



Maine Medical Association

Amy Madden, MD, President | Karen Saylor, MD, President-Elect | Jeffrey S. Barkin, MD, Chair, Board of Directors
Andrew B. MacLean, JD, CEO | Dan Morin, Director of Communications & Government Affairs

Dear MMA Member:

Tuesday evening, the MMA's Executive Committee and Annual Session Planning Committee made the difficult decision not to proceed with the 2020 Annual Session scheduled for September 18-19, 2020 at the Harborside Hotel & Marina in Bar Harbor. We recognize the confusion undoubtedly created by the lead article in last week's *Maine Medicine Weekly Update* and the insert in *Maine Medicine* that you will receive any day and we regret having caused confusion. Like many organizations, we are trying to be flexible and adapt to the changing environment in which we live today. We based this decision on several factors:

1. We are concerned about the recent rise in COVID-19 cases in areas of our nation;
2. We do not believe that the circumstances, therefore, are appropriate for MMA to present an Annual Session theme of "Maine's Lessons Learned from the COVID-19 Pandemic;"
3. At a time when all organizations are examining bias and trying to be more sensitive to diverse religious, ethnic, and cultural values, we do not want to present a meeting that conflicts with Rosh Hashanah.

We hope that it will be safe to present a "Maine's Lessons Learned from the COVID-19 Pandemic" theme during a 2021 Annual Session at a location and on a date to be determined. We will invite Governor Mills and her pandemic response team to be the keynote speakers if their schedules permit.

Still, we plan to schedule a virtual General Membership meeting this Fall to address governance and other business.

Sincerely,

Amy Madden, MD
President