

From the Editor- in-Chief

Dear colleagues,
Welcome to another
issue of *Limb
Preservation in Canada*. Our
goal with this publication is to
create a forum for Canadian
health-care professionals who
are interested in amputation
prevention to learn, share experiences and, most
importantly, better serve our patients.



The past few years have been very difficult. Beyond the significant obstacles to providing timely and appropriate care to our patients during the COVID-19 pandemic, many health-care professionals have faced serious challenges to their safety and mental health. As always, we have rallied to grow, learn and come together as a community to address these challenges.

The 2021 Canadian Limb Preservation Symposium was, in many ways, reflective of the tremendous diversity that makes amputation prevention work so unique. Vascular surgeon Dr. Neil Hopper spoke passionately and very candidly about his personal experience with limb loss. His story, however, is about hope rather than tragedy, and perseverance rather than self-pity. His journey highlights the vigilance with which we need to

approach this work in order to help the many individuals in our communities who are living with an amputation or who are at risk of losing their limbs.

We learned about the many advances in amputation prevention work in the fields of wound care, foot and ankle and plastic surgery, vascular surgery and physiatry. We heard about the importance of adequate data gathering to help track patient outcomes and guide conversations with policy makers around the country. Finally, we heard from Indigenous health-care professionals about the challenges and opportunities with limb preservation work in Indigenous communities.

Reading the many excellent articles contained in this issue, I am very encouraged by the quality of work being done in amputation prevention across Canada and beyond. I am hopeful that every year will find us taking greater strides toward our goal of improving the amputation prevention services that are available for all Canadians.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ahmed Kayssi". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Ahmed Kayssi, MD MSc MPH FRCSC