



Chair's Column:



I am pleased to provide the Spring 2013 newsletter to members, colleagues and friends of the Department of Surgery, Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry. My pride in the accomplishments of the Department continues to grow and there are many outstanding examples of the Department's excellence in this current newsletter. Tremendous achievements in research, surgical education, innovation, and medical leadership exemplify the profound impact the

Department members are having in the domains of academic medicine and patient care.

I would like to highlight the Master of Science in Surgery program which came to fruition this spring. This new program is relatively unique in Canada and promises to further enhance the Department's overall mission in research and education. Drs. Tom Forbes and Abdel Lawendy were both key to the inception and development of this program and its successful approval by Western University and the Provincial governing bodies.

Sadly, this newsletter also acknowledges the relentless passage of time and the immense loss of three members of the Department: Drs. Jim Roth, Phil Hayman and Bill Jamieson. Together,

these three members provided over a century of outstanding academic contributions and patient care. They each had an enormous impact on our community and our academic health sciences centre and will be profoundly missed.

I wish everyone all the best over the course of the summer, which will hopefully include some time away with family and friends.

Sincerely,

John D. Denstedt, MD, FRCS, FACS
Richard Ivey Professor & Chair/Chief,
Department of Surgery
Special Advisor to the Dean, Health
Globalization, Internationalization &
Simulation

SURGERY NEWS

Cardiac surgery team achieves a global first



Dr. Kiaii with a patient who received the blood circulation device treatment. Photo from: www.london.ctvnews.ca

In addition to being first in North America to use the new blood circulation device, geko™, the Cardiac Surgery team at LHSC is first in the world to use the device in cardiac surgery.

The device helps to manage post-operative edema, which is swelling resulting from excess fluids following cardiac surgery. Beginning in December, Dr. Bob Kiaii, Division of Cardiac Surgery, and the cardiac surgery team at LHSC treated patients recovering from heart surgery with the geko™ device.

"The device offers patients a drug-free treatment option for a common condition following cardiac surgery and simplifies current strategies to eliminate excess fluids," says Dr. Kiaii. "This is important because excess fluids impede oxygen delivery and wound healing, compromise pulmonary function, and delay resumption of bowel function."

The size of a wrist-watch and worn behind the knee, the self-contained geko™ device is designed to increase blood flow by activating the muscle pumps in the lower leg that return blood to the heart, emulating the blood flow rate normally achieved by walking (up to 70 per cent), without the patient having to move or exert energy. Patients can apply the battery powered device themselves and have the control to turn it off or on.

"Dr. Kiaii and his team continue to build upon London Health Sciences Centre's legacy of innovation," says Bonnie Adamson, President and CEO, LHSC. "This is another example of LHSC utilizing advanced technologies to improve outcomes for the patients we serve."

To date, nearly 60 patients at LHSC had success with the device as

part of their treatment plan. "Early observational use of the geko™ device has shown promise and we are planning to conduct a controlled trial to further investigate its health benefits," continues Dr. Kiaii

Source: LHSC Media Room. London Health Sciences Centre announces firsts in treatment option for blood circulation. February 26, 2013.

Dr. Vivian McAlister appointed Co-Editor in Chief of Canadian Journal of Surgery

Dr. Vivian McAlister, Division of General Surgery, will be replacing Dr. Garth Warnock as the Co-Editor in Chief of The Canadian Journal of Surgery.



The Canadian Journal of Surgery is one of the few traditional surgical journals still publishing articles for surgeons of all specialties. With a publishing history of over 55 years in Canada, the CJS has published articles from all of Canada's famous or well known surgeons at one time or another.

Dr. McAlister plans to bring the journal into the modern publishing era, eliminating delays in time-to-print that were experienced before. The Canadian Journal of Surgery offers unequalled benefits to authors with articles being deposited immediately into PubMed Central, where they are available free of charge by direct link from search engines such as PubMed and Google.

He hopes to develop new features such as smart-phone Apps and publish annual or special interest collected books to increase the use of articles. A public relations program is also in the works, aiming to increase the profile of authors publishing in the journal and to highlight significant articles.

Dr. McAlister's Canadian Forces Health Services Unit has also been recognized for its role in the NATO hospital in Kandahar with the Dominique-Jean Larrey Award. The Dominique-Jean Larrey Award is the highest honour for medical support that NATO bestows.

