From the Editor

A happy first birthday to *The Canadian Journal of Plastic Surgery!*

This issue marks the beginning of our second year of publication. When the journal started one year ago, most of our peers and colleagues said it was a worthy and long-overdue coming of age of Canadian plastic surgery, while others questioned the need or chances for survival of yet another surgical journal.

The journal has been greeted with enthusiasm and encouragement by colleagues from coast to coast and from abroad. Excellent manuscripts have been submitted by surgeons from all parts of Canada, as well as from the United States, Britain and France. It has been an exciting first year and the journal has quickly become a success.

Our Associate Editor, John Taylor, leads with an illustration of the clarity of thinking of medicare officialdom worthy of *Yes Minister*.

Until only a few short years ago, aesthetic surgery was considered by many to be an illegitimate offspring of plastic surgery, something that was done by many but admitted by few. When I was a registrar at East Grinstead in England in the mid-1960s, the consultants did the reconstructive surgery that built their reputations in the teaching hospitals, then went to Harley Street to do the aesthetic surgery that supplemented their meagre National Health Service stipends. Bruce Williams, Past President of both the Canadian Society of Plastic Surgeons and the American Society of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeons, and William Graham III, Past President of the American Society for Aesthetic Plastic Surgery, both academic leaders and members of national accreditation boards, write on how aesthetic surgery has come out of the closet and become an integral part of the plastic surgery training program.

With his usual clarity and thoroughness, Walter Peters has written the most up-to-date summary of the scientific information available on silicone gel breast implants, detailing facts that juries, judges and litigation lawyers seem to conveniently overlook.

Martin Entin gives a vivid biographical sketch of his late peer and friend Tom Gibson, a surgical giant with great vision and a household name among plastic surgeons throughout the world.

These and the other excellent papers and case reports are exciting and, I hope, of interest to all of our colleagues in this first number of our second volume.

Peter E Wyshynski
Editor in Chief