Dr. MORRIS MARKENTIN RECEIVES
Dr. Dennis A. Kendel Distinguished Service Award

SASKATOON, December 4, 2018 – During a special awards banquet held on November 30th, 2018, the Council of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan presented Dr. Morris Markentin (see attached biography), an inner city Saskatoon-based family physician with a special interest in addictions and infectious diseases, with the prestigious Dr. Dennis A. Kendel Distinguished Service Award for outstanding contributions to physician leadership and to physician engagement in quality improvements in health care in Saskatchewan.

According to Dr. Brian Brownbridge, President of the College Council, “Dr. Markentin is a leader and visionary dedicated to his field of practice. He has freely given countless hours of his time to provide care and develop dedicated services for an at-risk, vulnerable and marginalized segment of the population. It gives Council great pleasure to present this award to a physician who endeavors to provide such a positive influence on the quality of healthcare dispensed to patients.”

“I am both humbled and honoured to accept this award. It is a privilege to be able to practice medicine and to serve the people of Saskatchewan. My patients and team members continue to teach me and push me to do better - for that I am grateful. I do not do this work alone. I have great respect for Dr Kendel, and it truly is an honour to receive this - it was totally unexpected,” said Dr. Markentin.

Dr. Markentin holds several positions of leadership among multiple healthcare organisations but prefers to lead by example. He has personally led fundraising efforts for the establishment of transitional housing of HIV patients by Sanctum Care Group, a group he co-founded. As one co-nominator, Lisa Clatney, Executive Director of the Saskatoon Community Clinic, states: “Morris is a passionate and tireless advocate for the clients he works with. He ‘gets’ social determinants of health, and how history and colonization, residential schools, Sixties scoop, etc., have had lasting impacts and intergenerational trauma in many of the patients he works with. He advocates and lobbies to all levels of the government to ensure that appropriate resources are directed, and redirected to our vulnerable and at-risk populations, many of whom don’t have a voice to speak up.”

The Dr. Dennis A. Kendel Distinguished Service Award was named in honour of Dr. Dennis Kendel, who retired in 2011 after a long career as Registrar of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan. Past recipients are Dr. Werner Oberholzer and Dr. Nelly Helms (2012), Dr. Marilyn Baetz (2013), Dr. William Albritton (2014), Dr. Ryan Meili and Dr. Mark Wahba (2015), Dr. Corrine Jabs (2016), and Dr. Susan Shaw (2017).
**24 PHYSICIANS RECEIVE AWARD FOR 40 YEARS OF SERVICE**

To further complement Friday’s award presentation, a twenty-four (24) recipients were honoured with Senior Life Designation 2018 (for having held a license to practice medicine in Saskatchewan for a cumulative total of 40 years) for their lifelong contribution, as per the Medical Profession Act.

These are Dr. Deirdre Andres, Dr. Joan Baldwin, Dr. Linda Baker, Dr. Malcolm Banks, Dr. Joe Chin, Dr. Donald Cockcroft, Dr. Alanna Danilkewich, Dr. Neil Devitt, Dr. Micheal Dickson, Dr. Anne Doig, Dr. Vernon Hoeppner, Dr. James Irvine, Dr. David Kemp, Dr. Ronald Kostyniuk, Dr. Estanislao Maciel, Dr. James McHattie, Dr. Michael Montbriand, Dr. Abraham Ninan, Dr. Lorne Pilot, Dr. Kulwant Rai, Dr. John Reilly, Dr. John Shewchuk, Dr. Victor Thackeray, and Dr. Margaret Tysdal.