It is awarded in recognition of a significant and lasting contribution to NATO multi-nationality and/or interoperability or to improvements in the provision of health care in NATO missions within the areas of military medical support or military healthcare development. This is only the second time the award has been granted.

Dr. McAlister, Dr. Ray Kao (Department of Medicine, Division of Critical Care) and Dr. Brian Church (Department of Anesthesia and Perioperative Medicine) have deployed there for the last six years. Dr. Rich Hilsden, resident in General Surgery, also joined the team for seven months as an emergency physician.

"Currently we have completed the mission in Kandahar and are now deployed in Kabul where we are assisting the Afghan people in the development of residency training programs in General surgery, Orthopaedics, Urology, ENT/maxillofacial surgery, Internal Medicine and Critical Care," adds Dr. McAlister. More details about the mission are available in the article, "The Role 3 Multinational Medical Unit at Kandahar Airfield 2005–2010" which was published in the Canadian Journal of Surgery [2011 Dec;54(Suppl):S124-8].

Call for Applications: MSc in Surgery program

The Department of Surgery is pleased to announce that we will be offering a Masters of Science in Surgery starting in September 2013. This MSc is tailored to the unique needs of surgical trainees; providing an intensive research experience and a solid foundation for success as an academic surgeon.

The MSc in Surgery is intended to fully prepare these individuals specifically seeking future positions in Academic Health Science Centres for the demands of a research career in relation to the CanMeds roles of Medical Expert and Scholar. Demonstration of core competencies will be required through coursework, basic/clinical/applied research, thesis preparation and defense. Applications are now being accepted. For program requirements and details on how to apply, please visit the Graduate Education page of the department website at <http://www.schulich.uwo.ca/surgery/graduate-education>.

Dr. Roberto Hernandez-Alejandro is CHR's Researcher of the Month



Dr. Roberto Hernandez-Alejandro, Division of General Surgery, has been selected as April's Researcher of the Month by Canadians for Health Research (CHR), becoming the first member from the Department of Surgery to receive this award in the last 13 years. Founded in 1976, CHR is a national not-for-profit organization that is dedicated to engaging Canadians in understanding health research issues, scientific processes and their impact, as well

as improving stability and quality of Canadian health research. Dr. Hernandez's full interview, in which he discusses the success of the ALPPS procedure, is available on the CHR website. London Health Sciences Centre is still the only place in Canada where patients can receive this operation. Since April 2012, Dr. Hernandez has completed seven successful cases bringing about new referrals on a regular basis, including requests from overseas.

Department of Surgery Grand Rounds

The Department of Surgery Grand Rounds were held on March 20, 2013. This year's speaker was Dr. Carol-Anne E. Moulton, Associate Professor and Staff Surgeon in the Department of Surgery, University of Toronto.



Dr. Moulton's talk, "Behind the Curtain: Surgical Judgment Beyond Cognition" was well-received and proposed that medical education researchers begin to consider emotional responses in the process of surgical training as a more robust method of linking cognition and sociocultural factors than previously used models. In this model, emotional responses mediate the gap between the image of themselves that trainees present in the hospital and their growing sense of professional identity.

Dr. John Denstedt appointed to AUA Board of Directors

Dr. John Denstedt begins a four year term on the Board of Directors of the American Urological Association (AUA) this May at the annual meeting being held in San Diego, California. Dr. Denstedt is the third Canadian to be on the AUA's Board of Directors in the 111 year history of the organization.

The Robert Zhong Department of Surgery Research Day will be held on **Friday, June 21, 2013** in the **Sumner Auditorium (B2-119), London Health Sciences Centre - Victoria Hospital**.

WELCOME NEW FACULTY

Dr. Dave Nagpal, Division of Cardiac Surgery

Dr. Dave Nagpal joined the Division of Cardiac Surgery this past November as an Assistant Professor. He is cross-appointed to the Department of Medicine, Division of Critical Care at Western University. After graduating from Queen's University with a B.Sc. in Physiotherapy, Dr. Nagpal received his medical degree at Western University. After his second year of his cardiac surgery residency at Western University, Dr. Nagpal continued his studies at Bocconi University in Milan, Italy and received a Masters degree in International Healthcare Management, Economics, and Policy. He then returned to Western to complete his residency, followed by fellowships in critical care and heart failure at Western and the Cleveland Clinic.

