

## DEPARTMENTAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

This week's Departmental Acknowledgment goes under the rubric of "When the cat's away, the mice will play". Michael Shevell has appropriately noted the great contributions of many of our members over the past months. However I did not wish to miss the opportunity to acknowledge his own major accomplishments since taking on the mantle of Chair of Pediatrics, which largely revolve around the theme of capacity-building and shared governance.

He has created the Department of Pediatrics Executive Committee with members being accountable for strategic activities such as Research and Teaching, he has instituted this very Departmental Acknowledgment activity which underlines the excellence which exists in our membership, and he has changed the style and goals of the Division Directors' meetings to one of interaction and shared problem-solving. Probably most importantly he has set a new tone for the Department by meeting with all the Divisions personally and with various teams which incorporate non-medical essential personnel. The message is inclusion and openness and this is evident in his clear commitment to working with Community Services to see how our expertise can best inform and be informed by the vast out-of-hospital activities in health care. There is a renewed dedication to working with Senior Management in the MCH and the MUHC, since that is how we accomplish major innovations. The element of fun runs through all these activities but was most evident in his contribution to the Residents' Skit Night where a new engagement was felt. Therefore Michael Shevell should be congratulated and supported for this great beginning to his mandate and is an effort which should not be overlooked.