*Above: 13 physicians were able to join the ceremony to receive their Senior Life Designation award. Front Row, L – R: Dr. D. Cockcroft, Dr. A. Doig, Dr. M. Tysdal, Dr. A. Danilkewich, Dr. N. Devitt. Back Row, L-R: Dr. Brian Brownbridge (CPSS Council President), Dr. A. Ninan, Dr. L. Pilot, Dr. D. Kemp, Dr. J. Irvine, Dr. L. Baker, Dr. J. Shewchuk, Dr. J. McHattie, Dr. V. Hoeppner, Dr. Karen Shaw (CPSS Registrar).*

*Biographies for the Senior Life Designation recipients listed in the photo are attached.*

*The mission of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan is to serve the public by regulating the practice of medicine and guiding the profession to achieve the highest standards of care. It currently issues licenses to over 2500 physicians and surgeons in the province, as well as over 1800 corporate permits.*

-30-

**Source:**
Caro Gareau  
Communications Officer  |  Agente des communications  
College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan  
1 306 667-4638 or 1 306 244-7355  
communications@cps.sk.ca  
www.cps.sk.ca
Dr. Morris Markentin is a Saskatoon-based family physician who practices in the fields of Addictions Medicine and Infectious Diseases. Working primarily out of inner city Saskatoon, he is involved in a leadership role for a host of programs and organizations in multiple communities, teaching students, providing care for patients and advocating for better services to marginalized populations. Some of these include the Saskatoon Community Clinic, the Prince Albert Hepatitis C Clinic, and the Methadone Assisted Recovery Program in Saskatoon.

As Dr. Peter Butt, an addictions specialist and associate professor at the College of Medicine who helped nominate him, wrote: “He is a comprehensive care Family Physician who practices in the inner city of Saskatoon, integrating HIV, AIDS, Hepatitis C and Opioid Agonist Therapy into a complex and challenging practice. He is very passionate about providing care to those who are often marginalized, as well as a tireless advocate for improving service capacity and quality.”

Dr. Markentin has been the Medical Manager of the Provincial Opioid Agonist Therapy Program, formerly the Methadone Program, at the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan for several years now, helping to establish the standards and guidelines for methadone prescribing in Saskatchewan.

He has served and continues to serve on several local, provincial and national boards, including more recently the Opioid Advisory Committee, the Canadian Society of Addiction Medicine, and two SMA committees. In his “spare time”, he is also an examiner for the Medical Council of Canada.

Ms. Julia Bareham, Pharmacist Manager for the Prescription Review Program has worked on several initiatives with him, including the Opioid Agonist Therapy Program and conferences. She explains, “While Dr. Markentin contributes significantly through his administrative roles, he humbly prefers not to be seen as someone who directs others, but as someone who leads by example. He models excellence in his clinical practice [even during] the calls he receives in the middle of the night (of note, he is accessible 24-7 to ER physicians when they require his assistance to manage a patient receiving methadone).
and [his visits] to the hospital to check on his patients, or even the number of tasks in the EMR that never seem to decrease. […] Few physicians would commit to not only identifying the gaps and be willing to speak about what is not working, but actually develop the vision and concrete proposal and blueprint for a possible solution.”

Dr. Peter Butt, adds: “Providing high quality services to a complex care population requires clinical excellence. Dr. Markentin has developed expertise in not only comprehensive Family Medicine but also infectious disease and addiction. He is medical manager at our Detox centre, prescribes Opioid Agonist Therapy and counsels people struggling with Substance Use Disorders. He integrates this work with HIV/AIDS and Hepatitis C treatment, in a community with the highest rate of HIV in the country. 70% of the HIV is transmitted by IV drug use. Rapport and a trusting relationship are absolutely essential to meeting marginalized people where they are at and engaging them in care. Integration of Infections Disease and Addiction care is also essential. His leadership in this area extends to providing satellite Infectious Disease clinics in underserved regional communities, promoting access to care throughout the province, advocating for a more robust provincial response, and supporting community-based research. He has also improved access to Opioid Agonist Therapy in detox, consistent with national guidelines but not a typical part of current practice.”

In his volunteer work, he is a co-founder of the not-for-profit Sanctum Care group, Sanctum (a transitional care home and HIV hospice) and was instrumental in the development of the Beehive (Saskatchewan’s first transitional apartment for people living with HIV), Hart (the HIV/AIDS Response Team) and Sanctum 1.5., Canada’s first HIV prenatal care home.

