

# Obituaries

We welcome original tributes of less than 300 words; we may edit them for clarity and length. Obituaries may be emailed to [journal@doctorsofbc.ca](mailto:journal@doctorsofbc.ca). Include birth and death dates, full name and name deceased was best known by, key hospital and professional affiliations, relevant biographical data, and a high resolution head-and-shoulders photo.



## Dr Archibald Douglas Young 1926–2021

With great sadness, we announce the passing of Dr Archie Young on 13 November 2021, in Chilliwack.

Archie was born on a farm in Keir Village, Dumfriesshire, Scotland, in 1926, the sixth of eight children of John Young, a dairy farmer, and his wife Mary, a schoolteacher.

When Archie was three, the family, along with a herd of 24 Ayrshire dairy cows and one bull, immigrated to Vancouver, where John was to manage the farm on the new Point Grey campus of the University of British Columbia. Two years later, the world economic crash forced massive cuts to the university's budget, and John's job was terminated. However, John convinced the university to let him run the farm as a working farm, and with a concession to deliver milk on the University Endowment Lands, the family made a life there for 20 years. When his older brothers left to fight in World War II, 14-year-old Archie rose each day at 5:30 a.m. to deliver milk and then rushed off to University Hill School, where he was known to fall asleep in class. Until the end of his life, he would reminisce fondly about growing up on the farm at UBC.

Archie received a Bachelor of Science degree from UBC in 1947, and later that year he began medical school at McGill University after a 5-day bus ride from Vancouver to Montreal. He interned at Montreal General Hospital, and it was there, while laid up in hospital for a short time, he was cared for by a young nurse, Beatrice Clarke. They were married on Boxing Day 1951 and soon moved to Vancouver, where Archie did a year of postgraduate training at Shaughnessy Hospital. In 1953 he began general practice in Hope, BC, as one of only two doctors in the town, later moving down the road to Chilliwack. In 1962, to his eternal gratification, Archie partnered in his medical practice with his younger brother Drew, and they practised in the same clinic together until Archie's retirement in 1997.

To fully describe and do justice to Archie's professional life in this space is simply not possible. He was a beloved family doctor for the community of Chilliwack for 45 years. With a strong foundation of training, an enquiring mind, a humble demeanor, and a caring and understanding nature, Archie possessed a full breadth of tools that made for an exemplary medical career. His memory for events throughout his career (and life) was tremendous. As a strong patient advocate, he could put patients at ease and make them feel better with just a visit, no matter what their ailment was. Archie's outstanding community service of 45 years of medical practice was recognized by the Canadian Medical Association with a Senior Membership Award in 1996.

Archie is survived by his four children, Doug (Leonie), Claire (Tom), Stuart (Cynthia), and Ross (Tannis); seven grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and his youngest sister, Jean Smith.

—Young Family



## Dr Gail Verlaine Dickinson 1944–2022

Gail and I became fast friends during our first year of UBC Medical School in 1966. We were both from small towns, from out of the province, she from Saskatchewan and I from New Brunswick. The UBC program at that time had a quota system for women, and we called ourselves "the token 10." Gail's ambition to become a doctor started at age 7 when she noticed that her local doctor had a house with a tennis court, which he used regularly. It was not wealth that got her attention, but the way her doctor was enjoying life to the fullest. That's what she wanted.

Gail did a 2-year residency in New Zealand and loved the country so much she stayed another 3 years. She sailed the South Seas on her 38-foot sailboat, *Coruba*, and as captain, she had an all-woman crew. On returning to Canada, she bought a little cabin in Rossland to be close to the ski hills (she was a champion downhill racer) and worked as a GP in Trail.

Still, the world was calling her. She took a job in Saudi Arabia as an ER physician because it afforded her access to travel the globe. There she met her husband of 30 years, Naren Simone, and alongside work, they enjoyed skiing, snorkeling, diving, kayaking, and hiking.

But their real love was international travel. In all, she visited 128 countries.

Gail had amazing resilience. She survived cancer four times. First it was breast cancer on one side, then the other. While in remission from that she was diagnosed with leukemia, which was successfully treated, but it reoccurred. I saw her in the oncology ward at Vancouver General Hospital. She told me there was a 15% chance of survival and that she would be part of that 15%. She was right. After recovering in India she went back to work in the Middle East.

When Gail retired in 2008, she and Naren moved to Sidney, BC, but they were continually on the move. Winters were spent oil painting in Indio, California, and skiing in Rossland, and summers in Sidney and Rossland. She loved her flower garden in Rossland and was a regular at Butchart Gardens. She was a very accomplished and prolific painter, a skill she learned in Abu Dhabi.

