

## Biographical Sketch - Dr. Martin J. Gardner



Dr Gardner is a Professor of Medicine, Dalhousie University and a clinical electrophysiologist and Director of the Inherited Heart Disease Clinic at the QEII Health Sciences Centre, Halifax. He completed his term as the Associate Dean for Postgraduate Medicine at Dalhousie University in 2012. He was a member of the Senate at Dalhousie University and is now a member of the Council of the Nova Scotia College of Physicians and Surgeons. He was the president of the Canadian Heart Rhythm Society from 2004 – 2006.

Dr. Martin Gardner graduated from medical school at Dalhousie University in 1976 and then went on to complete Internal Medicine and Cardiology Fellowships. He completed a research fellowship in electrophysiology at the University of Pennsylvania. Upon his return to Halifax he established the EP Laboratory at the Victoria General Hospital (now the QEII Health Sciences Centre) and performed the first catheter ablation procedure in Halifax in 1992.

Dr Gardner's research interest has been the prediction of sudden death in at risk populations. He did a sabbatical with Dr William McKenna at St George's Hospital in London, England in 2003 focusing on the forms of inherited heart diseases associated with sudden death. Following the sabbatical he established the Inherited Heart Disease Clinic in Halifax in 2004.

Dr Gardner joined the Canadian Cardiovascular Society while a trainee 1980. He has presented research abstracts and posters at the meetings since then and has been a member of guideline committees for Prevention of Sudden Death, Atrial Fibrillation, Heart Failure, Genetic Testing and Cardiomyopathies. He has developed and presented several workshops at the national meeting and in 1981 developed and chaired the joint CCS/ Heart and Stroke Symposium at the CCS meeting in Halifax. He was a member of the local arrangements committee for the CCS Annual Meetings at last three meetings held in Halifax. He has been a member of the CCSA board since 2017 and Member at Large of the CCS Council from 2018 to 2022.

Dr Gardner was the Atlantic Provinces Governor of the American College of Cardiology. As President of the Canadian Heart Rhythm Society he worked closely with the CCS to align the CHRS and other similar societies as Affiliates of the CCS. He worked with the CCS and the RCPSC to develop the RC Diploma Programs and was a member of the Specialty Committee of the Adult EP AFC (Diploma) Committee that led that group to one of the first approved AFC Programs of the Royal College. Dr Gardner was a member of the Research Advisory Committee of the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada and served as chair of that committee from 1995-1997. He developed the Atlantic Canada Cardiovascular Conference and was the Director from its initiation in 1995 to 2005. He served on the editorial Board of the Canadian Cardiovascular Journal and has been a reviewer of abstract submissions to the CCS from 2002 to present.

Over the years he has received a number of teaching awards, including a Faculty of Medicine, Dalhousie University, Award for Teaching Excellence in 1991 and again in 1992. In 1998 he received the Dr Lea C Steeves Award for Excellence in Continuing Medical Education Teaching, Dalhousie University and in 1999 he received the Teacher of the Year award for the Division of Cardiology. He received the RCPSC Mentor of the Year Award in 2020. He was presented the CCS Distinguished Teacher/Mentor award in 2021.

Dr Gardner and his wife Dominica enjoy the Atlantic seacoast off his back yard and his four children and eight grandchildren.