

## Perfect formation

I look up from the old park bench  
on the first day of spring  
They flock  
in perfect formation  
white feathered bullets  
like silent shadows across the calm azure sky  
gliding together  
without a word  
a gentle dance  
smooth and relaxed  
though each knows how hard the journey  
to beat one's wings against the wind  
for a destination to come  
and a future unknown

I look up from the old medical unit chair  
on their first day of school  
They flock  
imperfect formation  
white short-coated exclamation points  
like nervous emboli across the  
    busy pale hallway  
clustering together  
with hopeful words  
a frenetic shuffle  
stochastic and excited  
as each will learn how hard  
    the journey  
to beat one's wings against  
    the wind  
for a destination to come  
and a future unknown

—Eric Cadesky, MD, CM

---

Dr Cadesky is a family physician in Vancouver, a clinical instructor at the University of British Columbia, and medical coordinator at the Louis Brier Home and Hospital. Dr Cadesky is also chair of the Practice Survival Skills conference at the University of British Columbia and serves on the Doctors of BC Board of Directors as a District 3 delegate.