

February 2003

▶ My name is Joe and I AM A RESIDENT

Resident /ˈrezɪdənt/ n. one who resides in a particular place; residing in a place in connection with work or duty.

We have been talking about it all year, and it is fast approaching. It is a day we set aside to recognize residents, and the tremendous contribution we make to the health care system. It is **Resident Awareness Day—RAD** for short. On April 15th, we will be part of a national campaign to increase awareness about who residents are, and what they do.

We work in an environment where awareness and appreciation is promoted for health care professionals. It seems every month we recognize nurses, physiotherapists, medical transcriptionists, and so many others. Residents are glaringly absent, often because campaigns can be very costly, or simply because we are too busy saving lives and stamping out disease to stand at booths.

Why should we even have RAD?

1. **Appreciation:** Residents often feel undervalued—this is one way to help;
2. **Education:** Our patients often know very little about us—this is a chance to fill them in;
3. **Collaboration:** Our interaction with other health care professionals can be improved with enhanced awareness;
4. **Influence:** To carry clout in the medical world, you have to have a presence—RAD will contribute to that.

What are we doing for RAD? The details will be announced shortly, but here are some of the highlights:

1. **Slogan:** We are developing slogans to capture our message. Some of these include: *Why do you think they call us residents?*, *Residents are front*

line doctors, and Residents are 24/7 doctors, for example;

2. **Letters to Educators:** The deans and program directors will be made aware;
3. **Hospital Newsletters:** We are accruing space in hospital newsletters and websites to promote RAD;
4. **Public Advertising:** We will be displaying our RAD posters in hospitals and in bus shelters outside of hospitals for the month of April;
5. **Booths:** We will have booths set up with residents conducting surveys as to who residents are—participants will have the chance to win prizes!
6. **Buttons:** We will be distributing buttons and other paraphernalia to promote the day.

What can you do for RAD?

1. **Start talking about it in the hospital;**
2. **Sign up at the PAIRO office to host a booth and answer questions about residents;**
3. **Help communicate with the hospital Public Relations departments to promote RAD;**
4. **Send us your ideas!**

You never know, maybe RAD will eclipse the *I am Canadian* ads...

Joe

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PAIRO Excellence in Clinical Teaching Awards and PAIRO Resident Advocate Award

These awards are an important part of PAIRO's recognition of the excellent teaching we get in our residency programs and of those who advocate on behalf of residents. Please consider your clinical teachers and nominate someone who you feel has had a positive impact on your training. The deadline for nominations has been extended until the day's end on Tuesday February 25th, 2003. All nominations should be sent to the PAIRO office.

Please do not delay in submitting your nomination. **Be sure that you include the letter(s) of support as the award recipients are chosen on the basis of those letters.**

CaRMS 2nd round

Any current Ontario residents who are applying to the 2nd iteration of the match (attempting to change programs) can be assured that the PG Deans went on record last year that if you are successful in getting matched to a position, that you will be let out of your contract with your current program or if you are unsuccessful they will ensure that your position in your current program remains open to you. Therefore, those of you in this position who are wondering whether you should sign your Letter of Appointment can proceed with confidence that you will be protected in either eventuality.

OMA Resident Achievement Award

The Ontario Medical Association has announced that the 2003 OMA Resident Achievement Award recipient will be **Dr. Leslie Buckley**, a PGY4 in Psychiatry at the University of Toronto.

This award is given by the OMA to one resident each year who has made an outstanding contribution to the advancement of post-graduate training. The OMA presents its Awards at their OMA Annual Installation and Awards Ceremony in May.



We congratulate Dr. Buckley on her award.

PAIRO history byte: 1995

PAIRO successfully renegotiates a new PGY salary classification system which equitably redistributed the funding which could have been lost with the elimination of the old interne-based salary "skip" classification system.

Notice of a Special General Membership Meeting

- When:** Friday February 28th, 2003 at 4:00pm
- Where:** PAIRO office at 505 University Avenue, Suite 1402
- Why:** To consider a proposed by-law change to make PAIRO's voting structure at General Council consistent with the norm of other organizations in the province and country. The change would be from a 2/3rds majority requirement to a 50% + 1 requirement except in the instances specified in the motion. In order for such a change to take place, it must be put to the membership at a General Members' Meeting.

Therefore: The PAIRO General Council unanimously recommends that the following change being made to the PAIRO By-laws:

Amend Article 18 as follows: Every question submitted to any meeting of the General Council shall be decided by a majority (50% plus 1) vote of the votes cast at such meeting, unless the By-law otherwise requires. At any meeting, unless a poll is demanded, a declaration by the person chairing the meeting that a resolution has been carried by such 50% plus 1 vote or carried unanimously or lost shall be conclusive evidence of the fact without proof of the number of proportion of votes recorded in favour of or against the motion.

