

Critical Care Society of Southern Africa – Western Cape Branch  
Chairman's report for the year ending July 2021

Dear Members,

The last year has been dominated by the COVID-19 pandemic. I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to all our members and health care workers who have, and continue to, give tirelessly of themselves working on the frontlines. You are appreciated.

Leonard Cohen wrote "there is a crack in everything, that's how the light gets in". Arguably, this pandemic has exposed many cracks particularly related to critical care resources and access to critical care in South African and globally. Hopefully, this signals a new era for critical care.

The ongoing pandemic has resulted in a quiet year of branch activities, with efforts focused on the delivery of quality care. It is hoped that we can offer our members an academic meeting towards the end of the year.

This year has also brought some changes to the committee, with Malcolm Miller stepping down as Chairman. I would like to extend my thanks to Malcolm for his leadership, dedication and ongoing service on the committee. Ellen le Roux is also stepping down as secretary. I would like to thank Ellen for her tireless work, it is greatly appreciated. I hope we can continue to draw on your skills and expertise. We also welcome three new nursing representatives Sadick Swarts, Thouwybah Phillips, Zandile Nosilela and Dr Shamiel Salie who will be representing Red Cross Hospital. We would also like to extend our thanks to Jenna Piercy who has represented the Western Cape on the National CCSSA Council.

I look forward to serving our members and greater critical care community over the next year. I would like to thank all our committee members once again for their ongoing dedication and service. Thank you to those on the frontline, you are seen, you are appreciated.

Yours truly,



Alison Lupton-Smith