Dr. Nagpal is the recipient of several resident teaching awards and has served as Treasurer for the Canadian Cardiovascular Critical Care Society (CANCARE) since 2010. His research interests include delirium (screening tools, healthcare delivery quality improvement), resuscitation

(fluid therapy, acute and chronic cardiac device support in management of heart failure / cardiogenic shock), and investigation and optimization of cardiac surgical and critical care outcomes. Future projects include building upon the long-standing foundation of heart transplantation and helping to develop the mechanical circulatory support (Ventricular Assist Device) program in London.



A former turntable DJ, in his spare time Dr. Nagpal enjoys spending time with his wife and two daughters, playing foosball, and daydreaming about Porsches.

RESEARCH NEWS

Dr. David Holdsworth receives funding from CIHR and CFI



Dr. David Holdsworth has received a \$1,342,675 grant from the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI). The project, "Facility for load-bearing imaging, biomechanics and clinical orthopaedics research (LIBCOR)" is one of four initiatives at Western University receiving funding from CFIs Leading Edge Fund.

Dr. Holdsworth (pictured left) leads this project with Dr. Trevor Birmingham, Department of Physical Therapy, and Professor Tom Jenkyn, Department of Kinesiology. "Our team's lab will have the capacity to image bones and joints in more realistic conditions to better diagnose joint and mobility disorders, develop new therapies and personalize interven-

tion strategies," says Holdsworth, who holds the Dr. Sandy Kirkley Chair in Musculoskeletal Research at the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry. Birmingham holds the Canada Research Chair in Musculoskeletal Rehabilitation in Western's Faculty of Health Sciences, and Jenkyn is cross-appointed to the Faculties of Engineering and Health Sciences.

Dr. Holdsworth also received CIHR funding toward another research project, "Real-time microscopy during high-frequency mechanostimulation of living cells." The grant is for five years and for a total of \$649,806. In this project, Dr. Holdsworth and his team will target the development of new treatments (e.g. mechanical therapies, biologic compounds or drugs) for diseases such as arthritis and osteoporosis. The project will focus on understanding how cells respond to mechanical loads with the development of a set of new devices and software, allowing researchers to study cells and tissue cultures under a microscope while these cells are being manipulated.

Congratulations to all faculty members whose research applications were approved and funded in the following competitions:

AMOSO Innovation Funding

Dr. Muriel Brackstone, Division of General Surgery, "Creating a Tumour Biobank."

Dr. Mark MacLeod, Division of Orthopaedic Surgery, "An Innovative Approach to Patient Safety using Wireless Infection Control Management System."

Fall 2012 Lawson IRF

Dr. Stephen Pautler, Division of Urology, "Pilot study for a randomized controlled trial assessing the efficacy of antimicrobial Prophylaxis for Extracorporeal Shock Wave Lithotripsy on reducing Urinary Tract Infection."

Dr. David Holdsworth, Division of Orthopaedic Surgery, "Functional orthopaedic implants for small animal models."

Dr. Hassan Razvi, Division of Urology, "Assessment of novel urinary markers of tissue injury following Shock Wave Lithotripsy."

PSI Foundation

Dr. Tom Forbes, Division of Vascular Surgery, "APPROPRIATE study: Assessing Patient Preferences for and Ranking of Outcomes Presented in Randomized Trials of Endovascular aortic surgery."

Dr. Alp Sener, Division of Urology, "The protective role of supplemental hydrogen sulphide in allogeneic renal transplantation following prolonged cold storage."

Dr. Hassan Razvi, Division of Urology, and **Dr. Philippe Violette**, Clinical Fellow in Endourology, "A randomized con-

trolled trial assessing the efficacy of antimicrobial prophylaxis for extracorporeal shock wave lithotripsy on reducing urinary tract infection."

Western Strategic Support for CIHR Success, Fall 2012

Dr. Alan Getgood, Division of Orthopaedic Surgery, "Why are cartilage defects painful?"

Dr. David Holdsworth, Division of Orthopaedic Surgery, "Real-time microscopy during high-frequency mechanostimulation of living cells."

