2011 Alumni of Distinction

New Dental Implant Programme
Fellowships Aplenty
Please Join Us For
Our 17th Annual
Seminar at Sea
February 19 - 26, 2012

The Faculty of Dentistry at The University of Toronto, invites you to join your fellow Alumni at the 17th Annual Seminar at Sea, departing from Fort Lauderdale on February 19, 2012.

You will receive two four-hour sessions of the most current and relevant dentistry education, seven days of sun and fun aboard the Celebrity Solstice cruise ship and fabulous optional all day excursions to Grand Cayman, Mexico and Honduras.

Program Itinerary

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Enjoy some of the world's most visually stunning beaches, explore villages for unique treasures, or excite your inner adventurer with tours both on land and sea. Finish the perfect day with a refreshing cocktail and sumptuous seafood fare, as you watch the sun melt into the blue horizon.

Aboard the Celebrity Solstice walk barefoot on the half-acre Lawn Club with real grass, enjoy the fascinating Hot Glass Show, dine at chic venues offering trendsetting cuisine, and experience extraordinary programming including wildly entertaining theatrical productions.

Tee it Up in the Western Caribbean! Diehard golfers looking to tee-off at golf courses amongst the Caribbean's most beautiful, will be able to do so as an add on to our 17th Annual Seminar at Sea.

Golf is offered by Celebrity Cruises in Roatan (Black Pearl Course) & The Cozumel Country Club.

Ship itinerary, golf course & golf excursions pricing is subject to change.

For more information or to sign up, contact:
Dr. Barry Chapnick:
1-416-979-4900 ext. 6087 / cde@dentistry.utoronto.ca
or
The Faculty of Dentistry at the University of Manitoba
204.789.3267 / Email: dent_events@umanitoba.ca

A glorious tropical escape awaits!

Dr. Ernest Lam, DMD, MSc, PhD, FRCD(C)

Dr. Ernest Lam is an Associate Professor, Head of the Discipline of Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology and Program Director of the Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology Graduate Program at the University of Toronto.

Current Concepts in Two-and Three-Dimensional Digital Radiographic Imaging

A COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF WHAT CAN BE ACHIEVED

TOPICS TO BE COVERED IN LECTURE:

• Develop an understanding of the basic concepts of 2D and 3D imaging: imaging acquisition and display, imaging physics, image processing and image data management.

• Understand current radiation dose and risk considerations related to 2D and 3D imaging.

• Understand the potential uses of 3D imaging in dentistry in the context of the established imaging modalities with consideration given to a risk vs. benefit approach to modality selection.

• Understand the major limitations of 3D technology in the context of the established imaging modalities

For further information please contact Dr. Barry Chapnick at 1-416-979-4900 ext. 6087 or cde@dentistry.utoronto.ca.

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Get on board! We set sail February 19, 2012
What’s Inside

Music City Magic
A Faculty of Dentistry alumna has made a major impression on the International College of Dentists, American chapter, through her outreach efforts in Nashville, Tennessee.

A Call for Help
The Canadian Paediatric Society (CPS) and the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) issued a joint statement on the sad state of oral health amongst Aboriginal children. The report’s co-author, Faculty academic Dr. Robert Schroth, made numerous media appearances in a call to action on the issue.

Fellowships Aplenty
The University of Manitoba’s Faculty of Dentistry was well represented when the Canadian chapter of the International College of Dentists held their annual meeting in Winnipeg, this past fall.

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On the Cover:
The spotlight beamed on the 2011 Alumni of Distinction recipients this past Homecoming Weekend at the Faculty of Dentistry as Dr. Chris Cottick (left), president of the University of Manitoba Dental Alumni Association, congratulates Dr. Frank Hechter, this year’s awardee for dentistry.

Congratulations! Dr. Gene Solmundson is among the first to congratulate Signe Jewett on her Alumni of Distinction award. Coverage starts page eight.
American fellowship bestowed upon member of Class of 1991

Magic in the Music City: Dr. Rhonda Switzer-Nadasdi (91) receives her fellowship from Dr. Jack Clinton, President of the International College of Dentists, American chapter, this fall.

"What we are doing is very exciting. But the work begins now."
– Dr. Rhonda Switzer-Nadasdi

Call it a case of local kid does good. A member of the Faculty of Dentistry’s Class of 1991 was inducted into the International College of Dentists USA Section at the organization’s convocation this past October.

Dr. Rhonda Switzer-Nadasdi received a fellowship largely for her work to ensure access to affordable, quality dental care, and oral disease prevention services for the local under-served population. For the past 16 years, Dr. Switzer-Nadasdi has been the executive director of the Interfaith Dental Clinic, a nonprofit clinic that provides comprehensive oral health-care for the working poor, the elderly, and the uninsured in Nashville, Tennessee. The fellowship was confirmed in Las Vegas, Nevada on October 10, 2011.

The honour is bestowed upon only three percent of dentists worldwide, with a mere 250 invited to become a fellow in the U.S. each year, making it a rare and significant achievement for the practitioner who has made a career of effective outreach work.

“Well, it is but I think that’s when real work just begins,” she said in a recent interview following the induction ceremony. “In fact, one of the other fellows came up to me and said ‘wow, you really must have done something.’ I took that as a compliment. Being a college fellow is not just an honorary title. You’re supposed to really get to work now.”

Similar to the chapter in Canada, the International College of Dentists is a not-for-profit organization that awards fellowships to dental professionals for conspicuous and meritorious service to the profession of dentistry.

Over the past number of years, Dr. Switzer-Nadasdi has established a solid track record of effective community outreach within the southern state.

Under her leadership, the Music City clinic has grown from a two-chair program operating in a church basement to a fully comprehensive oral health facility providing care for 1,600 patients each year in its own 7,500 square foot, state-of-the-art building.

The clinic has 27 staff members and more than 300 volunteers who provide a full range of oral health services to underserved patients on a sliding fee scale.

It’s a significant achievement for the practitioner who is only two decades removed from receiving her credentials at the University of Manitoba. Since then, she has spent her career overseeing oral health programmes for the poor and under-served.

“What we are doing is very exciting,” she said, “and the International College of course is slanted towards humanitarian aid; that’s where they want their efforts seen. So I think it was a good fit for me as part of the college. But the work begins now.”

Future plans include the opening of a second community outreach clinic down in the middle Tennessee area. The clinic hopes to begin operations sometime in the New Year.

Diamond Good As Gold

Alumnus named to receive prestigious honour

Every year Variety, the Children’s Charity of Manitoba, honours a community-minded person, someone who has made a difference to those around them.

This year, Variety is pleased to announce that Dr. Robert Diamond has been named the recipient of the 2011 Humanitarian of the Year Award. Dr. Diamond (pictured right) is a long-time supporter of the Faculty and member of the Class of 1976 who has been practicing paediatric dentistry in downtown Winnipeg since 1980.

He was feted at the annual Gold Heart Humanitarian of the Year Award Dinner on Thursday, November 17, at the Delta Winnipeg.

Previous honourees include: Gail Asper, Doug Stephen, Janice Filmon, John and Bonnie Buhler, Earl Barish, Bill Knight and Ida Albo.
Here is how the recently-announced Niznick Implant-Retained Overdenture Programme will work:

Implant Fellows: An Implant Fellow will be recruited at each participating dental school to specialize in the various applications and to assist with the teaching, research, and service components. Activities of the implant fellows at the three dental schools will be coordinated by the University of Manitoba.

Patients: First Nations patients will be recruited into the school clinics through existing patient records and local advertisement. Services will be provided directly by implant fellows, and/or dental students.

Outcomes Measures: Will be related to a) number of dental students participating; b) number of dentures completed by students; c) number of patients served; d) number of curricular hours of instruction and patient care; e) dollar amount of donated services; and f) amount of disseminated research findings.

A Three-Year Commitment

University of Manitoba preparing new dental implant programme

It works like this: Dr. Gerald Niznick (left) demonstrates the latest in implant technology for Faculty of Dentistry Dean, Dr. Anthony Iacopino, at a press conference held at the Bannatyne Campus on Homecoming Weekend. The alumnus of the Class of 1966 committed to one of the largest single donations in the history of the Faculty, one that will lead to a new implant programme at the school.
In the Loupe

Going the Distance
Alumnus has drive to stay connected

Lending a hand: Dr. Craig Fedorowich (86) (left) goes through the clinical motions with students Ashish Oommen and Phong Loung. Dr. Fedorowich routinely makes the three-hour drive to serve as a part-time clinical instructor at the Faculty.

Talk about going the extra distance. The Faculty of Dentistry relies on its solid complement of part-time instructors to deliver top flight education and training.

For practitioners, this usually involves taking time away from their home practice office to serve at the school. Dr. Craig Fedorowich is one who takes this commitment to a new level.

The member of the Class of 1986 makes his home in Hamiota, a little burg about 85 km north of Brandon. Yet on a regular basis, you can find him in the Main Clinic at 780 Bannatyne in Winnipeg, almost 300 km away.

“For me, this is revitalization,” he said when asked about what motivates him to make the long trek to teach at the clinic. “I call them kids because they are younger than me, but the students here have a lot of energy and it’s just a good place to be. They are smart, capable and motivated. I gain more here than I ever give back. It’s true.”

No stranger to long-distance drives from the rural regions, the self-professed ‘country boy’ is something of a rarity in that he has spent his entire career practicing outside of major urban centres. And he credits long-time faculty instructor, Dr. Bob Glenn for getting the opportunity to remain at home in the country. Dr. Glenn operated a farm in the region before getting involved in the development of a new community clinic.

