

**Owen Sound
Prostate Cancer Support Group
Feb 22 05**

Newsletter.

Dear friends and members;

It seemed like a good time to get back to doing something useful and I thought I'd start with bringing you up to date on my situation. You may have noted my absence at recent meetings which was unavoidable since ,while attending the Toronto PCRI/Informatics meeting in December,I stupidly tripped and fell down some stone stairs as we entered the building.I n case you think I had been drinking too much ,let me tell you that Martin Keeping who kindly offered to drive me was perfectly sober,as was I, but we were very tired since we did not arrive till 11 PM

I spent the first day of the Conference in considerable discomfort and had to stay with my oldest son in Toronto for the first half of the second day.

I am very pleased that Martin ,most kindly agreed to bring you up to date on that conference and also on our earlier visit to Crittendon Hospital in Michigan at the invitation of the famous Dr Fred lee ,one of the pioneers of Cryosurgery. We saw two live Biopsies and one live Cryosurgery procedure whilst there .We were also given a free psa test and an excellent lunch!

I had the opportunity to speak ,very briefly, whilst in Toronto, with Dr Lawrence Klotz and asked him if and when Cryotherapy may be offered as Primary therapy in Ontario now that it was approved in Alberta.He said that " none of his colleagues were interested " and when asked why he said " it takes too long to train the urologist "Since it takes longer to train for Radical surgery I did not find this a satisfactory answer.

I also had the pleasure of speaking with Padraig Warde, Asssocate Director of Radiation Medicine at Princess Margaret Hospital who agreed to be our Speaker at our annual banquet in October 05 We will be issuing an invitation to local physicians as well as any other interested persons(who have \$16.00) ! to attend.

I have just heard that a group of business men and physician(s) in BC have asked for a quotation from the makers of the Cryosurgical equipment with a view to setting up a clinic in their area to provide this therapy.I also heard that BC Health had approached AHIP in Alberta to see if they could send some of their patients to Dr Donnelly for Cryo.I cannot confirm this latter.

I have been experiencing back problems as a result of the fall I mentioned ,and am awaiting a visit to an orthopaedic man to read the Ct scans and tell me the score.I am also awaiting a visit to Londond(St Jos) to have a suprapubic catheter installed since the foley is giving me lots of trouble.

As you can see ,life has not exactly been a bed of roses recently ,but I am hoping that when the new catheter is installed in March I will be in much better shape.

Our great Executive is concerned at the poor attendance at our meetings and I wish you could encourage them by attending more regularly .It is a very important service we provide and I think we would all agree with that !!

Please give it your earnest consideration.

We look forward to a great and healthy Summer !

Colin