From the EMAS Chair

I am grateful, in this issue of EMASsary, to welcome Dr. Peter Agwa to the EMAS family as our new Executive Director. With roots in Africa, a wealth of experience, both hosting and sending short-term mission teams, several years of mentoring medical students, and a passion for Christ-centred healthcare, we pray for the Holy Spirit’s empowerment as he takes on his new role in this position. Please pray for him, and his wife Lydia, as they transition their lives into this ministry.

One of the highlights for me this year was the opportunity to be together with other like-minded Christian healthcare ministries for our first Prayer Summit. Our EMAS family met with CMDS (Christian Medical and Dental Society), NCF (Nurses Christian Fellowship Canada) and HCF (Healthcare Christian Fellowship Canada) for two and a half days of networking, praying and being challenged by an excellent speaker, Dr. Arul Anketell from Sri Lanka. Christians in healthcare must stand and pray together to have a voice about issues such as the sanctity of life and physician assisted suicide. At EMAS we pledge to uphold biblical Christ-centred healthcare both in Canada and in underserved areas where our teams serve.

Gov.-Gen. David Johnston recently launched his “My Giving Moment” campaign encouraging Canadians to find their “Giving Moment.” (Visit http://mygivingmoment.ca.) I support his three pillars of a) family and children, b) learning and innovation, and c) philanthropy and volunteerism. As we enter the Christmas season, it is my prayer that you will find your “Giving Moment” by supporting EMAS, either through the Gifts of Hope campaign or by selecting the “Project Development Fund” which will be used to identify the most needy areas in the world and to recruit medical personnel to serve there. You can donate directly from our website or use the enclosed donor card. Please consider giving monthly donations throughout the year.

In closing, I want to wish you all a very blessed Christmas season and God’s best for you, your family, and your church in 2014.

Hendrik Visser, MD
Chairman, EMAS Board

EMAS’ Vision for the Future

Through activities, prayer and discussion, EMAS developed a strategic plan for the next five years.

Seven strategic themes have been identified: The first two are the crux of what EMAS does, and therefore its priorities.

1. Provision of education, medical aid and capacity building;
2. Team growth and equipping;
3. Serving and discipling others in a Christ-like manner;
4. Valuing the diversity of skills and gifts offered by different team members;
5. Fostering good relationships;
6. Telling our stories;
7. Engaging others in the work of EMAS.

A number of strategies have been identified under each theme. These will form the basis of the detailed action plans and timelines going forward.

For the complete document, see www.emascanada.org/documents/EMAS Canada Strategic Plan 2013.pdf
I am thankful to the Board for the invitation to join the EMAS leadership team.

Dr. Robert O. Stephens, former Executive Director from the very early days of EMAS, wrote:

“…EMAS is…supremely a channel to demonstrate and share the love of God in Christ Jesus.”

This is evident in the past literature, the new strategic plan, and is coming through in the conversations I am having with key stakeholders.

The greatest aspiration, of the people who lead EMAS, is to display evidence of Who they know to be True and to give to others What they own, primarily in the context of medical missions. This is familiar and therefore reassuring.

I cannot show another what I do not know, and I cannot give away what I do not own. Demonstrating and sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ begins with knowing and owning Him then giving others a chance to know and own Him.

I look forward to a better and personal understanding of this love of God, and to greater liberality with you in demonstrating it to others.

Peter Agwa, MD
Executive Director

One way of sharing, in the mission of EMAS, is through leadership as a member of the Board of Directors.

These individuals work as a team that brings direction to and stewardship of the overall mission of the organization. They pray together, plan and work to safeguard the trust that God has given to EMAS in its calling to serve the gospel through medical missions.

There are two positions that would be best filled by Physicians and/or a Lawyer.

Please contact the Chair of the Nominating Committee for more information.

Dr. Marcelo Garcia
Tel: 204-253-7688
Email: garciapowell@shaw.ca

EMAS Mission Statement

Our mission is to heal, teach and serve, those in need, in a Christ-like manner.

EMAS Has Moved
to a new location in Stouffville.
Please note the new contact info.

#1–20 Freel Lane
Stouffville, Ontario
L4A 8B9
Tel: 905-642-4661
Fax: 905-642-1616
T-F: 1-866-648-0664
info@emascanada.org
www.emascanada.org

Planned Giving
...enables you to donate to EMAS in the future, with possible tax benefits today, while providing for your heirs.

To see the varied options and brochures, visit:
emascanada.org/plannedgiving.htm

Get Involved
Participate in medical aid by:
hosting a fundraising event;
raising funds online;
praying for EMAS;
sharing our stories;
donating to this ministry; or volunteering for a mission.