“Hamiota doesn’t have a set of stoplights. If they ever do, I might have to leave!” he joked. “With the development of the new health facility, Dr. Glenn put a clinic in there and had a ton to do with me getting out to Hamiota. And I have been there for 25 years.”

During that time, Dr. Fedorowich has become a pillar of the community, as a Scout leader, Lions club member, curler, minor sports coach and community activist. All the while, he has maintained his commitment to his alma mater.

“It’s probably a bigger sacrifice for my family than for me,” he said. “I made a decision that if I was going to be out in the country it was not going to stop me from participating. So I’m back.”

Big-time Research Experience
Senior student earns rare opportunity to see the best of the best

This past May, the American Dental Association Foundation hosted the 47th Annual Dental Students’ Conference on Research at the Paffenbarger Research Center in Gaithersburg, Maryland.

The annual spring event attracts students from more than 50 dental schools in the US and Canada and introduces them to scientists from the ADA, National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research, PRC and industry.

Included in the mix this year was Wisam Helewa, a BSc (Dent) student, who attended under the University of Manitoba banner. Each year, the Faculty sends a deserving undergraduate student to this conference, in part to acknowledge outstanding effort in the area of oral health research.

The highlight of the conference, Wisam said, was getting to spend a day touring the landmark center for oral health research in North America.

“This is the dental wing of National Institute of Science and Technology, the research institute where, amongst other things, the high speed hand piece was developed and where (Dr. Rafael) Bowen first developed resin bonding techniques,” he said. “It was neat to see the operatory where he conducted his tests. A tour of the institute was very entertaining and we got to ‘pick the brains’ and visit with top level dental researchers working at the institute.”

Other highlights included a lecture panel with dental researchers and public health dentists where they discussed the role of research in the profession and the public’s expectations of dentists.
A Lasting Impression
Grads coming back and helping out

Back in the day, graduates of the Faculty of Dentistry seemed quick to bid a fond farewell to the prairies. Built essentially for the purpose of retaining enough professionals to meet the needs of the local populace, the early years of the Faculty of Dentistry saw a significant number of newly minted practitioners head for the hills — or more accurately the more temperate climes of the Canadian West Coast. Thankfully, that pattern has abated considerably through the years as the vast majority of graduates are choosing to remain within the confines of the Keystone Province.

Instead, a new trend has been unfolding, one that sees many former students making their way back to the Faculty to lend a hand as clinical instructors. This is particularly true in the Orthodontics department as one-time cohorts are making their way back to the city to lend a hand as programme instructors. The latest on this list is Dr. Luis Piedade.

“The goal was to come back and help to create the first Invisalign only clinic. There was definitely a need based on how orthodontics has evolved over time. With the increased demand on aesthetics, patients are looking for alternative solutions to straighten teeth, which Invisalign clearly provides,” he said during a quick break from clinic duties recently, “and giving something back to the department was important to me. Coming back to Manitoba was an opportunity I spoke to Dr. Wiltshire about and it worked out really well.”

Although raised in Toronto, Ontario, Dr. Piedade sought his specialty in Manitoba where he earned his credentials. Since then, he flies into Winnipeg every six to eight weeks for lectures and clinic rotations before heading back to Toronto.

“My interest is in helping others and giving back to the programme,” he said. “There are certain things that I felt needed to be addressed and that I could help with. Instead of giving back in monetary form, I feel that donating my time and helping students who are going to be out on their own very shortly is more significant and important to me.”

Following graduation from the University of Toronto dental school, Dr. Piedade moved to Manitoba, in part for a change of scenery and a fresh educational perspective. The experience, he added, turned out far better than he ever expected.

“It was probably one of the highlights of my academic career. I think it worked out for the best, so much so that I’m returning,” he remarked. “The people here are what makes the programme what it is, which is great. So it’s an honour to be considered and be given the opportunity to teach our future colleagues.”

Department head Dr. William Wiltshire applauded the efforts of Dr. Piedade and the many others who are following suit. He noted that of the nine orthodontic residents who graduated in the last three years, as many as four are still actively involved in some way and actively contributing.

The Spirit Lives On
Faculty team assembles for Terry Fox Run
Submitted by Dr. Noriko Boorberg

You would have to say this was a bit more than a walk in the park. Faculty of Dentistry second and third year students turned out in solid numbers for the 2011 Terry Fox Run on September 18 at Assiniboine Park. Our 20-member team (right) collected donations from friends, family and faculty members. Together, we raised $850 for the Terry Fox Foundation.

The team ran or walked the five km route around Assiniboine Park and afterwards had a brunch hosted at my house. This is our second year participating and we are looking forward to next year’s run.

To date, over $550 million has been raised worldwide for cancer research in Terry’s name through the annual Terry Fox Run, held across Canada and around the world. For more information, visit www.terryfox.org.
It began with a seemingly simple question so many years ago: Who are you?

Easy enough on the surface, especially if you are a teenage lad going through the motions of meeting your parochial school obligations.

At the time, the query posed by Rabbi Zalman Schachter seemed more annoying than puzzling to a young Frank Hechter and his mates in a North Winnipeg classroom. But over time, that seed of thought grew to become one of the guiding principles of life for the 2011 Alumni of Distinction winner for the Faculty of Dentistry.

“We would come up with some ridiculous answer and Reb Zalman would say ‘who are you?’ It was a biting comment,” Dr. Hechter said during his remarks at the AOD banquet this past September. “Of course, we were foolish and naïve and headstrong and said ‘come on, give us a break. It is what it is and life is what it is.’ Reb Zalman finished by saying ‘I hope that at some point in your life you will be able to answer that question.’”

The notion put forth by the influential holy man served as the first in a series of encounters with those whose vision and insight offered a unique perspective on the world and how an individual might find their place within it. Dr. Hechter shared the thoughts and teachings of two other individuals, starting with the Rev. Dr. J. Carl Ridd.

One of Winnipeg’s most renowned citizens, Dr. Ridd was a noted human rights activist, amongst his many other talents, that included basketball, religion and economics.

As a professor at the University of Winnipeg, Dr. Ridd earned wide acclaim as an outstanding educator and inspiration to his students, Dr. Hechter among them. Dr. Ridd’s many awards included the University of Winnipeg’s 1973 Robson Award for Excellence in teaching; the Atchison Award for Community Service in 1989, and a fellowship in United College in 1997. He is also a member of the Winnipeg Citizen’s Hall of Fame.

“As I said on many occasions, I had learned more about spirituality and religion in one year of representative literary works from Carl Ridd than I did in the whole 12 previous years of parochial education,” Dr. Hechter said. “To understand what it meant to say, ‘you’re going to be educated. What are you going to do? You have this opportunity to make a contribution, what is it you are going to do?’” Dr. Hechter recalled of the noteworthy Manitoba educator, coach and theologian. “I owe Carl Ridd a great deal for influencing how I saw the world and how I continue to see the world.”

Those who know Dr. Hechter may also be familiar with his fondness for the lyrics of popular music, some of which were quoted during his remarks.

continued on page 10. See Who are you?

Award winning performance: (top photo) Dr. Chris Cottick (90) (left) and Dr. Danielle Jobb (95), of the University of Manitoba Dental Alumni Association were among the first to offer congratulations to Dr. Frank Hechter (71) on his selection as Alumni of Distinction for 2011.

A full complement of cohorts: Orthodontics alumni turned out at the 2011 Alumni of Distinction banquet including (back, from left) Tim Dumore, Vivek Cheba, Billy Wiltshire, Frank Hechter, Andrew Bernas, Milos Lekic, Randep Chana, Nick Playfair, (front) Huda Sawan, Mireya Senye, Susan Tsang, Jonelle Crichton and Ines Guedes.
A Night to Remember
Alumni banquet reaches new plateau in 2011

It was an evening unlike many others; one that certainly had all the makings of a most festive and memorable event: Two outstanding alumni, surrounded with hundreds of friends and colleagues, joined by generous quantities of fellowship, camaraderie and warmth at the Alumni of Distinction banquet this past September. Added to the mix were some thoughtful, entertaining and good natured remarks, plus a dash of students, past and present, just to kick things up a bit, and the end result was a truly remarkable evening.

The 2011 event was all that and more this past September 16 as the oral health community in Manitoba once again gathered together to honour the best of the best in our province. Included in that number were two members from the Class of 1962, the very first graduating class of the Faculty.

This year, the spotlight shone on Dr. Frank Hechter and Ms. Signe Jewett, the 2011 recipients for dentistry and dental hygiene respectively. Both were cited for their outstanding contributions to the profession and to their community through their long and successful careers. Their colleagues in their respective disciplines honoured each during the annual evening of excellence for oral health in Manitoba.

“This is truly an amazing honour. To join a group that has been awarded this very prestigious award is truly humbling,” Dr. Hechter said in his remarks to those assembled. “Let me thank each and every one of you for coming. It means the world to me in a variety of very different, emotional, intellectual and inspiring ways.”

The 2011 recipient of the award presented by the University of Manitoba Dental Alumni Association was feted for a track record of community and professional service that stretches into decades, almost from the time of his graduation from the Faculty as a member of the Class of 1971.

