pain as well

Distribute via listserv: [MCGILL\\_DEPT\\_EMERGENCY\\_MEDICINE@LISTS.MCGILL.CA](mailto:MCGILL_DEPT_EMERGENCY_MEDICINE@LISTS.MCGILL.CA)

as our own. It's not easy, but when we chose Emergency Medicine no one ever promised us a peaceful life. We didn't know we would face a global pandemic, but we made it through, and life is slowly returning to normal (flu, RSV and all). You are doing an exceptional job in an impossible situation, and while some may respond with anger, most of our patients are aware of the sacrifices you have made for their best interests.

We want you to know we are thinking of you, and we are here for you.

In the New Year keep your eyes peeled for our Wellness Survey, which will touch on many topics of importance. Please fill it out to the best of your ability, because it will enable our committee to best address your needs and advocate on your behalf.

Here's a reminder to take a few moments for yourself and for those you love during this time of the year. Maybe a nice meal, a hot chocolate in front of a fire, sleeping in, heading outdoors to enjoy the crisp air – just do something, to remember you are human and allowed to be happy.

*Life is too short  
to wake up in the morning  
with regrets. So, love the  
people who treat you right,  
forgive the ones who don't  
and believe that everything  
happens for a reason.  
If you get the chance, take it.  
If it changes your life, let it.  
Nobody said it would be easy,  
they just promised  
it would be worth it.  
-Dr. Seuss*

---

Be safe, be well, and be kind,

Marc

Marc Afilalo, MD, MCFP(EM), CSQP, FACEP, FRCP  
Professor and Chair, Department of Emergency Medicine, McGill University  
Director, Emergency Department, Jewish General Hospital