

# Faces of Residency



## DR. ADELE DUIMERING



**Medical School**  
University of  
British Columbia

**Residency**  
University of Alberta

**Specialty**  
Radiation Oncology

**PGY**  
3

### WHAT ATTRACTED YOU TO MEDICINE?

During my undergrad, I had considered pursuing graduate studies in medical physics. However, during a summer spent helping out with medical physics research at a cancer centre, I realized that I was more interested in working directly with patients and so I pursued medicine. Medicine is a dynamic, challenging, and incredibly rewarding field that I'm so grateful to be a part of.

### WHAT ATTRACTED YOU TO YOUR SPECIALTY?

Radiation oncology permits a unique mix of clinical interaction with patients and time spent working on treatment planning. I really enjoy both aspects, as they lend diversity to the workday. Furthermore, it's a privilege to be able to help oncology patients through difficult times; even in the cases where we're unable to treat curatively, there's much that can be achieved in the palliative realm.

### WHAT IS THE MOST REWARDING PART OF YOUR RESIDENCY TRAINING?

Oncology is very team-based, with cancer centres being collegial multi-disciplinary environments. I really enjoy coming to work each day and feeling that I'm contributing to improving our patients' wellbeing as part of a huge team that includes everyone from the occupational therapist to the volunteers pushing around the tea and cookie cart.

### WHAT DO YOU FIND THE MOST CHALLENGING IN YOUR RESIDENCY TRAINING?

Residency is a full-time job, on top of which there's studying, researching, teaching, and a myriad of other life things to maintain. Striking a balance can at times be hard.

### WHAT ENERGIZES YOU OUTSIDE OF RESIDENCY?

Reading, blogging, travelling, and checking out events in the local community.