He has undertaken the “Sanctum Survivor” street challenge on more than one occasion, living on the street for 36 hours at a time in an attempt to understand first-hand the daily challenges faced by the homeless.

Lisa Clatney, Executive Director of the Saskatoon Community Clinic, says: “Morris is also a passionate and tireless advocate for the clients he works with. He ‘gets’ social determinants of health, and how history and colonization, residential schools, Sixties scoop, etc., have had lasting impacts and intergenerational trauma in many of the patients he works with. He advocates and lobbies to all levels of the government to ensure that appropriate resources are directed, and redirected to our vulnerable and at-risk populations, many of whom don’t have a voice to speak up.”
Senior Life Designation

2018

Senior Life Designation is awarded to physicians who have been licensed on a form of postgraduate licensure in Saskatchewan for a cumulative total of 40 years*. Senior Life designation is honorary only. It conveys no right to practise medicine in Saskatchewan, to hold office or to vote.

A physician may concurrently hold Senior Life Designation and another form of licensure.

2018 Recipients

Tonight’s Recipients:
Dr. Linda Baker
Dr. Donald Cockcroft
Dr. Alanna Danilkewich
Dr. Neil Devitt
Dr. Anne Doig
Dr. Vernon Hoepnner
Dr. James Irvine
Dr. David Kemp
Dr. James McHattie
Dr. Abraham Ninan
Dr. Lorne Pilot
Dr. John Shewchuk
Dr. Margaret Tysdal

Additional Recipients for 2018:
Dr. Deirdre Andres
Dr. Joan Baldwin
Dr. Malcolm Banks
Dr. Joe Chin
Dr. Micheal Dickson
Dr. Ronald Kostyniuk
Dr. Estanislao Maciel
Dr. Michael Montbranid
Dr. Kulwant Rai
Dr. John Reilly
Dr. Victor Thackeray

In recognition of 40 years of fully licensed practice of medicine in the Province of Saskatchewan

Dr. Linda Baker
Originally from Saskatoon, Dr. Linda Baker is proud to have called rural Saskatchewan home for over 40 years. After practicing first in Nipawin and Wakaw, she moved her family medicine practice to Rosthern in 1995, where she has been since. She is a clinical teacher at the U of S, teaching externs, clerks and residents, and impressing upon them the need for capable, conscientious caregivers. She also served on the College’s “Complaints Committee” (now the Quality of Care Advisory Committee), from 2001 to 2014.

Some of her favourite memories revolve around births. Back before ultrasounds were common, she was called to deliver for a colleague’s patient when he had left on vacation just that day. Imagine her surprise when this tiny 4-pounder plopped out and she felt the mother’s abdomen, revealing another baby still inside. Fortunately, without any available backup, the second twin also delivered without difficulty. She remembers fondly seeing these sisters grow and develop and succeed in school. Then, there was the night she had to remove a retained placenta. She was so thankful that the late Dr. Ernie Schmidt had guided her through this process as an intern. “There is no more strange sensation than the contracting uterus clamping down over your hand as you accomplish the task,” she recalls. “Good mentors teach concepts that can be called on years later.”

Dr. Baker is married to Gerry Swab, an engineer/farmer. They have 2 children: Michelle, a tenured professional librarian in the medical library at Memorial University in Newfoundland, and David, a family doctor practicing in and around Vancouver, BC. As a family, they enjoy and perform music and were able to sing quartets at their local nursing home.

Dr. Baker is president of the Sask Valley Music Festival Committee and the Station Singers of Rosthern. She is heavily involved in her church and in retirement, volunteers at the local foodbank and the MCC Clothes Basket.

“You know you are getting old when you deliver the children of the children you delivered.”
Dr. Donald Cockcroft is a respirologist with a keen interest in allergies, especially those that cause asthma.

