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# Message from the President

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Hello, my name is Michael Vekasi, and I am honoured to be your incoming President of the Canadian Academy of Audiology (CAA). I look forward to serving you and our members in this role over the next year.

I wanted to start my message off by saying a huge thank you to all members who participated in the 2023 CAA Conference, hosted in Ottawa, Ontario in October. It was an incredibly successful conference with record attendance (including over 120 student members) and a fantastic roster of speakers, poster presenters, industry, sponsors, and exhibitors.

We look forward to welcoming you to our next conference in **Kelowna, British Columbia** from **October 6-9, 2024**, at the **Delta Grand Okanagan Resort** – *I hope to see you there!*

Your Board of Directors has been working incredibly hard with amazing synergy to advance the profession of Audiology in Canada. We look forward to continuing our work toward our five main strategic areas, which include:

- Building awareness with the public,
- Supporting provincial Audiology,
- Increasing Audiology advocacy with the Federal government,
- Retaining and increasing membership, and
- Continuing high-quality education to audiologists.

My clinical background comes from working in the public health system, as such, one of my goals over my tenure as President will be to explore how Audiology can be more integrated or collaborate with primary care. Also understanding that public Audiology makes up only a small portion of the practice of Audiology in Canada, it is also my goal to continue work that supports all audiologists and advances the profession of Audiology.

I look forward to and am excited about the work that myself, the Board of Directors, the **many** volunteers, and the administration at CAA can accomplish over this next year! Our profession is small, but mighty, and I believe that we can make big differences in the lives of our patients and their families.

With gratitude,

-Michael

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