

GOVERNING COMMITTEE BEGINS CONSIDERATION OF PRINCIPLES TO GUIDE SEAMO

On October 23, the SEAMO Governing Committee held a Retreat to consider principles that should guide SEAMO over the coming years. Recent ongoing changes in the funding environment suggested to the Governors the need to reconsider basic fundamental principles. The requirement for claims submissions and penetration of the fee schedule, the likely increase in shadow billing incentive premium payments, the expected arrival of Phase III funding and the recommendation of the Advisory Committee on Departmental Deliverables strongly suggested the need to consider fundamental principles.

At its regular meeting November 06, Governors reviewed draft principles suggested by the Retreat participants. These principles will now be sent to the SEAMO Executive Committee for further consideration. Following consideration by the Executive Committee, recommendations will be made to the Governing Committee. The Governing Committee plans to consult with all clinical teachers and Signatories before agreeing on a final set of principles.

CONCERNS EXPRESSED REGARDING HOSPITAL BUDGETS

The Governing Committee at its November 06 meeting again considered the potential impact of hospital budgetary constraints. Grave concern was expressed with regard to the clinical and academic programs of this Health Sciences Centre.

Governors discussed the potential for significant deterioration in patient care and the possibility of damage to the Medical School's capacity to train future physicians should the budgetary crises not be resolved speedily.

STAFFING UPDATES

A non-GFT commenced in the **Department of Emergency Medicine** on November 01. This position is funded within the departmental envelope.