



**RE-ELECT**  
**Dr. Shaohua Lu**  
for District 3  
BCMA Board of Director

Today our medical profession faces unprecedented challenges even though the hard work of BC's physicians has improved the health and wellbeing of each British Columbian. We must meet the challenges of political intrusions, practice autonomy, clinical teaching demands, and expanding scopes of practice encroachments from unproven and unscientific practitioners, and many others. Under Health Authority pressures, there is a growing gap between rural and urban physicians' access to resources. At the same time we are expected to deliver world class health care to an increasingly diverse and ageing population. We are facing a tough new Master Agreement negotiation with a government that appears to forget that physicians add incredible value to the health care system. We need to hold the government accountable for health care budget allocations. Legitimate differences of opinion within our profession have erupted to threaten the independence all physicians in BC. In this time of uncertainty, a strong and united BCMA is essential to engage with our members, the many levels of government, and the general public.

I have been a clinician in District Three for the past eleven years. As a consulting and addiction psychiatrist I have worked closely with many family physicians and specialists from diverse disciplines. I learned much about the work and the values of the BCMA through various involvements. While working on the addiction policy paper, "Stepping Forward: Improving Addiction Care in British Columbia", the staff at the BCMA and the Council on Health Promotion helped me to learn the crucial role of public and political engagement to promote and support health care initiatives. I am very proud that with the support of the BCMA Board and the hard work of many, our policy paper has brought about real changes that will improve the health of British Columbians. BC is the first jurisdiction in Canada to recognize addiction as a chronic medical disease. This is an example of how BCMA initiatives can lead to better public policy.

Thanks to the support of many like-minded physicians I was elected as board member in the most recent by-election. As a Board member over the past year I have gained a good understanding of the complexity of issues facing our profession. I strive to improve good governance, transparency to our members and maintain accountability. The future of our profession is in need of a strong and responsive BCMA Board. I have continued to keep up with other BCMA services and serve on the Council on Public Affairs and Communication (CPAC) and the Council on Health Promotion. I am the BCMA representative on the BC Health Quality Network. I understand the importance of the GPSC initiatives to help family physicians to meet the demands of complex and chronic patient care, the SSC programs to bridge gaps in care between specialist and family physicians, and the role played by the sections and divisions to engage with our diverse membership. CPAC has broadened my understanding of the difficulties in keeping health care issues at the very top of the political agenda. My Board membership has deepened my appreciation of the roles of GPs and specialists and the struggles that face rural physicians.

Please re-elect me as your District Three representative on the BCMA Board; I will continue work diligently to strengthen hard-won initiatives such as MOCAP and CDM incentives as we move through difficult negotiation with the provincial government. I have the commitment and the tough mindedness to fight to keep physicians' leadership role in BC's health care.

**Vote for Shaohua Lu**