15ᵗʰ World Congress of Intensive and Critical Care opts for virtual format

For several years, as we gradually ramped up our planning for the *15ᵗʰ World Congress of Intensive and Critical Care*, we were most excited about welcoming our colleagues from around the globe to Vancouver, Canada. It is such an exciting, vibrant and beautiful location and would be the perfect backdrop to share knowledge about *Caring Intensively*.

Now, just 8 months away, the ongoing global coronavirus crises and uncertainty related to vaccine distribution and travel has convinced us that a virtual congress is the only prudent way to proceed. We examined various scenarios and postponed the difficult decision as long as possible.

Our abstract submission portal opened late last year, and we encourage you to submit your work. Soon, we will update our preliminary program on the website. Despite the change in format, our themes will remain the same. The main program will occur as planned from **Sept 11 to 15**, as previously advertised through our "Save The Date" messages. What you can expect to change is that selected content will likely be available both before and after these dates.

Our planning and scientific committees remain committed and excited to deliver a superb program with innovative and engaging formats together with internationally acclaimed speakers. A core value of the program is that **every** session will demonstrate **Equity, Diversity and Inclusiveness**. Registration details and fees will be announced soon and will support participation by all disciplines and income levels.

Please sign up for our email list and bookmark the website. And we still hope to welcome you to Canada as a visitor in the future when travel becomes possible!

(signature)	*(signature)*
Claudio Martin, MSc MD FRCPC Chair, 15ᵗʰ World Congress of Intensive & Critical Care	Janice Zimmerman, MD, MCCM, MACP President, World Federation of Intensive and Critical Care