NSERC of Canada

Dr. James Johnson, Division of Orthopaedic Surgery, "Novel Mechanical Systems to Perform Biomechanical Assessments of the Shoulder."

Dr. Louis Ferreira, Division of Orthopaedic Surgery, "Development of Biomechanical Feedback Devices and Robot-Assisted Technologies for Orthopaedic Applications."



Dr. Wei-Ping Min Receives CIHR Funding

Congratulations to Dr. Wei-Ping Min, Division of General Surgery, on receiving funding from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) for his project, "The role of IDO1 vs IDO2 on tumour immune evasion and immune therapy." Dr. Min will receive funding for three years, for a total of \$313,349.

His project focuses on the mechanism of cancer immune evasion, a significant obstacle in immune-based cancer

therapies. Since the immune system is built with the ability to recognize and destroy cancerous cells, tumours need to avoid and weaken the immune system in order to thrive. Using a newly developed gene silencing strategy called siRNA, Dr. Min and his research team will develop a new cancer treatment by destroying suppressive molecules in immune cells. This new treatment will be safer and more robust with great potential in clinic anti-cancer therapy.

AWARDS & ACCOLADES

Dr. Cecil Rorabeck and Dr. Robert Bourne, Professor Emeriti, Division of Orthopaedic Surgery

Congratulations to Drs. Robert Bourne and Cecil Rorabeck on being inducted into the Order of Canada. Dr. Bourne was invested as a Member of the Order of Canada, and Dr. Rorabeck is now an Officer of the Order of Canada. The

Order of Canada recognizes a lifetime of outstanding achievement, dedication to the community and service to the nation.

Pictured left to right: Dr. Robert Bourne and Dr. Cecil Rorabeck.



Dr. Vivian McAlister, Dr. Christopher Schlachta, Dr. Bill Wall, Division of General Surgery



Congratulations to Drs. Vivian McAlister, Christopher Schlachta and Bill Wall (pictured above, left to right) on being awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medals. The medal serves to honour significant contributions and achievements by Canadians who have dedicated themselves to service to their fellow citizens, their community and their country.

Dr. Alp Sener, Division of Urology



Dr. Alp Sener has been selected by the Canadian Society of Transplantation as the winner of the 2013 CST Research Excellence Award.

This award recognizes research achievement and is presented to individuals who have demonstrated significant promise to make a further substantial contribution to the field of transplantation.

Dr. Michael Ott, Division of General Surgery

Congratulations to Dr. Michael Ott on receiving the 2013 Certificate of Merit Award from the Canadian Association for Medical Education. The award recognizes faculty committed to medical education in Canadian medical schools, taking into account their contributions made toward teaching, evaluation, educational leadership and course coordination.



Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry Dean's Award of Excellence Winners



The Department of Surgery is pleased to announce that Dinah Frank, Administrative Officer, Department of Surgery, Dr. Ruby Grewal, Division of Orthopaedic Surgery, and Dr. John Denstedt, Chair/Chief, Department of Surgery, (pictured above, left to right) have each received a Dean's Award of Excellence. These awards recognize faculty and staff members for exceptional performance in areas including research, education, administration, initiative, innovation, public service, and personal character. The awards were presented at Schulich Medicine & Dentistry's Celebration of Excellence Dinner on May 22, 2013 in the Great Hall, Somerville House, Western University.

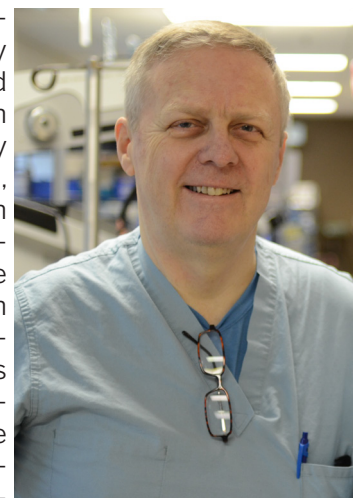
IN REMEMBRANCE

Dr. James (Jim) Roth

Jim Roth was the Director of the Hand and Upper Limb Centre; Chair of the Division of Orthopaedic Surgery at Western University; and Chief of Surgery at St. Joseph's Health Care, London at the time of his untimely death. Jim was a devoted family man, outstanding athlete, skillful surgeon, willing teacher, inquisitive scientist, master administrator and faithful friend.