“Frank’s body of accomplishments is impressive. I have a stack of information on him that took me two nights to get through,” said Dr. Phil Poon, the 2010 AOD recipient who continued the tradition of introducing the following year’s recipient. “He has been a colleague and mentor to myself and countless others. I’ve interacted with Frank over the past 30 years and there’s not a thing that Frank does that doesn’t turn out amazing.”

The academic career of Dr. Hechter, that began as a graduate of the Class of 1971, got off to a resounding start, capped with the University Gold Medal in dentistry. Dr. Hechter also earned awards in endodontics, periodontics, pediatric dentistry, oral radiology, oral surgery, operative dentistry and orthodontics.

Not bad for a guy who had to overcome a few anxieties in dental school after an off-handed remark from a former instructor.

“Here we were in second-year operative and Hechter is not sure which side of the head piece to hold much less how to use it and Dr. Snee leans over the shoulder of my friend Luc Dugal and says, ‘Meester Hetcher, You should be in biochemistry. Dentistry is not for you.’ This is true,” Dr. Hechter told the crowd of an earlier encounter with the late, great instructor Dr. Taras Snihurovycz. “It was humbling to say the least. And were it not for the likes of Sam Borden, who at the time was our class advisor, and the support system that I had in my class and those ahead of us, that might have been an insurmountable comment.”

The decision to hang in there and secure his degree turned out to be a good one. Dr. Hechter would later add other academic credentials to his name, through Graduate Orthodontics at the Faculty in addition to a Masters of Education in 1990 and his interdisciplinary PhD in 1995.

He has since become the longest serving instructor at the Faculty, with over 38 years of service in Graduate Orthodontics. Only his body of work within the greater community matches Dr. Hechter’s dedication to the profession and education in Manitoba. Throughout his career, he has been a devoted volunteer for myriad community events and organizations, from minor hockey to the United Way. His efforts in support of the Universities of Manitoba and Winnipeg are renowned within both institutions.

“This is a fellow who’s always had something interesting to say in the hallway and always has many good ideas for the betterment of the Faculty and the profession,” said Dr. Chris Cottick, president of the University of Manitoba Dental Alumni Association and host of the evening. “This is just another example of how Frank connected to the entire community of Winnipeg. We’re all thankful for his participation in all of our lives.”

Dedication to the institution and those within the profession were also the qualities cited in Signe Jewett, the 2011 recipient for the School of Dental Hygiene.

(Continued on page 21. See Remember)
Completing the Circle

First class alumna makes return visit

It’s been a while; almost 50 years if anyone is counting. Throughout that time, a lot has happened in the life and times of Biruta Osins—an entire career in fact and one that was certainly out of the ordinary, for a variety of reasons.

So it was only appropriate that the Gold Medal winner of the Faculty of Dentistry’s inaugural graduating class would join former classmate Gordon Hall at the Alumni of Distinction banquet this past September to catch up with friends, both new and old.

“Today I met a new friend, the first female graduate of the Faculty,” Dean Anthony Iacopino shared with the audience at the event. “She’s a fascinating woman; a fountain of information and of interesting stories.”

Yet, of all the tales Dr. Osins could share, it could well be that the best story is the one about herself.

The year was 1958. The University of Manitoba was in the throes of a major building project at 780 Bannatyne while a group of 15 individuals were getting down to the serious business of attaining their professional designations through study and hard work.

It would be the first graduating class in the brand-new Faculty of Dentistry at the University of Manitoba. But that was hardly the only ‘first’ to be realized by this most special class.

At the time, the professional fields were dominated by men. Women, for the most part, fulfilled secondary roles in the work force or that of homemaker. But then, along came Biruta Anna Osins, the young graduate of Gordon Bell High School in Winnipeg. While she had only been in Canada for a little over a decade after her family emigrated from Latvia, she still managed to secure a place in the first-year class at the Faculty.

“My marks,” she said, matter-of-factly, when asked about how she managed to gain acceptance into what was an all-male domain in Canada. “I told them that in Latvia almost all the dentists were women. That pretty much put a stop to any talk after that.”

And she didn’t stop there. The young lady, with English as a second language, topped the class, laying claim to the University Gold Medal and the Dr. John W. Clay Gold Medal, in addition to at least eight other awards and honours, not to mention being the unanimous choice for Freshie Queen.

“She is not only one of our youngest graduates, but also one of our top students,” noted the yearbook of 1962.

The cold of the Keystone province led Dr. Osins to Toronto where she would run a private practice for the duration of her career, one that included being president of the Ontario Society of Endodontists and most notably World Hunger Year. In 1987, he was posthumously awarded the Congressional Gold Medal for his work on this and other social causes.

“Amongst other things, Harry Chapin would contribute a third of his earnings—way more than a tithe—to charitable organizations,” Dr. Hechter noted, “and he would say at all of his concerts ‘WHY? WHY in North America, where we are so prosperous and grow so much food, how is it possible that children and adults go to bed hungry?’”

Dr. Hechter explained how the lessons offered by these individuals, among many others, helped him come to realize, understand, and ultimately answer the question that was put to him so many years before.

“No matter what the challenge, no matter what the confrontation, there has to be a way; you need to find a way, you need to pursue excellence, you need to pursue social justice, you need to assist those less fortunate than us,” he said. “After all these many years I think I can finally answer Reb Zalman’s question. Thank you very much for this wonderful honour.”
As alumni events go, this was certainly one for the ages. Since its inception back in 1999, the Alumni of Distinction event at the Faculty of Dentistry has looked to carve out a place on the calendar of the oral health community in Manitoba. And, based on the events that transpired on the night of September 16, it would appear that time has arrived.

The 2011 edition of oral health’s evening of excellence was dominated by moving and impassioned remarks by virtually each of the evening’s speakers; all of whom offered thanks to colleagues and friends as they warmly recalled their most memorable times from their shared history at the Faculty of Dentistry and the School of Dental Hygiene.

Among the many highlights of the evening, the 2011 Alumni of Distinction recipient for dentistry acknowledged those in attendance, all of whom he said, have played a significant role in his career and his life.

“I should tell you that the group that has chosen to share this evening with (spouse) Sue and I represent every aspect of my existence,” Dr. Frank Hechter said during his often stirring and inspiring address. “Let me thank each and every one of you for coming. It means the world to me in a variety of very different and emotional, intellectual and inspiring levels.”

Dr. Hechter would go on to offer a riveting series of reflections culled from a professional and personal past that drew a lengthy standing ovation from those assembled.

So powerful was the address that, for this one rare occasion, the good Dr. Chris Cottick, emcee of the evening, was rendered speechless. Well, almost.

“My sitting here on the side of the podium, thinking ‘what can I say afterwards!’ Do I mention about the emotions that Frank brought to me; I think about my father; I think about this wonderful evening, the camaraderie and the congeniality we’ve had this evening; and I think, who am I tonight? Tonight?” he said in his closing remarks of the evening. “Tonight I am a University of Manitoba alumni. That’s all I know.”

From its modest beginnings as a mid-winter luncheon event, the Alumni of Distinction banquet has grown and matured through the years. Taking inspiration from the galas that were part of the Faculty’s golden anniversary year a short time ago, the annual banquet has become as much a celebration of relationships as it is about individual achievement.

“When I arrived, I began the process of getting to know all of you personally and building relationships,” Faculty Dean Dr. Anthony Iacopino explained in his welcoming remarks. “I’m happy to say that many of those relationships have grown into true friendships and my wife Sharon and I are very grateful for accepting us into this wonderful Faculty family.”

Ms. Signe Jewett, the recipient of the award for the School of Dental Hygiene, recalled how her years at the University of Manitoba inspired her to take on leadership roles in the field.

“I was excited about my profession and I wanted to contribute my beliefs to the advancement of my future and the future of those still to come in such a rewarding career,” she said.

The warmth of the evening was unmistakable, as noted by Mr. John Kearsey, Vice President (External) who was on hand for the event.

“It is gratifying for us to see that the university remains for you such an important part of your lives,” he said. “Congratulations to all of you for making the university proud of you and a proud place today. I know you are trailblazers and the people that come after you are going to continue to represent the University the way you have.”

Dr. Cottick reminded those in the house that the 2012 event has been confirmed for next year’s Homecoming weekend.

“I hope we continue to enjoy the company of each other in the pleasure of honoring the best of dentistry and dental hygiene for years to come,” he said.
A Call to Action
Faculty academic helps sound alarm on growing epidemic

A Faculty of Dentistry academic took part in support of a call to action issued by North American paediatricians this summer to deal with the growing problem of Early Childhood Caries (ECC) among Indigenous children.

In a joint position statement, the Canadian Paediatric Society (CPS) and the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) said that ECC is a serious health problem in North American Indigenous communities that needs immediate attention.

The statement noted that in some Canadian Aboriginal communities, more than 90 percent of young children suffer from ECC in their primary teeth. The condition, more commonly referred to as childhood tooth decay or cavities, is very often painful and can affect a child’s ability to chew food, disrupt sleep patterns and cause problems with growth.

“I’ve seen cases where 18 of 20 baby teeth are rotted,” said Dr. Robert Schroth, one of the report’s co-authours, in an interview that was part of a national report filed by CBC Radio One. “Crowns have broken away and only little root stubs are left and sometimes little draining abscesses.”

As oral health practitioners are well aware, ECC is the most common paediatric infectious disease, one made even worse by poor dietary habits and oral hygiene. The effects go beyond the tooth and can have a significant influence on overall child health and well-being.

