



## The Royal College welcomes new President, Dr. M. Ian Bowmer

**OTTAWA, February 22, 2019** – Effective today, M. Ian Bowmer, MDCM, FRCPC, FRCP, FCAHS, takes on a new role as the 45<sup>th</sup> President of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada.

The focus of his two-year term will be enabling the Royal College to lead Canada's specialists through the upcoming artificial intelligence (AI) and technology-driven changes to patient care and learning. Dr. Bowmer succeeds Past President Françoise Chagnon, MDCM, FRCSC, a Montreal-based otolaryngologist and voice specialist.

"The core of what we do is provide excellent patient care. AI and new technology will be disruptive in how we work," he explains. "But they are just different tools to add to our expanding skillset to ensure we continue that high standard of care. It's an exciting time to be a specialist."

Some highlights from Dr. Bowmer's career in medicine include:

- 40 years practising as an internist and infectious disease specialist in St. John's Newfoundland and Labrador
- Former Dean of Medicine and Professor Emeritus at the Faculty of Medicine, Memorial University
- Executive Director of the Medical Council of Canada for 11 years
- Recipient of numerous national and international honours such as Canada's 125<sup>th</sup> Confederation Medal, elected to the Royal College of Physicians, London, and recipient of the Canadian Senate 150<sup>th</sup> year anniversary medal for contribution to his community

Dr. Bowmer has been involved with the Royal College for many years. He started volunteering as an examiner, and eventually was appointed to the organization's Council, where he sat as Chair of the Accreditation and Credential Committees.

"Dr. Bowmer has contributed greatly to the field of medical education throughout his career," said Royal College CEO Andrew Padmos, MD, FRCPC, FACP, FRCP. "I look forward his contributions as our new President, and the ways in which he will rally our Fellows to adapt and thrive in light of the big changes underway in health care, at home and abroad."

Dr. Bowmer's full biography can be found online at <http://www.royalcollege.ca/rcsite/about/governance/royal-college-council/council-biographies-e>

*The Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada is the national, not-for-profit organization that oversees the medical education of specialists in Canada by setting high standards for postgraduate medical education and continuing professional development. In collaboration with*

*health organizations and government agencies, the Royal College also plays a role in developing sound health policy in Canada.*

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