Jim came to Western as an undergraduate student in Chemistry in the early 70's. After only two years he was accepted to medical school all while playing varsity rugby and football. He excelled during medical school receiving the Lange Award as a graduating Western medical student with one of the highest scores in his class. After completing a rotating internship at the Royal Jubilee Hospital in Victoria BC he returned to Western, encouraged by Dr. Jack Kennedy, to join the Orthopaedic Residency training program. While in residency he did pioneering research with Dr. Kennedy on a synthetic ligament for the knee. The

'Ligament Augmentation Device' or LAD was subsequently marketed by 3M. Jim received the Richard O'Connor Research Award from the Arthroscopy Association of North America, the Sports Medicine Research Award from the World Masters Games, the O'Donoghue Sports Medicine Research Award from the American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine, the J. Edward Samson Research Award from the Canadian Orthopaedic Foundation and the Founder's Medal from the Canadian Orthopaedic Research Society.



Jim received a prestigious R. Samuel McLaughlin Fellowship to travel abroad for further clinical and research training. He completed a fellowship in Hand and Microsurgery

at Duke University in North Carolina. After returning to Western Jim joined the staff of Victoria Hospital in 1982 with a busy practice in both Hand Surgery and Sports Medicine. Jim pioneered the development and clinical evaluation of arthroscopic surgery of the wrist. He travelled widely as a sought after speaker on wrist arthroscopy, writing papers and book chapters, preparing surgical videos and leading cadaveric training sessions. He quickly became world renowned although he was still very young. He advanced through the academic ranks at Western from an assistant, an associate to a full professor of surgery in just 7 years! At Victoria Hospital he worked side by side his longtime friend and fellow Western athlete, the late Dr. Robert McFarlane who shared his passion for excellence in hand surgery.

In 1992 Jim and Bob moved their practices to St. Joseph's Hospital and co-founded the Hand and Upper Limb Centre. They had a vision of a multidisciplinary centre of excellence for clinical care, teaching and research in hand and upper limb surgery. The unit combines the expertise of both plastic and orthopaedic surgeons with a dedicated partnership of nurses, anesthesiologists, physiatrists, therapists and scientists. Jim's incredible drive, his inability to accept no for an answer, Bob's wise counsel and the support of St. Joseph's Hospital allowed the centre to grow and flourish. The Hand and Upper Limb Centre is now the largest of its kind in Canada and one of the largest in the world.

Jim wanted the HULC and the Western Orthopaedic division to be the best in Canada and the world. He worked tirelessly for that goal. But it really was not work to him at all. It was a true labour of love. A passion. In 2004 HULC received the Schulich School of Medicine Team Award of Excellence. HULC received international recognition when the unit was featured in the Michael Moore movie 'Sicko'. Jim's vision resulted in the development of two endowed chairs at Western. The HULC Musculoskeletal Research Chair was his idea, but in typical Jim fashion he refused to put his name on it. Dr. Jim Johnson was

appointed as the inaugural recipient of the Graham King Musculoskeletal Research Chair last year. He also established the J.C. Kennedy Chair in Orthopaedics. He wanted to leave a legacy to his mentor Dr. Kennedy and strengthen the Western Division of Orthopaedic Surgery.

Jim was an early riser, often up at 4:30 am working at home before coming into the office. No one ever beat him into the office. He was a private person in many ways but was always ready to discuss the previous day's hockey or football scores with whomever would listen. He loved his London Knights and Western Mustangs. He enjoyed taking on a challenge; making his own path rather than following others. When he would talk about his daughters and granddaughters you could always see the twinkle in his eyes. He was such a proud Dad and Grandad; the soft side that few knew. He was a devoted husband to Barb who he adored and son to his mother Jean.

So while we will miss him, he is still here with us in so many ways. We will remember him and honour him by continuing to strive for excellence in everything we do. He would have it no other way. One of Jim's favourite books was entitled "On the Shoulders of Giants". Written by Dr. Joseph Boyes, he described the accomplishments and careers of illustrious hand surgeons until the mid-twentieth century. It is clear that like his colleague and mentor Bob McFarlane, Jim was also a giant in so many ways.