Dr. Schroth noted that the lack of access to care and the influence of other health determinants is why more than 2,300 children in Manitoba under the age of six undergo dental surgery in hospitals every year, at an average cost of $3,500 each.

“So you can already just start doing the math,” he adds.

The report caused something of a stir as national media outlets jumped on the story, leading to Dr. Schroth performing a series of interviews for various news services.

The statement was designed as a call to action for health-care providers and community workers to be allowed to do things like apply fluoride varnish and provide more guidance and awareness so parents don’t knowingly do things that could lead to tooth decay in their children.

“Baby drops a soother on the ground, mom picks it up and licks it off and gives it back to baby,” he said of a seemingly innocent event that can pass bacteria to the child. “It’s simple things like that.”

The statement highlighted prevention as the most effective weapon in combating the condition. It adds that effective solutions must involve collaboration between Aboriginal communities, primary health-care providers, policy makers, and public health practitioners working in those communities.

“Many physicians continue to view early childhood caries as a dental problem to be treated by dentists,” noted Dr. Steve Holve, co-author of the statement and member of the AAP. “We want to emphasize that Early Childhood Caries is an infectious disease; knowing that infectious diseases are problems in which paediatricians and primary care providers are experts. The skills of our dental colleagues are highly valued, but we hope to shift the focus of treatment for ECC to primary care providers and preventive measures such as topical fluoride varnishes.”

What Needs to Be Done
This summer, paediatricians in Canada and the U.S. issued a joint statement urging action on what they described as an epidemic of tooth decay among indigenous populations, children in particular. Among the recommendations:

- Prenatal screening for pregnant Aboriginal women that includes oral health promotion, with referral for dental care if needed.
- Access to dental professionals for Aboriginal infants before their first birthday.
- Well-child visits by physicians to educate parents and caregivers on proper oral hygiene and diet, including supervised use of fluoridated toothpaste after the first tooth has erupted.
- Provide oral health prevention and treatment services, including fluoride varnish to Aboriginal children.

Baseball, Burgers, Bumps & Bruises
Sports Day lives up to its usual billing

Thrills, spills, a battle of wills and some pain-killing pills: Sports Day 2011 featured a little bit of everything at the annual kick off to the new academic year this past September at Old Exhibition Park.

The day-long baseball and barbeque fest enjoyed a great turnout, matched only by highly spirited competition as students and faculty members engaged on the diamonds in a round-robin tournament.

One of the best Manitoba summers in recent years made for a letter-perfect day and near-ideal conditions for the friendly competition. And, as usual, there was no shortage of memorable moments, including many outstanding efforts put forth by the competitors.

After the dust had settled, the Class of 2012 repeated as event champs, capturing the Canine Cup, edging a feisty squad from Dental Hygiene. It was actually one of the best turnouts ever for Dental Hygiene, who took home the Plaque Plaque for best participation at the event. Also, Chelsea Robidoux of DH II took home the Prophy Trophy for top effort by a competitor.

And, like always, there were a few bumps and bruises to contend with including Dean Iacopino who pulled a hamstring, while Associate Dean, Dr. Mel Sawyer, had to contend with a jammed finger, among others. Overall, the day featured great camaraderie and plenty of action.

Congratulations to the Manitoba Dental Students Association for organizing another memorable event. See next page for photos.
Class of 2012
Canine Cup Champs!!!

Prophy Trophy winner Chelsea Robidoux (left) and Team Dental Hygiene take the Plague Plaque!

Emilie Cook
Class of 2015

Shawna Kufley
Class of 2014

Chelsea Hagen
DH Class of 2018
Charting a New Course, A New Voyage

New strategic plan to roll out in wake of successful “Drive for Top Five”

“Accept the challenges so that you may feel the exhilaration of victory.”

— General George S. Patton (1885-1945)

What a run it has been!
As we near the end of the initial five-year phase of our strategic plan, our “Drive for Top Five” nears completion as we have witnessed yet another year of significant and tangible growth in all areas of our nine “Pillars of Innovation.”

As seems to have been the pattern from Day One, our latest achievements appear as among our best. The Ross McIntyre Digital Imaging Centre with Cone Beam CT is fully operational, with students and regional practitioners alike lining up to reap the benefits of this fantastic new technology. I would be remiss not to mention the tremendous work done by the campaign committee led by Drs. Ernest Cholakis and Frank Hechter as well as the alumni, faculty and support staff who so quickly and fully committed toward the effort.

Our imaging centre comes on the heels of recent achievements in implant dentistry education/training, made possible in large part through the outstanding efforts of alumnus Dr. Gerald Niznick who has graciously included his alma mater in his worldly vision of the future of oral health science and community service.

You will find both of these landmark events in the history of our Faculty chronicled in the pages of this edition of the Alumni-Faculty Bulletin.

And now, almost five years later, look where we are positioned.
It’s been yet another great year for our Faculty of Dentistry, another year of progress, of achievement, and ultimately of success. We have indeed reached incredible new heights.

And while there is no magical piece of paper that tells us we are one of the top five dental schools in North America, I can tell you that we have arrived.

The evidence is all around you; the way people talk about our school, our image from people on the street and our colleagues in the dental profession.

What’s hot in the dental profession, what is the top dental school in North America? The University of Manitoba is always top of mind. It’s what people are talking about. It’s more than a piece of paper.

As we look to end the chapter and turn the page five years later, we can look back, with a collective sense of pride and accomplishment. And while much has been done, there is still much more to do.

Now the time has come for a new challenge; one that is perhaps deeper, more fundamental and deeply rooted in its focus, goals and ambitions.

Centred around enhancing the student experience and our clinical operations, our new strategic approach will be to build upon the enhancements and improvements that we have initiated in our education and work environments; to ensure that our day-to-day operations are the best that they can be; making sure that our clinics are running in the most efficient manner for our patients and our students; committing to the imperative that our students maintain their status as the best prepared graduates in Canada.

Just as the great explorer Jacques Cartier made his many voyages to this new land he called Canada, we will embark on a new journey of discovery where wondrous things await.

As the first European to explore inland in North America, Cartier saw past the vast expanse of this New World to discover the glorious land within; a land rich in treasure and opportunity.

Our treasure is that which surrounds us: outstanding students and faculty, a re-energized alumni community, an enhanced reputation as a centre of oral health excellence, one that is concerned not only with excellence in academics and research, but that is also armed with a renewed sense of purpose in our community outreach and commitment towards the betterment of society overall.

Our opportunity is now to fortify and build upon the foundation in place; to entrench our international reputation by ensuring our students receive the best possible education and training available today; to ensure our facilities and technology are always first-class and cutting edge; to reach out to disadvantaged and underserved communities towards improving their quality of life and to end the generational cycle of poor oral health.

Just as Cartier depended on the assistance and commitment of those around him, we too are asking for your energy and expertise in helping us realize this new vision for our Faculty.

I invite you to join us as a clinical instructor and share the wisdom of your years in practice with some of the brightest young minds of today. I am convinced you will find this to be a fulfilling and rewarding experience, just as so many of our other part-time instructors have; some of whom you will read about within the pages of this publication.

Whether you are a specialist or general practitioner, recent graduate or long-time alumnus, we need you to succeed. By joining us, you will ensure that the whole becomes greater than the sum of the parts and that the grand reputation of this proud institution will only be enhanced and improved for years to come.

I welcome and encourage you to contact myself, Dr. Mel Sawyer (Associate Dean Clinics) or Dr. Aaron Kim (Clinic Director) about joining our cause.

Together we can establish a legacy that will not only serve as a model to our current and future students but will also set the standard for all to follow in our profession today.

Grazie.
Third Time A Charm
Triumvirate for Head of Preventive Dental Science

One of the longest serving academics at the Faculty of Dentistry will be remaining with the institution at least for another five-years.

Dr. William Wiltshire (left) has been reappointed to a five-year term position as Head of the Department of Preventive Dental Science, Faculty of Dentistry, beginning January 1, 2012 until December 31, 2016. It is the third consecutive appointment for the doctor who came to Canada from South Africa several years ago.

“I am pleased to announce that the Board of Governors Executive Committee has approved our recommendation,” Faculty Dean, Dr. Anthony Iacopino, said in making the announcement. “Dr. Wiltshire has proven he is up to this challenge as he has done an exemplary job over the last 10 years in this role and for many years in his other roles at the Faculty.”

Dr. Wiltshire joined the Faculty as Professor and Head of Orthodontics and Director of the Graduate Orthodontic programme 15 years ago. He was later appointed head of the newly re-established Department of Preventive Dental Science which incorporates the divisions of orthodontics, paediatric dentistry, community dentistry and the Centre for Community Oral Health (CCOH) in 2001. He was re-appointed as head in 2007 for a second, five-year term.

Dr. Wiltshire, together with division heads Drs. Doug Brothwell and Charles Lekic, were instrumental in the re-establishment of PDS as a full-fledged department in the Faculty of Dentistry. During his tenure as head, the department has thrived and prospered through the years.

The Center for Community Oral Health (CCOH) within PDS is recognized as one of North America’s premier outreach teaching units and, in July this year, PDS added a Graduate Pediatric Dentistry programme to its offerings.

In addition, the Graduate Orthodontic Program, established 45 years ago, has been served by Dr. Wiltshire as head for the past 15 years, making him the longest serving orthodontist in that position in the history of the programme.