When she learned that she had lower motor neuron disease, she had already faced death many times. We spent the last year telling each other funny stories.

Gail was a brilliant doctor and a great friend, and she had an extraordinary zest for life. She always looked for the good in people, made friends easily, and was full of cheer and good spirit. She insisted on celebrating her life while she was still alive, and when the final moment came, she said adieu to this world while sipping Dom Pérignon. She died at home in Sidney on 13 January 2022. She is survived by her husband, Naren Simone; her sister, Marilyn; and two brothers, Gary and Barry.

—Mary Conley, MD  
Victoria

**BCCDC**

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- BC Coroners Service Child Death Review Panel. Preventing death after overdose: A review of overdose deaths in youth and young adults 2009–2013 [report to the chief coroner of British Columbia]. January 2016. Accessed 29 April 2022. [www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/birth-adoption-death-marriage-and-divorce/deaths/coroners-service/child-death-review-unit/reports-publications/overdose-death-youth-young-adult.pdf](http://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/birth-adoption-death-marriage-and-divorce/deaths/coroners-service/child-death-review-unit/reports-publications/overdose-death-youth-young-adult.pdf).

# CME calendar

**Rates:** \$75 for up to 1000 characters (maximum) plus GST per month; there is no partial rate. If the course or event is over before an issue of the *BCMJ* comes out, there is no discount. **Deadlines:** ONLINE: Every Thursday (listings are posted every Friday). PRINT: The first of the month 1 month prior to the issue in which you want your notice to appear; e.g., 1 February for the March issue. The *BCMJ* is distributed by second-class mail in the second week of each month except January and August. **Planning your CME listing:** We suggest that your ad be posted 2 to 4 months prior to the event. **Ordering:** Place your ad at [www.bcmj.org/cme-advertising](http://www.bcmj.org/cme-advertising). Payment is accepted by Visa or Mastercard on our secure online payment site.

## PSYCHOLOGICAL PPE, PEER SUPPORT BEYOND COVID-19

**Online (every 2nd and 4th Wednesday)**

In response to physician feedback, the Physician Health Program's drop-in online peer-support sessions, established in April 2020, are permanently scheduled for every second and fourth Wednesday at noon. The weekly sessions are cofacilitated by psychiatrist Dr Jennifer Russel and manager of clinical services Roxanne Joyce, and are drop-in with no commitment required. The focus is peer support, not psychiatric care. All participants have the option to join anonymously. To learn more about the sessions and the program, visit [www.physicianhealth.com/how-we-can-help/peer-support](http://www.physicianhealth.com/how-we-can-help/peer-support). Email [peer.support@physicianhealth.com](mailto:peer.support@physicianhealth.com) for the link to join by phone or video.

## ANATOMY-BASED BOTULINUM TOXIN TRAINING

**Online and Vancouver UBC campus (Now–30 Dec 2022)**

Expand your practice with injectables. Learn both the therapeutic (migraines/headaches) and aesthetic (fine facial lines and wrinkles) applications. PTIFA offers anatomy-based training (20+ hours) and training recognized by the highest standard of practice in Canada. Receive the most clinically based training, including the opportunity to inject eight-plus patients. Courses held monthly on UBC Campus in Vancouver. Start today with the online Level 1 – Advanced Anatomy course (20 CME). Save \$500. Use code “BCMJonline” before 30 June 2022. Register now at [PTIFA.com](http://PTIFA.com).

## GP IN ONCOLOGY EDUCATION

**Online (12–23 Sept and 3–17 Oct 2022)**

BC Cancer's Family Practice Oncology Network offers an 8-week General Practitioner in Oncology education program beginning with a 4-week virtual introductory session every spring and fall at BC Cancer–Vancouver. This program provides an opportunity for rural family physicians, with the support of their community, to strengthen their oncology skills so that they can provide enhanced care for local cancer patients and their families. Following the introductory session, participants complete a further 30 days of clinic experience at the cancer centre where their patients are referred. These are scheduled flexibly over 6 months. Participants who complete the program are eligible for credits from the College of Family Physicians of Canada. Those who are REAP-eligible receive a stipend and expense coverage through UBC's Enhanced Skills Program. For more information or to apply, visit [www.fpon.ca](http://www.fpon.ca) or contact Dilraj Mahil at [dilraj.mahil@bccancer.bc.ca](mailto:dilraj.mahil@bccancer.bc.ca).



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