With a background in chemistry from UBC, he obtained his medical degree there in 1970 and went on to complete a rotating internship at Santa Clara Valley Medical Centre, in San Jose, California, USA. He returned to Canada in 1971 for Internal Medicine and Allergy Immunology residencies at Royal Victoria Hospital in Montreal. In 1974, he moved to Vancouver for a respiratory residency at St. Paul’s Hospital, then back east from 1975 to 1977 to complete a Respiratory Allergy research fellowship, at McMaster University. In 1975, he received his fellowship of the Royal College of Physicians of Canada in Internal Medicine and remains eligible for fellowships in Allergy/Immunology and Respirology. Dr. Cockcroft moved to Saskatchewan in 1977 and has been a professor at the University of Saskatchewan since then.

His most significant career achievement was the novel and important identification in 1976-77 that lung al-lergen challenge increases airway hyper-responsive-ness (i.e. it truly induces asthma). His hard work has not gone unnoticed: he was inducted into the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences in 2012. He was also present for the MCC Qualifying Exam making them gender friendly. He received the Teaching Excellence Award (2007) and the YWCA Woman of the Year Award (1993) for leadership in Women’s Health. He has held many leadership positions outside of the University of Saskatchewan, some of these include CFCP chair of the National Physician Survey which gathered statistics on Physician’s work, and life balance, Deputy Registrar and Chief Examiner for the Medical Council of Canada part 2 exam, President of the Federation of Medical Women of Canada, and Past President of the Respirology Association. He continues to hold a position as Clinical Associate Professor with the University of Saskatchewan.

In his spare time, Dr. Cockcroft enjoys growing and breeding prize-winning lilies and is the proud owner of a Labrador Retriever. Every winter, he also enjoys building a huge ice castle in his front yard.

“As a Diagnostic Radiologist, his special interests have included ultrasound, CT, invasive procedures, and oncology.”

Dr. Neil Devitt practiced in Regina with Radiology Associates for his entire career. His training includes an M.D. at the University of Western Ontario, a Rotating Intern-ship at the Royal Alexandra Hospital in Edmonton, and a Certificate of Registration from the Medical Council of Canada in 1973. He completed a residency at the Uni-versity of Manitoba, and in 1977, he obtained his certifi-cation from the Royal College of Physicians of Canada (Diagnostic Radiology). In 1978, became a member of the American Board of Radiology.

Since 1977, Dr. Devitt has performed a range of General Radiology duties in both private office and hospital settings, covering rural and urban populations, includ-ing the Plains Health Centre from 1980 until closure, Pasqua Hospital and Regina Qu’Appelle Health Region (RQHR). He has been consultant to the Allan Blair Mem-orial Clinic and has held teaching and leadership po-sitions. He continues to hold a position as Clinical As-soiate Professor with the University of Saskatchewan.

Leadership roles include President of the Medical Staff, Plains Health Centre 1982-1983; President of the Sas-katchewan Division of Canadian Association of Radiol-ogists 1983-1984; Director of Department of Radiolo-gy, Pasqua Hospital from 1988 to 1998; Department Head of Radiology, RQHR, from 2000 to 2008; and Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Medical Im-aging to the Saskatchewan College of Physicians and Surgeons 1985-1989.

As a Diagnostic Radiologist, his special interests have included ultrasound, CT, invasive procedures, and oncology.

Dr. Alanna Danilkewich (MD ’75 – Uof S, CFPC, FCFP), completed her course work towards a Masters of Family Medicine at UWO. She practiced full scope Family Medicine with enhanced skills in Anesthesia and Obstetrics in Prince Albert. In 1978 she did a locum for Dr Louis Christ, the first Department Head of Family Medicine; This launched her career as a Professor of Family Medi-cine. Her duties included clinical work, teaching and research.