During his tenure as Head of Orthodontics, Dr. Wiltshire has pioneered the computerization of the programme with such unique features as “finger-print biometrical technology,” upgrading the clinic with new, modern equipment, installing the first digital radiology equipment in the orthodontic clinic in the Faculty, establishing a socioeconomically conscious in-reach programme in orthodontics for access-deprived patients and pioneering a new system where undergraduate students are afforded the opportunity of working side-by-side with orthodontic residents during their clinical experience in orthodontics.

Dr. Wiltshire has also helped produce a list of graduates who rank amongst the top practitioners in the field, boosting Canada’s reputation as a world leader in the profession.

Shuffling the Deck
New places for familiar faces, plus a new member to the team

The New Year will see a number of familiar faces still roaming the halls on the Bannatyne Campus, but in somewhat different roles than before.

Topping that list is Dr. Raj Bhullar, the newly appointed Associate Dean (Research). The appointment of the former head of Oral Biology was confirmed by the Dean of Dentistry earlier this fall.

“Dr. Bhullar brings many years of experience to the position as he has been an actively funded researcher, is thoroughly familiar with various funding agencies/resources nationally and internationally, and has a proven track record as a successful mentor for faculty and students,” Dr. Anthony Iacopino said. “He has been involved with fundraising activities targeted to research/laboratory renovations and continues to work with the university to secure a research chair for Oral Biology.”

Dr. Bhullar’s appointment comes on the heels of Dr. J. Elliott Scott being named the new head of Oral Biology. Both will their terms in their new roles as of January 1, 2012. Dr. Scott previously served as Associate Dean (Research).

In other moves, Dr. Anthony Nowakowski was recently promoted from Lecturer to a tenure track Assistant Professor. As many may be aware Dr. Nowakowski has coordinated the Dentistry IV GP Clinic for the past several years. He is also the Division Head for Inter-professional Dentistry within the Restorative Department.

Restorative also recently welcomed a new addition to its team with Dr. Rodrigo Sanches Cunha named Assistant Professor in endodontics. He arrived with his family in early September.

Dr. Cunha (right) has been an Assistant Professor at the Sao Leopoldo Mandic Centre since 2001 in the Division of Endodontics.

He has taught at the pre-clinical and clinical levels; has been a guest speaker at many events in Brazil. He has published a multitude of papers and abstracts in several Brazilian journals as well as international journals such as the Journal of Endodontics, Australian and European Journals of Dentistry and the Journal of Oral Sciences, just to name a few.

The Faculty of Dentistry congratulates all on their new appointments.
Lucky 13: The Royal College of Dentists of Canada held its annual Convocation on Saturday, September 24 at the Delta Winnipeg. There were several Graduates and faculty members of the University of Manitoba who were awarded their fellowship. Also present were other Fellows and Manitobans who participate in the Fellowship examination process. Getting together for a group shot (above) were (from left to right): Dr. Cecilia Dong (96), Dr. Lee McFadden (Vice President of the RCDC), three new fellows: Dr. Reem Atout (DDSS instructor), Mr. Ross McIntyre, Dr. Mardana Nematollahi (10), along with Dr. Colin Foster (former OS part-time faculty), Dr. John Curran, new fellow Dr. Michael Barczak (07), Dr. Kulbir Manhas (07), Dr. Igor Pesun (87), new fellow Dr. Jared Rykiss (08), Dr. William Christie (64) and Dr. Matthew Ng (02).

Mr. Ross McIntyre (above), former Executive Director of the Manitoba Dental Association, and after whom the digital radiology center at the Faculty of Dentistry is named, received an honorary degree from the Royal College of Dentists of Canada.

On Saturday, September 23, 2011, the Royal College of Dentists of Canada held its convocation ceremony in Winnipeg. Among the alumni from the Faculty receiving a Fellowship in the College were: Gary Finkleman (04), in periodontics Liang (Kevin) Li (04), Babak Nurbakhsh (04) and Matthew Saper (07) in endodontics, Christie Laberge (06), Derek Pollard (07) and Jared Rykiss (08) in orthodontics, Robert Pesun (05) in paediatric dentistry and Michael Barczak (07) in prosthodontics. These recent graduates from post-graduate specialty programmes were examined by peers and now have the portable FRCD(C) degree.

At the same convocation ceremony of the Royal College of Dentists, Mr. Ross McIntyre, retired Executive Director of the Manitoba Dental Association, was conferred an Honorary Fellowship. Honorary Fellow Ross joins a distinguished group of Manitobans who have received the same degree including: Dr. George A. Brass, Dr. P. Ralph Crawford, Dr. M. H. Garvin, Dr. J. M. Grahame, Dr. Ron E. Jordan, Dr. F. James Marshall and Dr. Arthur Schwartz.

Simona Pesun (97) has successfully completed the American Board of Endodontics board examinations and is a Diplomate of the ABE, as well as raising two boisterous little boys with husband, Patrick McManus (00).

Babak Nurbakhsh (04) is finishing a three-year post graduate endodontic program at University of Toronto and last year secured significant funding from the American Association of Endodontics Foundation for a study using cone-beam computed tomography investigation on resolution of maxillary sinus mucositis.

Fred Weinstein (62) of Richmond, BC, was granted Life Fellowship in the International College of Dentists in 2010.

Aaron Kim (87), for the fourth time and with partial funding from the International College of Dentists, has been able to travel to Guatemala under the auspices of the Grace Community Church Project in Guatemala, to provide emergency dental care to a segment of Mayan people there last year.

Cliff Swanlund (76) of Calgary AB, is serving as chair of the Cone Beam Computed Tomography committee and is on the Conscious Sedation Task Force of the Alberta Dental Association and College (ADA+C).

Wayne Acheson (74), after seven long years in office, is stepping down as the Canadian Academy of Endodontics Executive Secretary. His commitment to making the CAE a better association for all its members is greatly admired.
Say ‘Hello’ to your new colleagues formerly known as the Class of 2011. Those who have now entered ‘the real world’ are: (top row from left): Hooman Mohandesan, Carol Lee, Kunit Nagra, Bao-Tran Nguyen, Jordan Pang, Elisa Spennato, Anis Sabet, Nirvani Umadat, Natalia Vidal, Kevin Vong, Robert Ward, Myong Yom (Dean Iacopino), (second row, left) Christopher Bolt, Darci Bonar, Asha Chahal, David Chen, Tiffany Cheung, Ryan Cormack, Leslie Dalton, Mark Dolyniuk, Lamiaa El Ghandour, Elena Ferrer, Michael Greene, Sunayna Gupta, Jenna Yusishen, (front, from left) Stephen Michaluk, Ross Maddaford, Adam Agpalza, Nawfal Al-Hashimi, Kevin Head, Nathan Jeal, Hee Jeong Kong, and My Le. Missing: Babak Soleymani.

Members for A Mission

Call for volunteers for Dominican outreach

Once more unto the breach, dear friends, once more.
— Henry the Fifth, William Shakespeare

O nce more, Winnipeg orthodontist and Faculty alumnus, Dr. R. Bruce McFarlane (84) is calling for volunteers to join a team of health-care professionals on their outreach mission that has been confirmed for the primary school spring break period in 2012.

“After lots of thought and planning, we are pleased to announce that the McFarlane Volunteer Mission 2012 will be to Cite Soleil Haiti with the Haiti Clinic organization,” Dr. McFarlane said.

The mission team is looking for volunteer members to join them for the trip that will run from March 22 - 26. The team will ideally feature a mix of dental and medical professionals for two full clinic days of service in the poverty stricken region of the Haitian capital.

“Expect to be busy,” Dr. McFarlane adds.

The group is planning to leave Winnipeg March 22-23 and arrive at Port Au Prince though Newark, and return on March 26. For Winnipeggers: airfare is estimated at $1,400 return.

Haiti Clinic is a non-profit organization that is dedicated to improving healthcare in the impoverished nation.

Those interested are invited to register at the Haiti Clinic website: haiticlinic.org. A fund-raiser is also in the works for Feb. 24, 2012 in Winnipeg. Details to follow.

False Start to Nowhere

Alumni’s plans takes unexpected twist

O ften times things don’t always go as planned. The latest example of this old adage comes from Dr. Abraham Harvey Kryger who was planning a trip to the Choktaw nation medical clinic in a place called Atoka, Oklahoma. The small community is located south east of Oklahoma City, directly west of Little Rock, Arkansas.

“For those in California, about the middle of nowhere,” he joked on his blog page in advance of the trek.

To prepare, Dr. Kryger (69) did what was necessary, including all appropriate paperwork and medical checks. He even cleared his calendar at his West Coast practice office. But then, a funny thing happened. Only two days before heading out, Dr. Kryger learned that his paperwork was not in order and he was subsequently denied the month-long assignment.

“This was most surprising since I had submitted all my credentials and already been approved,” he said. “I am disappointed to say the least. I spent a lot of time getting all my credentials together. I took a refresher Red Cross CPR course, got a chest X-ray to make sure I did not have TB and cancelled all the patients for November.”

In looking for a silver lining, the dentist turned medical practitioner chalked it up as a learning experience.

“I have learned a valuable lesson,” he notes. “There is no place like home.”

Dr. Kryger is online at blog.manpowercream.com.
MDHA Goes PINK!

Submitted by Tara Kinchen, RDH

For the first time ever, the Canadian Dental Hygienists Association joined the CIBC Run for the Cure as a national team affiliation.

A total of 14 teams across the country joined the CDHA affiliation, including our own team, Brush for the Cure. With an original goal of raising $10,000 across the country, I think it is safe to say that this event was wildly successful with a grand total of $32,404.40 raised!

