Dr. William Marsden, MD

CMA President, 1873
Royal College of Physicians (England), 1830
General practice, public health

Before and during 1867, Dr. Marsden was one of the key organizers in the drive to create the Canadian Medical Association. When he died in 1885, the *Canada Lancet* reported: “He took an active part in the establishment of the Canada (sic) Medical Association. Medically, he took a deep interest in sanitary reform and was energetic in his efforts to prevent the introduction of small pox. The deceased has led a long, useful life, and has literally died in harness.” The CMA’s Dr. William Marsden Award in Medical Ethics is named in honour of Dr. Marsden, who was the first chair of the Association’s Committee on Ethics. In that role, he presided over the first draft of the CMA’s Code of Ethics, published in 1868.