Over the last forty years, Dr Danilkewich has dedicated her life to medical education and mentorship of Saskatchewan students. She has held many medical education leadership positions, some of which include Program Director 1996-2006 then Department Head of Academic Family Medicine 2010-2016. She taught many students and residents across several healthcare disciplines. She was instrumental in the implementa-tion of the Rural Family Medicine Training Program in 2000 and the Family Medicine Research program in 1990. She en-couraged many young women to pursue a career in medicine or science. She chaired the first Gender Issues Committee in the College of Medicine, the first Gender Issues Committee, and helped edit the goals and objectives of the MCC Qualifying Exam making them gender friendly. She received the Teaching Excellence Award (2007) and the TWCA Woman of the Year Award (1993) for leadership in Women’s Health. She has held many leadership positions outside of the University of Saskatchewan, some of these include CFCP chair of the National Physician Survey which gathered statistics on Physician’s work, and life balance, Deputy Registrar and Chief Examiner for the Medical Council of Canada part 2 exam, President of the Federation of Medical Women of Canada, and Past President of the Respirology Association. He continues to hold a position as Clinical Associate Professor with the University of Saskatchewan.

In her spare time, Dr. Cockcroft enjoys growing and breeding prize-winning lilies and is the proud owner of a Labrador Retriever. Every winter, he also enjoys building a huge ice castle in his front yard.

“Invasive, procedures, and oncology.”

“Helped advance respirology by identifying that the lung allergen challenge induces asthma.”

Dr. Alanna Danilkewich

Dr. Neil Devitt

Dr. Alanna Danilkewich

Dr. Don Cockcroft

Dr. Neil Devitt

Dr. Anne Doig

Dr. Anne Doig (MD ’76, CFCP ’78, FCFP ’94, LL D (Hons) ’13) was in full time clinical practice at City Centre Family Physicians in Saskatoon from July 1, 1978 to June 30, 2018. As a Clinical Associate Professor in the U of S department of Obstetrics, Gyneco-logy and Reproductive Sciences, she was recognized for excellence in teaching by Saskatoon City Hospital and by the Association of Professors of Ob-stetrics and Gynecology. Dr. Doig is an original contributor to the Advances in Labour and Risk Management (ALARM) program of the Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists of Canada.

Anne Doig served her profession in many capacities, including long service to the SMA and the CPS, and is a Past President of the CMA. She was a member of the Board of Directors of STARS and was the medical advisor to the Saskatchewan Cancer Agency’s population health division, supporting the breast cancer screening program and as-sisting in the development and launch of the prevention program for cervical and the screening program for colorectal cancer. Dr. Doig also served on the Boards of Directors of Saskatchewan Blue Cross and Canada Health Infoway.

Dr. Doig received many awards for her service, including an honorary degree of Doctor of Education from the U of S School of Education for her active volunteer and contributor to her community and to her church. She has a lifelong interest in music and the arts and is a member of the U of S Community Chorus. She chairs the Board of the Saskatchewan Symphony Society and was recently elected to the U of S Senate. She served for many years on the Boards of swimming associations. She received Swim-ming Canada’s President’s Award (2003) and both a Sask Sport Volunteer Award and a Saskatchewan Centennial Lead-ership Award in 2005. As a Level V official, Anne Dog volun-teers at local, provincial and national swim competitions. Dr. Doig has six adult children and two grandchildren.

“As a Diagnostic Radiologist, his special interests have included ultrasound, CT, invasive procedures, and oncology.”

“I’ve looked after multiple generations and the extended family members of patients that have been with the prac-tice for years. I know someone’s family history because I have lived it with them, not just “taken the history.”

“Helped advance respirology by identifying that the lung allergen challenge induces asthma.”

Dr. Anne Doig

Dr. Alanna Danilkewich

Dr. Neil Devitt

Dr. Donald Cockcroft
A specialist in Respiratory Diseases, Dr. Vernon Hoeppner obtained his FRCP from the University of Toronto. He ac-
ccepted a position in 1977 as Assistant Professor at the Col-
lege of Medicine in Saskatoon, where he remains today. His
duties included Medical Director of the TB Control Program
from 1986-2011.

His career achievements include adding the effect of sleep on
breathing to the 2nd year curriculum – he diagnosed and
tried to fund a DOT program.