And, to top it off, our Manitoba Dental Hygienists Association team was the second best in Canada in raising funds for this most worthy cause. We are delighted to report that our team raised $6,922.50.

As team captain, and especially as someone with those nearest and dearest to me having been affected in the past and present by this very serious, life-threatening disease, it was truly heartwarming to see our group embrace this event. We banded together to support the MDHA by either running, walking, cheering from the sidelines or donating to this worthy cause.

I would like to offer my sincere thanks to all who came out and took part. You have all played a role in helping the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation move towards their goal of creating a future without breast cancer!

With your help, Manitoba can step out of the second place shadow. I encourage you and yours to join the MDHA's team in 2012.

Some of you may join the team to generate awareness. For others, it may be a tribute to a patient or a loved one. Whatever the reason, it is hard to resist the team spirit and energy at this event.

Whether you are a Registered Dental Hygienist, family of a Registered Dental Hygienist, or work with a Registered Dental Hygienist (you get the point!), you are all welcome to join the MDHA’s team!

For more information, or to be included in any upcoming announcements for the MDHA’s team, please contact myself, Tara Kinchen, at taraleek@mts.net. I look forward to hearing from you!

Breaking It Down
MDHA team posts big numbers at national fund-raising event

You might say that Brush for the Cure really cleaned up at the recent CIBC Run for the Cure event this past summer as the Manitoba team placed very well among others across the country. Here’s how it all played out among the CDHA teams:

- Brush for the Cure placed second out of 14 teams across the country in total funds raised with $6,922.50!
- Brush for the Cure placed third out of 14 teams in the number of participants recruited.

Two Brush for the Cure teammates also placed in top 10 for funds raised for CDHA affiliation:

- Joanna Asadoorian placed first out of 270 in the country for funds raised with a whopping $5,300!
- Tara Kinchen placed fifth out of 270 in the country for funds raised contributing $575 to the team’s total.

Congratulations to all team members on an exceptional effort.
The POWER of Persistence

AOD winner shows what diligence can do

“Signe has not only sat on every committee on the MDAH, but she probably chaired it,” said Harriet Rosenbaum in her introductory remarks at the awards banquet. “I spoke with Signe last night and we were laughing as we were reminiscing over the number of committees we sat on and we couldn’t remember them all.”

“I wanted to contribute my beliefs to the advancement of those still to come in such a rewarding career.” — Ms. Signe Jewett

Through the years, Ms. Jewett has done her share of heavy lifting in the name of dental hygiene in addition to her more than 30 years of service as a practitioner in the field. It began in the days well before the existence of any regulatory or membership bodies, a time when the dental hygiene profession was in its early development stages.

Her dedication to the profession resulted in a life membership award from the Manitoba Dental Hygienist Association in addition to a distinguished service award from the Canadian Dental Hygiene Association.

“Signe’s valuable involvement as a key player in the legislative process aided in the evolution of dental hygiene becoming a self-regulated profession,” said Ms. Rosenbaum, last year’s AOD recipient for the School of Dental Hygiene.

In addition to her work with professional associations, Ms. Jewett also maintained a long relationship with the Faculty, having served as an instructor and mentor with the School of Dental Hygiene for 12 years. This, in addition to a professional career in the office of Dr. Marty Greenfeld, a position she has held almost since her graduation in 1980.

The Director of the School of Dental Hygiene applauded this year’s awardee for her quiet dedication to the profession.

“She has made her contributions in a continuous and quietly passionate way, leading by her example as a role model, starting from her days as a dental hygiene student,” Professor Joanna Asadoorian said.

Yet in spite of the impressive volume of service that earned her the honour, Ms. Jewett said getting involved was simply the right thing to do.

(Continued on page 25. See Alumni)

Dental Hygiene Alumni Association Underway
New Dental Hygiene group in formative stage

The wheels are in motion! And if all goes according to plan, there will soon be a new alumni association for graduates of the School of Dental Hygiene.

“We, the members of the executive committee, are in the process of forming the University of Manitoba School of Dental Hygiene Alumni Association,” said Cindy Isaak-Ploegman (DH 89), president of the alumni association. “We are well on our way to completing our constitution and by-laws and will soon be able to claim status as a non-profit organization and serve you the Alumni and members of the dental hygiene community.”

Members of the UMSDHAA committee also include Kyle Conrad, Amy Cartman, Tara Lee Szajkowski, Lorraine Glassford, Kristen Stevenson, Deanna Mackay, Prof. Joanna Asadoorian, Diane Girardin, Sheryl Sloshower, Stephanie Champagne and Larissa Bubnowicz.

The group will be releasing updates and additional information as it comes available and is hoping that school alumni will embrace the new association.

“We hope our alumni and the dental hygiene community will rally in to support and make this an exciting and historic new venture,” Ms. Isaak-Ploegman said.
Doing More with the Same

Challenge is now to heighten service levels with limited resources

At a recent national health conference, discussion surrounded how to sustain Canada’s health-care system given the limited resources available. An important point was made that the health-care sector needs to do ‘more with the same.’ This resonated with me as this is our continuous aim here at the Faculty of Dentistry and the School of Dental Hygiene.

As I begin my journey as director of the School, it strikes me that despite being an educational institution, the School’s relationship with our community of dental hygienists is as important as the one we have with our students. It helps us to do more with the same!

This has become more evident as we forge ahead with our University of Manitoba School of Dental Hygiene Alumni Association, our MDHA/SDH Mentorship Programme, our BScDH Degree Completion Programme and various other initiatives happening at the School of Dental Hygiene.

Specifically, I am pleased to report that the committee developing the alumni association has been meeting regularly and is making progress regarding the development of this new fraternal group.

The committee has a broad range of representation of alumni and they have begun developing their mission and constitution.

This year, the School and Manitoba Dental Hygienists Association will be working together to further strengthen our joint mentorship programme so that both students and mentors find the experience to be increasingly rewarding. This programme helps our students transition from the educational to the professional working environment.

Similar to our dentistry counterparts, our mentors continually comment to me on how much they learn from our students and how much they gain from the experience.

Our School is also working on modifying the structure of our BScDH Degree Completion Programme with the aim of being able to accommodate a larger cohort of students and make programming more accessible to our Alumni and other practicing dental hygienists in their quest to complete their degree and pursue further studies.

Another initiative our School is involved in is the Faculty of Dentistry Continuing Professional Development Department.

The Faculty and the School are aiming to dramatically improve the offerings and implementation of the continuing education we make available.

For example, clinical updates, local anaesthesia refreshers and various other courses will be available in order to increasingly contribute to our Alumni’s continuing competency efforts.

So while your formal, entry level education may be over, we hope that we can continue to be a resource for you in your lifelong learning activities.

I encourage you to continue to visit our burgeoning School of Dental Hygiene website for our progress on these and other initiatives.

And, as always, I welcome your feedback and participation in our many activities.

I wish you and your family and friends a joyous holiday season!

Prof. Joanna Asadoorian
AAS (DH), BScD (DH), MSc

Where the Heart Is
 DH Class of 71 marks milestone

The School of Dental Hygiene continued its long-standing tradition of welcoming former students back during Homecoming Weekend with members of the Class of 1971 returning for their 40th anniversary.

“Our reunion was a great success. Many great comments from all,” reports Naomi Turner, who helped coordinate the event.

A small group of the gathering turned up at the Bannatyne Campus for a tour of the place during the Faculty’s Open House on Homecoming Weekend. The group included: (top, from left) Prof. Asadoorian, Susan Haglund, Prof. Lavigne, (front, from left) Naomi Turner, Christine Wogberg and Beverley Schubert.
BIBLIOGRAPHY

Publications of Faculty and Alumni of the University of Manitoba


Remember

(from page nine)

Last year’s hygiene recipient noted that after roughly 30 years of active service in the field, it seems as though there is little that Ms. Jewett has not done. “I’ve had first-hand experience with Signe as an enthusiastic student and I’ve had the experience of teaching alongside her at the School of Dental Hygiene and I’ve had the experience of working alongside her as a tireless volunteer for the Manitoba Dental Hygienists Association,” Ms. Rosenbaum said. “If there is anyone who is deserving of this recognition it is Signe.”

The achievements of this year’s recipients seemed a perfect complement to the theme and spirit of the evening. Faculty Dean Anthony Iacopino noted how the two AOD winners embodied the core elements of what makes the University of Manitoba special and unique. “We’re here to experience fellowship and celebrate our relationships and the common core that binds us together as a family; that core revolves around our Faculty. It’s been yet another great year for our Faculty of Dentistry,” Dr. Anthony Iacopino said in his opening remarks of the evening. “Hearty congratulations to you both on this well deserved recognition.”

The annual celebration drew another packed house to the beautiful Promenade Ballroom in this historical provincial landmark; the elegant surroundings helping to set the tone for the gala event. Included in that number was the entire cohort of graduate students from the Department of Orthodontics, senior students from dentistry and dental hygiene, a pair from the Class of 1962: Drs. Biruta Osins and Gord Hall, along with Dr. David Goerz (92) who represented his late father, Dick.

To mark the occasion, the University of Manitoba Dental Alumni Association announced it would now offer free AOD banquet tickets to all alumni who mark their 50th anniversary of graduation.

In addition to those who were there, Dr. Cottick also took a moment to acknowledge and pay tribute to two Alumni of Distinction winners who recently passed: Drs. Taras Snihurstovsky and Hester Rumberg. In sharing some reflections, Dr. Cottick noted how Dr. Snihurstovsky also impacted and influenced those around him.

