The Canadian Journal of Plastic Surgery

"Tough, dedicated, demanding. Creative, energetic, hard working. Thus can be described the pioneers of plastic surgery in Canada, men who devised new techniques and established for themselves and their medical descendants what was to become the modern specialty of plastic and reconstructive surgery ... They recognized the need for a common bond and a forum in which to discuss new ideas and new problems."

These words of Leith Douglas in History of the Canadian Society of Plastic Surgeons still apply. The Canadian plastic surgeons of today are still tough, dedicated, demanding, creative, energetic and hard working. They are pioneers in such areas as craniofacial, microvascular, transplantation, hand, nerve and aesthetic surgery. They have earned worldwide reputations as researchers, teachers and clinicians. Some continue to broaden their expertise in Canada. Others have exported their expertise to other lands.

The new *Canadian Journal of Plastic Surgery* will strengthen the common bond and widen the forum in which to discuss new ideas and new problems.

In this first issue, Jean-Paul Bossé, newly retired Secretary-General of the International Confederation for Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, gives some philosophical musings on the trials and tribulations awaiting the surgeons of tomorrow.

John Taylor, our Associate Editor, has unearthed some unpublished drawings by Fulton Risdon, the first Canadian plastic surgeon, a founding member and first president of the Canadian Society of Plastic Surgeons, a founding member and third president of the American Association of Plastic Surgeons, and a founding member of the American Board of Plastic Surgery.

Colleagues from across the land, from the United States, and from abroad have greeted the announcement of the new journal with enthusiasm, encouragement, and offers of papers. The editorial board, made up of outstanding colleagues from coast to coast, has done peer reviews of the submissions. Some of these papers appear in this issue.

The foundations of a healthy, respected specialty rest on a strong specialty society, a strong specialty board, and a strong specialty journal.

For many years we have had the first and second. Now we have the third.

*Peter E Wyshynski MD, FRCSC
Editor-in-Chief*