Ratification of a negotiated Collective Agreement, or a decision in respect of the annual or special dues or fees payable by the Members shall, however, require support of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the votes cast, and proxies shall not be allowed for such ratification votes.

When you need to talk...
When you need help...
We're here 24 hours a day.

PAIRO 24HR
toll free
HELPLINE
1 866 HELP DOC
100% confidential and anonymous
All calls are answered by Distress Centre volunteers who are from non-medical backgrounds and not affiliated with PAIRO or any universities

Attention Chief Residents!

Our experience has taught us that all the nuances of long-term disability insurance are difficult to understand and quite often medical residents have been steered towards products that do not meet their needs.

During this past year, PAIRO and the OMA have traveled to the various university centres in Ontario to address this very topic. Our goal was to educate our members on the disability coverage they have while in residency and to introduce *Essentials*, a unique plan that assures PAIRO members access to quality disability and life insurance (without evidence of good health) once they have successfully completed their residency program.

Clearly this is an important issue. We are prepared to offer the services of an insurance expert who is well versed in disability insurance to address the residents of your program at educational rounds or academic half-days, at no charge. If you feel that your residents would benefit from a session such as this or should you have any further questions, please contact Brenda Hinton at the PAIRO office via email at brenda_hinton@pairo.org or by telephone at 416 979-1182 or toll free at 1 877 979-1183.

HELP WANTED

April 15th, 2003 marks one of the most important days since the Big Bang. It's **Resident Awareness Day (RAD)** and we need help celebrating residents! If you would like to join us by hosting a booth, handing out buttons or just talking to people and patients about who residents are and what they do, **please contact Michael Simpson at the PAIRO office via email at michael_simpson@pairo.org.**

We are especially looking for residents in Toronto as there are a number of sites that will require your participation.

Contract capsules

Vacation:

February 15th, 2003—the deadline for submitting vacation requests (note this is a Saturday so you might want to consider the 14th) is soon upon us. If you are reading this and have not yet submitted your vacation request, you should hustle. The exception being those residents who are doing their certification exams this Spring - you have up until one month from the date of your exam to request one of your four weeks of vacation.

It is equally as important to highlight that vacation requests, when submitted on time, cannot be subject to blanket denials. We do, however, recognize that vacation time exceeding one week during a one month rotation can interfere with educational and service objectives.

Facilities:

Residents are entitled to proper and maintained callrooms. Section 19.2 asserts that "These facilities will compromise secure private rooms, with a bed, chair, desk, light and telephone, separate female/male washrooms/showers, adequate lounge facilities and daily linen service including weekends and holidays." If these conditions are not being met contact the office immediately.

Routine Services:

No resident shall be required to provide routine intravenous/venipuncture/EKG services. Residents are, however, expected to carry out these tasks in urgent circumstances or if they are required as determined by the Program Director to establish and maintain the skills of internes and residents in those areas.

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Your comments and submissions are always welcome.
Please send them to:

progressnotes@pairo.org

www.pairo.org

Getting ready to practice this summer?

New PAIRO Resident Placement Program interview dates!

Upcoming dates have been scheduled as follows:

February 19 and 20, 2003
Toronto: PAIRO office

February 24, 2003
Ottawa: Civic Hospital

February 25, 2003
Kingston: Hotel Dieu

(Telephone and email interviews can be arranged at any time.)

Contact Charlotte Kirby at rpp@pairo.org or at 1 877 979-1183 for more information.

Here are some tips to avoid delays:

1. Make copies of your Medical School Diploma (needed for your CPSO application);
2. Call the CPSO in early March (1-800-268-7096, in Toronto, 416-967-2603 (ext. 221) to request an application for a license for independent practice. Applications can be sent in before receiving exam results. The CFPC or RCPSC will forward your confirmation of certification to the CPSO;
3. Call OHIP (416-314-7444) to find out which District Health Office you need to submit your request for a billing number;
4. Contact WSIB at (416) 344-2935 to obtain a provider number;

And of most importance:

5. Contact the PAIRO Resident Placement Program (rpp@pairo.org) if you want to learn about practice opportunities, both locum and permanent, in Ontario and check out the PAIRO Registry at www.pairoregistry.com.

Find a Home for your Career.



Connecting New Doctors and Communities

Contact us for an interview at:
1-877-979-1183 or rpp@pairo.org,
www.pairo.org



Practice management tip

You and your family first

When assessing practice opportunities always address the non-professional needs first. (i.e. housing, school, shopping, recreation, employment opportunities for spouse, etc.)

**Brought to you by
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1 800 361-9151**