“The first thing that came to mind when I received an email from the Faculty alerting me to his passing was who is going to be the next, most memorable personality of the dental profession in Manitoba,” Dr. Cottick said. “I realized that no one could carry out that banner because Dr. Snee was one-of-a-kind; that we were lucky in Manitoba dentistry to count as our own. Snee and Frank are just two of the representatives of the rich history of the University of Manitoba, Faculty of Dentistry; a Faculty that has, for over 50 years, quietly produced some of the best dentists in North America and has already gained a reputation as one of the best dental schools in North America. Ours is truly the little dental school that could and I can assure you that it has.”
Around Bannatyne
Activities of alumni, faculty, and students of the Faculty of Dentistry

Presentations:
Dr. AM Iacopino: Managing oral health in cognitively impaired elderly and institutional settings. Manitoba Long Term and Continuing Care Association annual meeting, Winnipeg, MB.

Dr. GJ Kirouac and Dr. S Li: Presentations and faculty visit: China Medical University, Shenyang, China, September 29, 2011.

Dr. GJ Kirouac and Dr. S Li: Presentation and faculty visit: Institute of Psychology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, China, October 13, 2011.

Dr. RB McFarlane: Removable orthodontic appliances, and TMD splints, at the Toronto Academy of Dentistry 74th annual winter clinic, November 4, 2011.

Dr. R Sanches Cunha, DDS Msc PhD: Lecture at the third annual meeting of the Brazilian Endodontic Society, Campinas, Sao Paulo, November 5, 2011.

Dr. U Odiatu (89): Two presentations at the American Dental Association’s 152nd annual conference in Las Vegas; also invited to speak in St Louis, Missouri at the Mid Continent Dental Congress and at a University of Toronto, Faculty of Medicine retreat in November.

Poster Presentations:


Li S, Kirouac GJ: Comparative study of the source of inputs to the anterior and posterior aspect of the paraventricular nucleus of the midline thalamus. Society for Neuroscience annual meeting, Washington DC, Abstract #408.04.


Grant Recipients:
Drs. P Chelikani and Dr. R Schroth: Operating grant from the Manitoba Institute of Child Health.

Dr. K Duan (Oral Biology): Health Sciences Foundation grant for his molecular microbiology research program.

Dr. Robert Schroth: Evaluating the impact of the Free First Visit program on young children’s oral health in Manitoba. The Manitoba Institute of Child Health. $40,000 (2011 PI)


Publishing:
Audrey Penner (DH 74) recently completed a post doctoral fellowship in advanced analytics in addition to co-publishing two papers focused on labour force development through adult education; also published an international paper as well as delivering international presentations this year in China and Poland.

Jill Nield-Gehrig, RDH MA, has recently had the third edition of her text Foundations of Periodontics for the Dental Hygienist (with co-author Donald E Willmann, DDS, MS) published by Wolters Kluver/Lippincott Williams and Wilkins. Professor Nield-Gehrig is Dean Emeritus, Division of Allied Health and Public Service Education, Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College, Asheville North Carolina. Nee Shiffer, Jill taught for several years at the School of Dental Hygiene, University of Manitoba.


Offshore Travel:
Dr. PC Lekic and Dr. RE Diamond traveled to Israel November 2-12, 2011 to provide restorative dental treatment to disadvantaged children in Jerusalem. Working at the Dental Volunteers for Israel Clinic that provides services among needy children regardless of race or religion, they also delivered a lecture to the Faculty of the Dental School in Jerusalem.

Miscellaneous:
Dr. RB McFarlane exchanged marriage vows with Dr. Jintana Weerapan, 11-11-11 in Chicago, IL. Dr. Weerapan is an American pediatric nurse practitioner and volunteer on the medical/dental mission to Dominican Republic/Haiti in 2010.

Dr. R Schroth is serving on the Canadian Dental Association’s national coordinating working group on access to care for children and seniors.

Dr. Robert Diamond named the recipient of the 2011 Gold Heart Humanitarian of the Year award by Variety, the Children’s Charity of Manitoba. Award presented November 17, 2011.
Scratch one more off the list. Although the unit has been up and running for several months now the Faculty of Dentistry officially opened the Ross McIntyre Digital Imaging Centre this past Homecoming Weekend.

One of the Nine Pillars of Innovation, the centre allows for full digital imaging for the Faculty, students, their patients and the general community for the benefit of all involved.

“Diagnosis is the cornerstone of anything to do with dentistry so to have my name attached to this key element of patient care is certainly flattering to me,” said Ross McIntyre, in whose honour the campaign was struck, “and the fact that there is some legacy here that will be lasting with my name attached to it makes me feel very warm and pleased to be part of it.”

The Centre has actually been operating since January 1 of this year, thanks to the partnership of Carestream and Kodak and the generosity of donors, along with the dedicated efforts of Faculty academics and the staff in the radiography department who worked diligently to get up to speed on the new technology.

Capping off a very successful Homecoming weekend, the event marked the successful completion of the Ross McIntyre Digital Imaging Centre campaign, which kicked off in early 2010.

The opening was the culmination of months of work by a committee co-chaired by alumni members Drs. Ernest Cholakis and Frank Hechter, designed to ensure the centre’s long-term viability for the faculty and its many stakeholder groups.

The group raised $400,000 with $50,000 of that amount put into trust towards the maintenance and upkeep of the units and supporting technology.

Class campaigns of 1987 and 1992 also contributed significantly to the effort.

“To you, my heartfelt appreciation for having the foresight and vision to contribute to the future of this faculty and to the profession as we continue to educate and train our students and future graduates to make this a remarkable faculty,” Dr. Hechter said to the group assembled on that warm Saturday afternoon. “The faculty is only as good as its people. The bricks and mortar don’t necessarily make the faculty. To you I express my sincere appreciation.”

Also referred to as cone beam computed tomography (CBCT), digital radiography (also referred to as computed radiography) offers myriad benefits over old style X-ray technology for practitioners. Imaging is quick and detailed, which can be especially useful for a variety of oral health treatments, such as endodontic therapy, implant surgery, crown fitting and the placement of posts in endodontically treated teeth, among others.

The equipment is easy to use and reduces radiation exposure. The resulting images can then be digitally enhanced, manipulated and later stored as part of the patient’s permanent record.

To accommodate the arrival of the new technology, radiology department staff crammed a series of training sessions over the student holiday break last year to ensure the unit would be fully operational upon the resumption of classes. The Dean of Dentistry acknowledged the dedicated efforts of the staff that didn’t stop upon the installation of the new gear.

“We have support staff in this area who have taken the challenge to learn the new technology to try and maximize the way that we use it for our patients and they have gone above and beyond,” Dr. Anthony Iacopino said. “They didn’t have to be here today, but they wanted to show off their stuff and they wanted to make sure that the area looked nice and that anyone who wanted to see what we were capable of doing here would have that opportunity today.”

(Continued on page 23. See RMDIC.)

Drs. Patricia Kniet (87) and Sidney Fleisher (68) were among the many who turned out to the grand opening of the Ross McIntyre Digital Imaging Centre. The centre is also available to area practitioners.
Donor Honour Roll

The Faculty of Dentistry acknowledges the generosity and support of alumni, faculty, staff, corporate partners and friends who have generously given $10,000 or more to the Faculty of Dentistry during their lifetime as of March 31, 2011.

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Donor Honour Roll (Continued on next page)

Message from Philanthropy

What a week! The University of Manitoba hosted the annual Homecoming Celebration this September and the Faculty of Dentistry was a flurry of activity. The program launch for the Dr. Gerald Niznick First Nations Implant Dentistry programme was held in the main clinic as was the official Opening of the Ross McIntyre Digital Imaging Centre. It was also wonderful to welcome members of the Dental Hygiene Class of 1971 back to the school for a tour as part of their reunion.

Support for the Graduate Pediatric Dentistry Sedation Room has been wonderful. Construction continues on this project and we look forward to sending information on its completion and grand opening to donors of this project very soon.

The Department of Philanthropy is pleased and proud to announce that dentistry graduate and faculty member Dr. Frank Hechter has been awarded the Association of Fundraising Professionals Outstanding Volunteer Fundraiser award this year. Dr. Hechter received this award on National Philanthropy Day, November 18, 2011 at a ceremony at the Hotel Fort Garry. You will be able to watch a short video about his accomplishments on Shaw TV soon. Congratulations Dr. Hechter and thank you for your dedication to the faculty.

Also on the horizon for November is the fourth floor dedication ceremony. Now that renovations are complete, we are looking forward to hosting Dr. Tim and Mrs. Jennifer Dumore and the Dentistry Class of 1995 as we recognize their contributions to this project with the unveiling of special recognition plaques.

One last bit of news: I will be off on maternity leave for a year, beginning this November and will return in early winter of 2012. In my absence please contact the External Relations on Bannatyne office at 204-977-5615 or toll free at 1-800-330-8066 or by email at Ext_Rel_Bannatyne@umanitoba.ca. My colleagues will be happy to help you.

Until 2012.
Kyla Denisuik

(Continued on next page)
In addition to its immediate benefit in terms of preparing students for the practice office of tomorrow, Dean Iacopino said the Centre is also serving as a welcome and valuable resource to the practicing community today.

