

February 1, 2019

Hi Everyone.

This week's Departmental Acknowledgement goes to **Gary Pেকেles** on the occasion of his retirement from the hospital and university.

Gary has a long history at the MCH and McGill. In particular one has to note his extensive longstanding involvement in our Northern and Native Health program which he led for many years. Gary can take much of the credit for the Program's innovation and path finding in a long ignored sector of health service delivery. Gary also was a dedicated teacher serving twice as our General Pediatrics PGME Program Director. For many years he was a frequent ward attending doing yeoman service on the always hectic in-patient wards where he frequently would challenge conventional or accepted wisdom. Gary would always be seeking the evidence to backup testing and therapeutic decisions, whether these were put forward by a Junior Resident or the most senior of sub-specialty consultants.

Gary was also our local politician-in-residence. I doubt there was a Committee he didn't serve on over time or be a representative on a senior body at the Hospital, Faculty or University level. With Gary present, we could count on our voice being heard. I particularly enjoyed Gary's wide-ranging grasp of history and current events and there was many a time when I would learn some new factoid that months later would make me look more intelligent in a conversation or while watching Jeopardy with my kids.

You knew Gary was in the room when you shared his space, and for this I will especially miss him.

Please join me in wishing Gary all the best on this next phase of his personal journey.

Have a great weekend everyone!

Michael

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