

Greetings from the CARO President

Dear CARO members and friends,

It was great to see so many of you at the **CARO 2012** meeting in September in Ottawa. Everyone who was there would agree that it was a **very successful meeting**, academically, professionally and socially. The theme of Targeting Biology was very well developed and clinically relevant, the interactions with our ESTRO colleagues and guest speakers were numerous and productive, and the entire meeting had an energy and vibe that was quite motivating. Congratulations to Christina Parsons, Rob Bristow and everyone on the ASM committee for their tremendous efforts.

For those who could not join us, a few items about CARO that you ought to be aware of:

We have formulated our **new Strategic Plan**. Our vision is "CARO – Quality, Care, Cure". Our Mission is to promote timely access to high quality radiation therapy by professional training and development, public education, advocacy to governments and other funding organizations and interdisciplinary collaboration. More details, including our [values and the goals](#) we are working on, are posted on the CARO website. Please visit it, and get involved.

Our hardworking **Secretary/Treasurer** Dr John Kim completed his term and was the first recipient of the CARO Extraordinary Commitment Award for his three years of diligent and time-consuming service to CARO. Dr Jacqueline Spayne has assumed his responsibilities as our new Secretary/Treasurer. The remainder of the [Board members](#) will continue their terms, including our dynamic residents/fellows board member Jeff Cao. We are looking for **new Chairs** for the [Education committee](#) and the [Website committee](#). Interested individuals can find more information and the application process on the [CARO website](#) or contact the [CARO office](#).

At the AGM, we consulted the attendees about some of the proposed **changes to our bylaws** so as to comply to the requirements of the new Not-for-Profit Act, and specifically as they relate to voting, the selection of board members and officers, and membership categories. We will be examining the options further and communicating with you, and expect to announce the changes before next years ASM.

The [YouTube contest](#) is still open and we are receiving [submissions](#). Now is the perfect time to express your pride about being a Canadian radiation oncologist and member of CARO. It is open to all, i.e. future radiation oncologists are also most welcome to contribute an entry.

Save-the-dates: I want to call to your attention that both [CARO's](#) and [ESTRO's future meeting dates](#) and locations for 2013 and 2014 are now on the CARO website.

Details of our activities, discussions, committees, strategy, awards, etc. can be found on the [CARO website](#), please visit it often, and don't hesitate to contact me or any one of the Board members with comments and suggestions. Please contact the Committee Chairs of the [committees](#) that you would like to be active in. CARO is your association, get involved, and let's ensure that our profession and association continue to grow and prosper in years to come.

Fondly,

Andrea Bezjak
President, CARO