~Contributed by Dr. Graham King
Acting Medical Director, Hand and Upper Limb Centre

Dr. William Philip Hayman



Phil Hayman was born and raised in London, Ontario. He completed Medical School at Western and then Urology residency training in London and in Toronto. Following residency he undertook fellowship training at Bowman Gray in North Carolina and at Stanford in California. He then joined the Faculty of the Department of Surgery in the Division of Urology in 1973 and teamed up with Jack Wyatt in office space they shared on Waterloo St.

Within a short period of time Phil amassed a very large general urology practice and became one of the surgical pioneers in the early days of renal transplantation in London. He was universally

loved by his patients who related to his easy going manner and exceptional care.

Throughout his career, Phil became regarded as an excellent clinical teacher and a generation of urology trainees came to admire him for his teaching methods and clinical acumen. In particular, his former trainees are indebted to Phil for his patience and the confidence he instilled in us as we honed our operative skills. He had an uncanny ability to know just how much operative independence a resident could handle and when to step in.

As devoted as Phil was to his patients, that same sense of responsibility was also directed toward the betterment of our community. He was actively engaged in a number of charitable organizations and held leadership positions with the Boys and Girls Club of London and the Parkwood and SJHC Hospital Foundations.

Phil was well known for his love of life outside the hospital and had varied interests including a love of travel, fine food and wine, music, the theatre,

opera, skiing and golf. Many of his colleagues and friends lived vicariously through his active social calendar, and he taught us the importance of work-life balance.

His kindness, gentle demeanor and zest for life will be missed by many, however we should take solace in the fact that although Phil's days may not have been as long we might have wished, he certainly fulfilled a dream we all aspire to and that is "a life well lived and full of meaning". He most certainly accomplished that goal.

~Contributed by Dr. Hassan Razvi
Chair/Chief, Division of Urology

Dr. William (Bill) Jamieson

We are deeply saddened by the loss of Dr. Bill Jamieson, one of the founding fathers of Canadian vascular surgery.

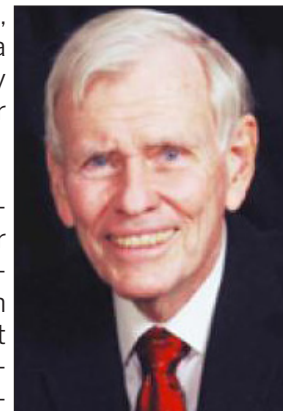
Dr. Jamieson obtained his medical degree at Western University in 1960 followed by surgical training at Western under Dr. Angus McLachlin. He then received further fellow-

ship training in Boston and London, England before returning to Victoria Hospital to a career of general surgery and the then new specialty of vascular surgery.

Over the next 30 years he and his colleagues built the Division of Vascular Surgery, trained the next generation of surgeons while Dr. Jamieson himself developed a specific interest and expertise in the surgical treatment of chronic venous insufficiency and thoracic outlet syndrome.

His leadership in vascular surgery was recognized when he became President of the Canadian Society for Vascular Surgery in 1992. Dr. Jamieson retired from clinical practice in 1998 but remained actively involved in the division.

~Contributed by Dr. Thomas Forbes
Chair/Chief, Division of Vascular Surgery



BUST A MOVE

On Saturday, April 6, 2013 over 400 individuals participated in a six-hour long fitness event, with the final fitness class taught by Richard Simmons. All funds raised by Bust a Move will go toward the Breast Care Centre at St. Joseph's Health Care, London. The event was a great success and a total of \$538,162 were raised. An anonymous donor will be matching this amount, resulting in a total of \$1,073,823 raised for the Breast Care Centre! The Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry's team, Breast for Success, was one of the top five teams raising \$31,690.

The Department of Surgery was also well represented. Dr. Muriel Brackstone, Dr. Leslie Scott, Dinah Frank, Terri MacDougall, Rebecca Young and Melissa Serrano all raised a total of \$10,785 to the cause through their teams, The Boob Docs and Breast for Success. Thank you very much for all of your support!



Terri, Dinah and Melissa at Bust a Move on Saturday, April 6th, 2013 at the London Convention Centre.

The Western Surgery newsletter is produced by:

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All members of the Department are invited to submit story ideas, articles, photos, or comments for the fall issue.

Please send them to: **Dinah.Frank@lhsc.on.ca**, or call ext. **32361**

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