

councils, consultancies, or commissions, no more meetings, no more community soccer or lawn bowling, no more family time at Gambier Island.

I am only one of the many, many people sharing in the profound sadness of this loss.

—Peter Grantham, MD
West Vancouver

**Dr Harry N. Watson
1922–2005**

Harry was born in Edmonton, attended the University of Michigan for 1 year, and then UBC for 3 years. He received his medical training at McGill University, graduating in 1948. He interned in Montreal and Vancouver and then established a general practice in New Westminster. He served on the advisory board of St. Mary's Hospital, was chief of staff at Royal Columbian Hospital, and then president of the Westminster Medical Association.

Harry was interested in medical politics and economics, not only at the local level, but also at the provincial and national levels. He was elected to the BCMA executive, chaired the Economics Committee from 1956 to 1959, and became president of the BCMA from 1961 to 1962. He was a representative for the CMA on the 1962 Royal Commission on Health and in 1963 was a member of the Special Committee on Principles of the CMA.

In 1988, the BCMA granted Harry lifelong membership. He gave up his practice in 1989 and subsequently retired to Arbutus Ridge on Vancouver Island, where he and his wife happily pursued their art interests and golf until his death in April 2005. He is survived by his wife, Mary Jane; three sons, Paul, Chris, and Geoff; daughter, Victoria; grandchildren, Emily and Evan; brother, Richard; and sister, Glenna.

—G. Fyffe, MD
New Westminster

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New BCMA Partners scholarship

The BCMA Partners have good news for mature students this year. The Partners scholarship panel has been receiving a rising number of applications from students returning to school to complete a degree or earn a second degree, and following a successful year of fundraising, the Partners are now offering a third \$500 scholarship to honor applicants in this category.

Ms Louise Oyler, past president of the Partners, says, "It's hard to compare the extracurricular accomplishments of high school students being supported in the home to mature students who are supporting themselves and perhaps a family. These students should be recognized in a category of their own."

The quality of applications for the scholarship program continues to be impressive, and the judging process is challenging. Applications are assigned a number and forwarded to the panel with names and contact information removed to assure anonymity. They are graded in categories such as marks, athletics, arts, and volunteer and community work. Evaluation of these accomplishments is the easy part of the judging process. Once the applications are narrowed down based on those scores, the panel must look for extraordinary qualities in each student in order to make their difficult final decision. Students who have overcome some sort of adversity or personal challenge, or who have shown an extraordinary level of community service, tend to make the final cut. Cover letters also play an important role. Ms Lori Garg, treasurer of the Partners, says, "All applicants are high achievers, all are involved in things besides academics. We need

to see something beyond that. Some cover letters are written so well that by the time you finish the letter you feel like you know them."

The Partners fundraising efforts are greatly valued by scholarship recipients. Mr Ryan Wilson, one of the successful applicants from 2005, is in his first year at the University of Calgary, studying biosciences. Mr Wilson contends that winning his scholarship helped to increase his confidence so that he now has the grades and determination to get into medical school, and he says that the money helped toward paying his tuition. He has greatly enjoyed his first year at university and welcomes the challenges of pursuing his career in medicine.

Applications for Partners scholarships will be accepted until 1 May 2006, and successful applicants will be notified by 30 May. Information and applications can be found online at www.bcma.org, in the members' section.

—Tara Lyon
BCMA Communications

**BCMA Annual
Convention**

Your annual opportunity to mingle with fellow members!

Join us at this year's BCMA Annual Convention, 10 June 2006, at the Sheraton Wall Centre Hotel in downtown Vancouver, BC.

Save time by registering in advance, either online or by calling Ms Lorie Janzen at 604 638-2877 in Vancouver, or toll free at 1 800 665-2262, local 2877.

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