

## ANHIX– Digital Health Canada Conference

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

|                             |     |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| ANHIX-DHC Winter Conference | 1,2 |
| Upcoming Events             | 3   |
| Patron Sponsors             | 3   |
| Call for Nominations        | 3   |
| We want to hear from you!   | 4   |

### Upcoming ANHIX Events

The Spring Symposium originally planned for May has now been **cancelled** due to covid-19 restrictions.

AGM to be held "virtually" on **Wednesday, June 17<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 pm.** Access details to follow.

The Summer Symposium and Golf Tournament will be held on **Wednesday, September 11, 2019** at the Ranch Golf and Country Club at Acheson. This event is subject to covid-19 restrictions applicable at the time.

The 8th annual ANHIX-Digital Health Canada (DHC) Winter Conference was held in Calgary on February 4 with over 110 in attendance. Through a series of keynote presentations and panel discussions, attendees explored the topic of partnering for health care innovation.

The session kicked off with a panel discussion on IT Health Innovation with a focus on the AHS Connect Care project as well as related initiatives such as patient portals, Prescribe IT, and community information integration. The panel comprised diverse speakers who represented the technology view, the clinician view and the patient view. Much of the discussion focused on Connect Care and challenges involved with technology and devices as well as change management elements from a clinical perspective. There was an interesting discussion on the role the patient advisor played in the process as well. By being embedded at a senior level within the project, the patient advisor had an important and effective voice at the table to

ensure the focus of the initiative remained on patients and their families not just providers, as is often the case. This volunteer position was filled by Ryan Magnussen who had significant personal experience in and out of the health system and was in a good position to provide firsthand advice based on his experiences. He was also the individual who "activated" Connect Care in Edmonton on the go live day, reinforcing the importance of the patient.

Panel – Glen Shortt, Exec. Director, IT Centres of Expertise, Alberta Health Services (AHS); Ryan Magnussen, Connect Care Patient Advisor, AHS;

Tom Rich, Department of Emergency Medicine Associate Chief Medical Information Officer, AHS, Calgary Zone Clinical Associate Professor, University of Calgary.

Moderator: Sherry Nicholaichuk, Director, IT Integration Services, AHS

The morning keynote speaker was Teri Price of Greg's Wings Projects. Teri was instrumental in establishing Greg's Wings in memory of her brother Greg, who died as a result of information management issues within the Alberta health care system in 2012, most notably a lack of information sharing across silos of care.

[Continued on page 2]



Dr. Ewan Affleck giving the afternoon keynote address

## ANHIX- DHC Conference (Cont.)

*The Board currently comprises up to nineteen individuals, President, Past President, VP and up to sixteen directors, including the Secretary and*

### Upcoming Healthcare Information Management Events

chima HIM Conference  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
October 5-6, 2020

<https://www.himconference.ca/>

e-Health 2019 –  
Beanfield Centre,  
Toronto, On  
May 30 – June 2, 2021

[e-healthconference.com](http://e-healthconference.com)

2021 Infoway  
Partnership Conference:  
Vancouver, BC  
Nov 30 – Dec 1, 2021

[partnership-conference](http://partnership-conference)

Teri spoke to some of the work the organization is doing to encourage innovation and how they continue to provide insights to clinicians around the country and the world about the systemic failures that occurred and how to avoid them. Notably, a continuous improvement mindset needs to be supported across care pathways.

Presentation - Innovation + Impact in Healthcare

Teri Price, Co-Founder, Greg's Wings Projects

Following lunch, a panel of successful startup CEOs took the stage to discuss their experiences in developing, funding, and fostering innovative startups in the Canadian health care industry. Unfortunately, many of the organizations found that both funding and opportunities were more favorable in the US than in Canada and many of them relied on sales and contracts in the US to build their companies. Once past some of the initial hurdles however they were positive on opportunities in the Canadian market and were very positive about retaining their home bases in Canadian cities like Calgary for the quality of life and excellent pool of talent to draw from. An interesting point to helping future development would be the

establishment of a database of startups to enable more synergy across the startup environment.

