

Dear Reader,

You can't go anywhere these days without hearing some gloomy news. The global recession is a hot topic that makes daily headlines. The media has sensationalized stimulus packages, telecast meetings of world leaders, and propagated fears of a depression. While the effects of the slowing economy can easily hit close to home, it is important to remember that many other issues plague the world and affect people globally. In an age of antibiotic-resistant bacterium, incurable cancers and other diseases, natural disasters and climate change, it's easy to fall into a state of despair about the nature of things. Is there a solution? In the words of the world's most famous British pop band, the Beatles, perhaps "All You Need is Love."



Our fifteenth issue brings you a medley of topics. Beginning with a special interest article on love, Deborah Kahan, Jessica Matecki, Simone Patel, Krina Patel, and Mohammas Sardar, give a scientific perspective on the mechanisms and addictive effects of intimacy and affection. Neil Dattani and Allan Jiang investigate the possible link between diabetes and global socioeconomic factors. Closer to home, Dolly Lin analyzes the incidence of liver cancer and how it impacts Canada's health care system. As an extra treat in this issue, our 2007-2008 President, Tyler Law, draws a comparison between combating climate change and implementing strategies in health care.

This is my last issue as President, and I must thoroughly acknowledge the amazing individuals who form the growing executive team for the Meducator. I am honoured to have worked with such a bright and talented group. To Jacqueline Ho, thank you for your effort and support, especially for this issue. Thanks to our meticulous editors: Veronica Chan, Randall Lau, Simone Liang, Siddhi Mathur, Navpreet Rana, Manan Shah, and Fanyu Yang – your work this year in ensuring the quality of articles was phenomenal. Considerable thanks goes out to the creative team – Stephanie Low, Andrew Yuen, and Ran Ran – for giving the professional touch to this publication and adding the fit and finish. To Avinash Ramsaroop, thank you for your development and maintenance of the website, an invaluable channel of information and communication with our readers. Finally, I would like to thank our Junior members: Ahmad Al-Khatib, Alyssa Cantarutti, Randal Desouza, Keon Maleki, Hiten Naik, and Sangeeta Sutradhar. Your energy is refreshing and your dedication to this initiative is commendable.

Since joining the Meducator four years ago, I have seen our output and communication of information grow considerably. Please visit our website, www.meducator.org, to view past issues, find information about submitting articles, and read our MedBulletin and MedWire updates. There are still numerous ways to expand this publication further, and I am excited to see where it ventures next. On behalf of all the writers and staff, we hope you enjoy this issue.

Sincerely,

Crystal Chung
B.H.Sc. IV

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