Change your life, as well as others.’
emascanada.org/getinvolved.htm
**Change Someone’s Life with a “Gift of Hope.”**

YOU can make a difference, this Christmas, by giving a “Gift of Hope.” YOU could change someone’s life forever.

**Give on Someone’s Behalf.**
When ordering your gift, you can request a Gift Card to honour someone special.

*A “Gift of Hope” can change a life and last a lifetime.*

Select from the list of gifts below. More information is available at: www.emascanada.org/giftsofhope.htm.
You can order online, or on the enclosed return-card, and EMAS will deliver your gift(s) around the world. (“Gifts of Hope” are eligible for tax-deductible receipts.)

*May God bless you richly for reaching out with EMAS.*

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**Haiti**
A gift of $40 or more helps construct a safe building.
A gift of $135 provides a hot meal for 238 students.
A gift of $400 maintains a classroom for one month.

**Ecuador**
A gift of $50 provides dental supplies.
A gift of $500 goes towards the cost of a prosthesis.
A gift of $2,000 will cover the full cost of a prosthesis.

**Uganda**
A gift of $35 buys bean seeds for a small village.
A gift of $50 buys 10 mosquito nets and saves 50 lives.
A gift of $100 buys a sewing machine for a women’s group.

**Vietnam**
A gift of $200 will go towards the cost of cataract surgery.
A gift of $500 will go towards the cost of heart surgery for one child.
A gift of $2,500 will cover the entire cost of the heart surgery.

**China East**
A gift of $200 will help a healthcare worker attend a course or educational conference.
A gift of $300 provides financial support for a patient in need.

**China West**
A gift of $25 buys a pair of prescription eyeglasses.
A gift of $100 buys 4 pairs.
A gift of $250 helps fund construction of a hospital.

**China South**
A gift of $100 will cover meds or surgical supplies for one child’s surgery.
A gift of $400 will cover hospital charges.
A gift of $700 will cover the cost of surgery for one child.

**Guangdong**
A gift of $20 will cover the cost of meds for one patient, at an outreach clinic.
A gift of $500 will cover dental supplies on a mission trip.
A gift of $800 will cover a resident’s training for one month.

**Student Fund**
A gift of $100 will go towards a student’s mission trip.
A gift of $1,000 covers an entire student bursary.

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**EMAS Newsletters**
Don’t Miss out on the next issues of *News-Lites* and *EMASsary* newsletters. If you’re not already on our email list, sign up for free at www.emascanada.org/newsletters.htm or check the appropriate box on the enclosed card, print your email address clearly and mail to the EMAS CANADA office.
An EMAS CANADA surgery team of 70 doctors, nurses and other supporting staff, went to a city in China. They screened over 120 patients and operated on 64 of them, over six days. Their patients were varied from young children with congenital deformities to elderly people with disfiguring and life-threatening cancers on their faces.

The patients included a young girl with scar contracture on her knees. She had been bedridden for a long time, unable to stand, as her knees were permanently bent and couldn’t be straightened. They operated on her, and soon after the surgery, she stood up for the first time in years. She has now started on the road to recovery and is finally able to take some steps towards a brighter future.

We are thankful to our donors for enabling us to change this young girl’s life and the life of many others.

EMAS continues to work in a rural remote area, near Fort Portal, Uganda, with an NGO called RAMBIA, that operates a clinic, serving about 30,000 people.

On a recent EMAS mission, led by Mike Wills, the team witnessed a woman in labour with some complications. Her contractions had become ineffective and the midwife was able to administer meds to strengthen them. The baby was born quite blue; but the midwife provided the necessary stimulation and syringe bulb suction to remove the mucus from the baby’s air passageways. She saved the baby’s life with these interventions. What a blessing to see the mother and baby both doing well!

The clinic is saving lives
Thanks to YOUR faithful support.

Help Us Change Lives.
Your donations enable us to
“Heal, teach and serve those in need.”

To donate, please fill out and send, the enclosed card, to the EMAS office, or donate on-line at: emascanada.org/donations.htm

Please help us share the love of God.

Because “…we aim at what is honorable not only in the Lord’s sight but also in the sight of man.” 2 Cor. 8:21(ESV), the annual audited statement is posted on our web site and available upon request. All enquiries, about our organization, our programmes, our policies and our procedures, will be promptly answered. Additional information is available at www.emascanada.org

EMAS Certified by CCCC

EMAS CANADA has been certified by the Canadian Council of Christian Charities.

Charities that display the CCCC’s Seal of Accountability demonstrate ongoing compliance with high standards of financial and organizational integrity. When you see the seal, you can give confidently and generously.

To find out more please visit: www.giveconfidently.ca