E for the past 11 years, the British Columbia (BC) Thoracic Society has partnered with GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) Continuing Health Education to hold the Annual Case Challenge and Continuing Medical Education (CME) program. For the past three years, we have also benefited from working with our colleagues in the BC Society of Allergy and Immunology.

It originally began as a friendly forum to share our most interesting and challenging case presentations with our colleagues from respiratory departments in other local hospitals. In the early days, we numbered roughly 20 respirologists who enjoyed the opportunity to ‘show off’ our respective diagnostic expertise. Since then, our numbers have steadily grown to well over 50 specialists (both allergists and respirologists) from across the province.

As changes in the Royal College came into being and the new terminology of ‘MAINCERT credits’ loomed over us, we were happy to extend our event until the following Saturday for the CME portion of our program. Our agenda now typically includes two to three internationally renowned guest speakers and draws from top-notch national and local faculty. Our most recent 11th annual program attracted almost 90% of BC’s respirologists and allergists. We have also joined the technological revolution, with all speakers using PowerPoint (Microsoft, Canada) presentation software in conjunction with ‘touchpad technology’, which helps to make the programs quite interactive and memorable.

Every year we strive to provide an excellent interactive learning forum for all participants.