"I feel very fortunate to work with such excellent colleagues
and community members throughout the years. I have many I call friends across the north."

Dr. Vernon Hoeppner

Dr. James Irvine

Dr. James Irvine [MD (Distinction) ’76, CCP ’78, FRCP (Public Health and Preventive Medicine) ’96, Msc (Com-

Dr. James Irvine (MD (Distinction) ’76, CCP ‘78, FRCP (Public Health and Preventive Medicine) ’96, Msc (Com-

community Health) ’98, FCP (OA)] is a family physician who spe-
cialized in Public Health and Preventive Medicine (PHPM)
(Indigenous health, environmental health, health promo-
tion, communicable diseases).

Dr. Irvine practised in Melfort, Papua New Guinea, and
Kindersley before going north in 1982 to practice in La
Ronge with the La Ronge Medical Clinic, then as Director
(1985-1995) of Northern Medical Services (NMS), Dept
of Family Medicine, U of S and as Medical Health Officer
(MHO)(1985-present). His work in northern Saskatchewan
involved the development of both NMS as a successful
program for clinical services, public health, research and
real teaching in remote areas and the creation of the Popula-
tion Health Unit as a northern public health model.

Dr. Irvine has received several awards provincially and nationally for
his work. However, his busy schedule in the OR and his in-
volved in the hospital as a family physician nearly made
him miss the birth of both of his sons, something that
his wife Trudy enjoys reminding him of to this day.

"When I worked in Macklin in the 1970s, I delivered a
baby where the mother was bleeding profusely. I had
to do a D&C to remove some placenta. She was shocky
and needed blood immediately. Luckily, she had the
same group as I do. I had to jump on the bed and
donate some blood. She did survive."

Dr. Irvine appreciates the northern community and the
outdoors through cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, ca-
noeing, and participating in the local triathlon event.
In the last 10 years, he has taken up Ironman triathlons and this
year qualified for the World Championship Ironman 70.3
event in South Africa along with his son, Jeff. He volunteers
with the Food Bank garden, maintaining the ski trails, and
helping coach the local judo club. Both of his sons and their
wives are also physicians in La Ronge.  

"The reality of working in rural Saskatchewan
is that sometimes you have to go to great lengths
to ensure the safety of your patient."

Dr. James Irvine

Dr. David Kemp

Dr. David Kemp obtained his medical degree (M.B. Ch.B) in Manchester, England. His first position in 1969
was as a Houseman at Ancoats Hospital in Manchester.
He then took up another Houseman position at Man-
chester Royal Infirmary. In 1971, he lectured in Anat-
omy at Manchester School and began family practice
in Bristol, England in 1972, where he worked until
1977.

In 1977, he moved to Canada where he practiced in
Unity and Macklin before establishing his solo practice
at Willkie Medical Clinic in 1986, where he still practic-
et today, for a total of 41 years in rural Saskatchewan.

Working in rural Saskatchewan presents chal-
lenages that sometimes require quick thinking. Dr. Kemp
shared the following memorable incident:

"When I worked in Macklin in the 1970s, I delivered a
baby where the mother was bleeding profusely. I had
to do a D&C to remove some placenta. She was shocky
and needed blood immediately. Luckily, she had the
same group as I do. I had to jump on the bed and
donate some blood. She did survive."

Dr. Kemp has 3 children and 3 grandchildren. He has
-a condo in the mountains where he enjoys hiking. He
has 3 dogs that help to keep him fit.

The reality of working in rural Saskatchewan
is that sometimes you have to go to great lengths
-ensure the safety of your patient."

"I feel very fortunate to work with such excellent colleagues
and community members throughout the years. I have many I call friends across the north."

Dr. David Kemp

Dr. James McHattie

Born in Saskatchewan, Dr. James McHattie obtained his
MD from the University of Saskatchewan. He completed his
internship, residency and fellowship in Internal Med-
cine and Gastroenterology at the Toronto General Hos-
pital/University of Toronto and obtained certification
and fellowship in Internal Medicine and Gastroentero-
logy from the RCPC in 1972. Subsequently, he advanced
to Fellowship of the American Gastroenterological Asso-
ciation.