“We talk about the impact of this technology, about the practitioners in the community who are queuing up to refer patients here for images because they don’t have the technology in their practices,” Dr. Anthony Iacopino noted. “There will always be practitioners who can’t afford to make that investment or are happier to send their patients here for the low-cost imaging that we can provide for them. So Ross, as you’ve always done, dentistry in Manitoba will benefit from the things that you have done and what you stand for.”

Alumni of Distinction (from page 19)

“I was a dental hygienist and I should belong to the dental hygienists association,” she said in accepting the award. “I was excited about my profession and I wanted to contribute my beliefs to the advancement of my future and the future of those still to come in such a rewarding career.”

It wasn’t always easy. Balancing a career, raising a family and spending countless hours as a volunteer was taxing in the early days. It was a time when home computers were just being introduced into the mainstream world.

“I’m not sure how many of my lunch hours were taken up typing agendas, reports or meeting minutes because we didn’t have a home computer,” she recalled. “It performed only basic functions. There was no cut and paste option so there was lots of erasing and deleting and inserting, but I still managed to produce some pretty good papers. I think that was pretty phenomenal for that length of time.”

Although she has since cut back on her volunteer service, Ms. Jewett said she still plans to remain active in the field while devoting some of her free time to pursuits outside the profession and focus more on her family.

These days, she looks back fondly on her time spent in support of the profession.

“I am very proud of the growth of our provincial and national organizations,” she said. “We have come a long way and I am happy I was able to commit my small bit to the group.”

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It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Dr. Edward Chesko, 73, a wonderful husband, father, grandfather and man on October 10, 2011. He was surrounded by all his family.

Ed was born in Vita, Manitoba to Natalie and Michael Chesko. He spent his early years on the family farm in Tolstoi. He excelled in sports, especially baseball and hockey, and was invited to try out for the New York Rangers.

Although he loved sports, he initially pursued teaching as a career. After qualifying as a teacher at the age of 18, he taught school in Ridgeville, Manitoba before returning to the University of Manitoba where he earned his DMD (1964). Ed was accepted first into the Faculty of Medicine, but after the first term, his friends of the Class of 1964 were happy to see him choose to join the Faculty of Dentistry instead. He practiced general dentistry in Winnipeg before completing a Periodontal Degree at Boston University.

Ed loved his work, his community, his church, sports and gardening. But most of all he loved his family. He and his family moved to West Vancouver in 1972 where he practiced Periodontics for over 35 years and taught at UBC Dental School part-time as well as Vancouver Community College where he set up a scholarship for dental hygiene.

He established and led study clubs for his dental colleagues and attended many conventions to ensure that he was always on the top of his field. Ed was very well-respected by his patients and the dental community.

Ed was a wonderful father, both as a role model and a patient, loving, kind person. He played a central part in the upbringing of all his children and continued to be a source of inspiration and joy, even when his health was failing.

He was a devoted family man and provider. He loved his family污水处理他的grandchildren on when they played baseball, hockey and soccer.

Ed was predeceased his parents, Natalie and Michael Chesko and is survived by his sisters, Marcella and Victoria. His family, Elizabeth, his wife of 48 years, and children John (Vee), Jim, Jeff (Margaret), Jason (Kelly), and Jennifer (Andrew) as well as his adored grandchildren Jeremy, Jillian, Jakob, Brenton, Keenan, and Max will miss him very much. A kind, gentle, and generous man, his love and caring for his family was always evident. He will be dearly missed.

DIETMAR (DICK) GOERZ, DMD, FICD
1937 — 2011

On Monday, September 26, 2011 at Boundary Trails Health Centre, Dr. Dietmar Goerz, son, husband, father, grandpa, community builder, gentleman and man of faith passed away surrounded by his family.

Dick Goerz was the oldest of seven children of Jacob and Katie Goerz. During his childhood years the family was affected by revolution and war, moving several times in searching of a safe home. Dick was born in Curitiba, Brazil and from there the family moved to Germany, later Poland, finally arriving in Canada in 1948.

They settled in LaRiviere, MB and shortly thereafter bought a farm at Snowflake.

With hard work came success and the opportunity for Dick to continue his education at the University of Manitoba, Faculty of Dentistry. While studying there, he met Emily Warkentin. They married in 1962 and moved to Morden, MB. They were blessed with two children; son, David (DMD 92) and daughter, Caroline. Dick was a devoted family man and provider. He loved his career and was passionate in his practice of dentistry for 48 years. His life was defined by a God-given joy for living and respect for those around him. He was an avid promoter of the community and involved himself in many church and town activities.

The past two years, Dick spent many hours enjoying time with his grandchildren. Winter stays in Palm Springs with friends were 

enjoyed.
Fishing and golf were two of Dick’s passions. He was very proud of Minnewasta Golf Club and was a driving force behind its development over the years.

The family wishes to thank the medical teams at Cancer Care Manitoba and Boundary Trails Health Centre with special thanks to Dr. Bob Menzies and Dr. Leanne Nause for their care along Dick’s journey.

He is survived by his wife, Emily, daughter, Caroline, son, David and wife, Helena and grandchildren, Stephen, Danielle, and Kristopher. Also mourning his passing are his mother, Katie Goerz and six siblings and their spouses; Bill and Helga Guenter, Harry and Dolores Goerz, Eckhard and Joyce Goerz, John and Ingrid Friesen, Len and Anne Janzen and Paul and Heidi Goerz. Dick was predeceased by his father, Jacob.

Services were held September 30, at Westside Community Church in Morden. Donations may be made in Dick’s memory to the Tabor Home Fund 230 9th St. South, Morden, MB, R6M 1Y3 or to Inner City Youth Alive, 418 Aberdeen Avenue, Winnipeg, R2W 1V7.
— In Memoriam —

RICHARD GERALD KONZELMAN, DMD
1942 — 2011

We are devastated to announce the sudden passing of Richard, beloved husband, father, grandfather, brother and friend. Richard passed away at home Saturday, November 5 while pedaling his exercise bike and watching CNN.

He is survived by Ruth, his wife, business partner and soul mate; son Kurt and grandson Zachary; daughter Ailsa and her partner Mark Fortier. Richard is also survived by sister Connie Walton (Moe); brother Bud (Florence); brother Ed; sister Janet Hilderman (Randy); brother Ron; and brother Barry (Maggie). He will also be missed by aunts, nieces and nephews. Richard was predeceased by his parents Joseph and Agatha Konzelman and brother Glen in infancy.

Richard was born in Winnipeg on May 3, 1942. His love of the open road developed at an early age. As a toddler, he was frequently brought home from his wanderings by vigilant neighbours, ministers and nearby student nurses. As a preteen, he would ride the Winnipeg transit system from one end to the other, just to see where it went.

It came as no surprise that in later years he covered much of North America on his BMW motorcycles. On a couple of occasions he was joined on his annual road trip by Ailsa or Kurt. To him, as a father, those were special memories.

At an early age he developed an interest in all things mechanical and particularly aeromodelling. He and his brother Ed would work for hours on engines and planes for competition. Richard seriously considered a career as an aeronautical engineer until the demise of the Avro Arrow.

When the University of Manitoba opened their Faculty of Dentistry, he decided that dentistry might be the next best career.

Richard graduated in 1965, bought his first sports car and began his dental career in Selkirk, Manitoba. Little did he know how much he would enjoy his next 46 years as a dentist.

Richard was inquisitive, analytical and enjoyed discussion with his patients. His discussions more than once went from the dental chair to the parking lot where both Richard and the patient could be seen peering under the hood of the patient’s vehicle.

He enjoyed his patients immensely. They were part of his extended family.

Richard married Ruth Chappell, a 1966 graduate of the School of Dental Hygiene, in 1967. The couple moved to Selkirk, Manitoba shortly thereafter.

As a child Richard had grown up in a family that loved the outdoors and had a cottage. Once he was able to convince Ruth that she would grow to appreciate mosquitoes, no running water and an outdoor “biffy” the cottage at Red Rock Lake became the family retreat.

Ruth also learned that he considered a chainsaw to be an appropriate birthday gift for her. Over the years many happy family memories were created at Red Rock Lake.

Someone once described Richard as a “force” when he entered a room. He was gregarious but yet an intensely private person. Much to Ruth’s dismay, he was opinionated, very knowledgeable and usually always right.

Richard enjoyed politics, world news, history and a great scotch. He was an early riser and many of us were subjected to his early morning telephone calls reminding us “to seize the day.”

Loyal to his friends he would often go to great lengths to help them solve a problem, even when they may have not recognized it was a problem!

With his ebullient personality, he may have appeared over controlling to others. But underneath it all he encouraged Ruth, Kurt and Ailsa to pursue all opportunities that came their way and to do it with the best of their abilities. He was our cheerleader. A bit crusty on the outside but a marshmallow inside.

Richard was intensely proud of his children and there was a special place in his heart for grandson Zach.

His death has left a tremendous void in our lives but we gain consolation in knowing Richard lived life to the fullest, enjoyed every moment of it and is now riding free on the open road.

Cremation has taken place. A private family service was held. A celebration of Richard’s life took place on Thursday, November 10 at Rembrandt’s Bistro in Lockport, Manitoba. Flowers are gratefully declined. Richard once said he couldn’t think of a better place to live and work than Selkirk.

If you so desire, and in keeping with his wishes donations may be made in his memory to the Richard and Ruth Konzelman Fund c/o The Selkirk and District Community Foundation, Box 400 Selkirk, MB, R1A 2B3
MEMBERSHIP DRIVE 2012

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