

CSCC Award for Education Excellence
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Morris Pudek, PhD, FCACB

Dr. Pudek graduated with a BSc in Biochemistry from Simon Fraser University in 1971. This was followed by a PhD in Biochemistry in 1976 from the University of British Columbia. He did his residency training in Clinical Chemistry from 1976-78 at the Vancouver General Hospital (VGH). Dr. Pudek achieved his CSCC Certification in 1979. He is a founding fellow and member of first board of The Canadian Academy of Clinical Biochemistry. Since that time he has been employed as a Clinical Chemist at VGH. Presently he is the Head of the Division of Clinical Chemistry at VGH and Clinical Professor in the Department of Pathology, University of British Columbia.

This year marks Morris Pudek's 25th year of involvement in the discipline of Clinical Chemistry. For most of that time he has been heavily involved in a wide variety of educational activities because of his enjoyment of the teaching process and his belief that teaching improves his role as a clinical consultant.

He has been involved in the creation and delivery of several teaching programs and courses throughout his time of employment at Vancouver General Hospital as a clinical chemist. His teaching has involved medical and dental students, undergraduate science students, residents, graduate students, and technologists.

He has dedicated many hundreds of hours every year to teaching and its associated activities. He was recently honoured with several teaching awards including the University of British Columbia Killam Teaching Prize and the Melvyn Bernstein Award for outstanding teaching of Residents. One of his recent major accomplishments has been the design and implementation of the five week Endocrinology and Metabolism Block for second year Medicine at the University of British Columbia. This was accomplished at the same time that he took on a heavy administrative role as the head of the Division of Clinical Chemistry, at VGH. In addition to his role as teaching block chair, he coordinated, and taught several laboratory sessions, was responsible for delivery of a large portion of the lectures, authored or helped create the problem based learning cases for this block, created many of the end of week review and final exam questions, attended all of the weekly student wrap-up sessions, and tutored in the entire five weeks of this block. Attention to detail was a critical element in the success of this block. This teaching block received the highest overall rating of any in the first two years in the new Problem Based Learning Medical/ Dental school curriculum.

Shortly after completing his certification examinations in Clinical Chemistry he served on the Certification Committee of the Canadian Society of Clinical Chemistry. Within one year he was appointed Chair of this committee and served in this role for 8 years. He was the first recipient of the "Outstanding Service to the Profession of Clinical Biochemistry Award" from the newly formed Canadian Academy of Clinical Chemistry for 1993. He was the Chair of the Scientific Program of the 1985 and 1995 Canadian Society of Clinical Chemistry Annual Meetings. He has also organized and spoken at many other conferences and professional educational activities. He has also served as a graduate student supervisor for 1 graduate student and has been the university examiner at several PhD thesis defenses. He is an ongoing contributor to one of the standard textbooks used in Clinical Chemistry edited by Kaplan and Pesce. Dr. Pudek has also authored or coauthored more than 75 scientific publications and serves on the

editorial board of Clinical Biochemistry. Throughout his career he has given very generously of his time to the profession and to academic community.