From 1973-1977 he was a Staff Physician at the Toronto
General Hospital/U of T and Assistant Professor of Med-
icine (clinical). In 1977 he returned to his hometown of
Regina to spend the rest of his career serving Saskatch-
ewan residents. He has held several positions in Regina
hospitals, including Staff Physician, Head of the Division
of Gastroenterology, Head of the Department of Internal
Medicine, Chairman of the Medical Advisory Committee
and President of the Medical Staff Association.

He worked with charge nurse Lorrie McGeough RN and
nursing educator & pharmaceutical research nurse Marlene
Scrivens RN to develop the G.I. Investigation Unit & Pro-
gram at the Pasqua Hospital. His accomplishments include
the establishing and directing of the Home Total Parenteral
Nutrition program in Saskatchewan. He was instrumental
in advocating the benefits of the Hospitalist Program
and then worked with the management team, Dr. Brian Laur-
son VP of Med. and Patrick Danielle CDO to establish the
funding and structure for such a program. With partners
Tom Wigmore and Cam Wilson, he also established an In-
ternal Medicine Clinic which helped to attract and retain
many badly needed highly qualified medical specialists.

He spent 30 years coaching Minor Hockey and has been a
member of the Board of Directors of Ducks Unlimited for
many years, chairing the Saskatchewan 25th Anniversary
and the Canadian 75th Anniversary dinners in Regina. He
enjoys all Saskatchewan has to offer, is an avid hunter and
fisherman, and loves the outdoors and projects at the lake.

Dr. McHattie was instrumental in establishing the Home
Parenteral Nutrition and Hospitalist programs in Regina.
Dr. Abraham Ninan

Dr. Abraham Ninan (MBBS '65, LMCC, FRCP) began his medical career in 1965 as a Tutor in Community Health at Christian Medical College in Vellore, India. In 1971, he obtained a position as Medical Officer at Duncan Hospital in Raxaul, Bihar, India. His specialties are neonatology and pediatrics.

One of the first neonatologists to practice in Saskatchewan, he first moved to Canada in 1973 to complete his residency in Saskatoon and Toronto. In 1977 he accepted a position at RUH in Saskatoon, where he practiced for 22 years. From 1999-2008, he pursued this work in Regina, before coming back to Saskatoon where he still works as a neonatologist at RUH today.

Dr. Ninan's roots influenced him to ensure the establishment and direction of an non-governmental organization (NGO), Emmanuel Hospital Association in Canada (1997) to aid health care and development in poorly resourced parts of the world. He and his wife, Leela still manage the NGO, making frequent trips to India to train doctors and nurses in mission hospitals and raise funds to support clinical and development work in India and Africa.

His wife is a former Certified Nursing Assistant at the East Four Ward of the Saskatoon City Hospital. Dr. Ninan and his wife have two children. Their son is a chartered professional accountant presently employed with the City of Saskatoon, and his daughter is married and is a business owner in Prince Albert.

One anecdote he remembers fondly is his father was: "During a PAIRS strike in the late eighties, I was injured in a rodeo. I wheeled him to PICU and could not feel his pulse very well. We did an electrocardiogram, noted pericardial fluid and then he was taken to OR. He was found to have a tear in the pulmonary vein, was stitched up and recovered. His main symptom, swelling (no doubt because of hypoxia), was cured. He turned out to be a sweet young lad!"

He and his wife have three children and seven grandchildren.

Dr. Lorne Pilot

Originally from rural Saskatchewan, Dr. Lorne Pilot graduated from the College of Medicine at the University of Saskatchewan and to this day, still practices in Saskatoon.

A general practitioner for the greater part of his career, he has also worked with Veterans’ Affairs Canada (VAC) as a Senior Area Medical Officer (SAMO) for Saskatchewan, and Certified Medical Review Officer (MRO) for North America.