Panel – Let's Talk Tech – Start Up CEOs

Greg Ogrodnick, CEO, Circle Cardiovascular Imaging; Breanne Everett, CEO & President, Orpyx Medical; Pierre Lemire, CEO, Kent Imaging; Paul Cataford, CEO, Zephyr Sleep Technologies; Rohit Joshi, CEO & Co-Founder, Brightsquid. Moderator: Peter Smith, President & CEO, Strata Health Solutions

The afternoon guest speaker was Dr. Ewan Affleck who carried on the theme of innovation with the topic of how physicians have a role to play in adopting and leveraging technology in the delivery of care. His presentation engaged the audience and touched on the readiness of both technology and providers to bring change to the system. He questioned how close AI was to really impacting care as well as pointing out that there is still a way to go in ensuring clinicians are comfortable in becoming "information managers" as their role evolves. He also presented on work he had done with Greg's Wings in mapping out the interactions Greg had with the system and the multiple points of failure

and their causes. This provided a good linkage with the previous topics.

Keynote Presentation – Doctors Working to Improve the Health of Canadians

Dr. Ewan Affleck, Senior Medical Advisor – Health Informatics, College of Physicians & Surgeons of Alberta

The day wrapped up with a presentation from Robert Slepina, a project manager and consultant with many years of experience in the health care sector who provided detailed updates on health care vendors and the state of technology and innovation in the Canadian and US health system. Key topic areas included blockchain, cloud, robotic process automation, privacy and data management.

Closing Presentation

Robert Slepina, FHIMSS, CPHIMS, CHCIO, CGEIT, PMP

Overall, the symposium provided a wide perspective of views on a number of key subject areas impacting the Alberta health system, its related industries and the ongoing evolution of information technology as an enabler of quality care.

Presentation material is available for download by members at [Presentations.](#)

## ANHIX Events

Due to the covid-19 pandemic, our Spring Symposium, scheduled to take place in May has now been cancelled.

This event normally includes our AGM.



As we are a Society, we are obligated to hold an AGM once a year.

The AGM, which will be held virtually this year on Wednesday, June 17 at 4:30 pm, will include formal submission of Officer reports as well as the election of the new Board members for the upcoming year.

Zoom access details will be made available to members shortly.

Our Summer Symposium and Golf tournament is tentatively scheduled to be held on Wednesday, September 16, 2020 at the Ranch Golf and Country Club at Acheson. The event is obviously subject to any covid-19 restrictions in place at that time.

**SAVE THE DATE**

It's a great day so mark it in your calendar now.

## Thank You To Our Sponsors

Over the past year, ANHIX has enjoyed the financial support of ten organizations: Cisco, CGI, Gevity, IBM, KPMG, Meditech, Orion Health, Ricoh, SAS and Strata Health.

This generous support has allowed ANHIX to put on three high calibre and well-attended educational events: the Spring Symposium and AGM, the Summer Symposium and Golf Tournament and the Winter Symposium, co-sponsored with Digital Health Canada.

Not only has our Patron Sponsors' support made the events possible but it has also allowed ANHIX to keep registration rates as economical as possible, an important factor given many of our members work in the public sector and are finding their education budgets very much under pressure.

For the upcoming year, the Board has decided to take a "wait and see" approach. We recognise that our Sponsors have their own challenges with the financial impacts of the pandemic. Accordingly, we will assess the situation later in the year.

In the meantime, on behalf of the Board and our members, we would like to say a big "Thank You" to our Patron Sponsors for their generous support.

We would also be pleased to welcome any new sponsors.

## Call for Nominations

At our AGM, we need to elect a VP, up to 9 Board Directors and two Auditors. The VP is a three-year term while the Director/Auditor positions are two-year terms.

To nominate yourself or someone else, send an email to [info@anhix.com](mailto:info@anhix.com) with the following nominee details:

- Name and Org.
- Email address and bus. telephone no.
- Position(s) for which they are standing. Nominees may stand for one or more positions.
- A brief description of their background and qualifications.
- A recent photo (.jpg).
- The name/contact details of another current ANHIX member seconding the nomination.

If you are putting yourself forward, you require two members to propose and second your nomination.

Nominations close on May 29. Nominee details will then be distributed to members before the AGM. Nominations may be accepted from the floor of the AGM, but the Board strongly encourages nominees to submit their details before May 29.

### ANHIX Patron Sponsors



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## We want to hear from you!

ANHIX is always looking for feedback from its members. Whether it's recommendations for presentation topics or speakers, ideas for newsletter articles, suggestions you may have for ways we can provide greater value to our members or any other general comments, we

want to hear from you. Please let us know what works and what can be improved.

We can be reached by email, through the website, by fax or by mail. Contact details are shown in the left column of this page.

Get communicating!