Dr. Pilot has a special interest in Occupational Medicine and is an Associate Member of the Canadian Board of Occupational Medicine, as well as a Member of the American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine.

His wife is a former Certified Nursing Assistant at the East Four Ward of the Saskatoon City Hospital. Dr. Pilot and his wife have two children. Their son is a chartered professional accountant presently employed with the City of Saskatoon, and his daughter is married and is a business owner in Prince Albert. Their son-in-law is a plumber and excavating contractor who works out of Prince Albert and Emma Lake.

One anecdote he remembers fondly from his career is this: "During a PAIRS strike in the late eighties, I was injured in a rodeo. I wheeled him to PICU and could not feel his pulse very well. We did an electrocardiogram, noted pericardial fluid and then he was taken to OR. He was found to have a tear in the pulmonary vein, was stitched up and recovered. His main symptom, swelling (no doubt because of hypoxia), was cured. He turned out to be a sweet young lad!"

He and his wife have three children and seven grandchildren.

Dr. John Shewchuk

Originally from Hafford, he chose to move to Tisdale in 1977 for a position as Full-time Staff at the Tisdale Union Hospital. In 1980, he was promoted to Chief of Staff. He is now in private practice in Saskatoon.

Throughout his career, Dr. Shewchuk experienced many challenging cases he was responsible to deal with in rural Saskatchewan. He contributed to the profession by serving as a member of the Medical Council of Canada (early 1980’s), a Member of the Council of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan in 1982, and as President of the Saskatchewan College of Family Physicians in 1986. He received two awards for his service: Canadian Family Physician of the Year (1996) and Saskatchewan Family Physician of the Year (1995). He is also involved with Medical Student Clinical Teaching Programs and has reviewed cases for the Canadian Medical Protective Association (CMPA).

Cherishing the support & friendship of his wife, Lorraine, he now lives in Saskatoon and thoroughly enjoys interacting with his grandchildren who live in Montreal, and visiting his immediate family, ER physicians & a urological surgeon, on Vancouver Island. He is also a fan of all sports.

As a Family Physician, Dr. Shewchuk contributed to the profession by sitting on the Council of the CPS and of the Saskatchewan College of Family Physicians.

Dr. Margaret Tysdal

Dr. Margaret Tysdal, originally from Regina, obtained her medical degree from the U of S in 1976. After her internship at St. Paul’s Hospital in Saskatoon, she moved to Moose Jaw to work in private practice as a family physician, first at Moose Jaw Clinic until 1998, then at Professional Medical Associates until 2016.

Dr. Tysdal ascribes much of her success as a physician to Continual Medical Education: “Someone once suggested to me to subscribe to the taped conferences from the Audio-Digest Foundation, which I did from 1978 until my retirement in 2016. To cover my areas of interests, I subscribed to General Practice, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Pediatrics and Emergency Medicine; I shudder to imagine how much poorer a physician I would have been without the constant learning!”

It is with mixed emotions - fondness and sadness - that she thinks of deliveries. Beginning in 1981, she kept track of how many deliveries she did - it totaled 1,081. Delivering healthy babies far outweighed the number of babies with problems, but she had her share of those too. She still looks back with amazement that she was brave enough to do deliveries, as well as work in the emergency department. “I must thank all the medical school teachers and those during my internship who taught me well enough to have the confidence to utilize those skills when I arrived in Moose Jaw in 1977.”

Her husband, Murray Tysdal is a chartered accountant and farmer. They have lived on his family farm near Briercrest, in its 100-year-old house, since 1985. Their son, Mark, and his wife, Shea Zubkow, both with commerce degrees from the U of S, live in Calgary and have blessed them with 3 grandsons. Dr. Tysdal’s activities include hauling grain at harvest, updating the family tree, teaching piano and remaining active in her local Presbyterian church. She maintains: “My life is full and enjoyable.”

“In my last few years of practice, I was very pleased to teach medical students in my office. It was a very rewarding experience.”