

Social Accountability

Collaboration Yields Results in Aboriginal Health Education and Recruitment Initiatives

By: *Barbie Shore, Project Manager*

AFMC continues to co-lead national initiatives in First Nations, Inuit and Métis health education and student recruitment and retention into medicine in partnership with the Indigenous Physicians Association of Canada (IPAC).

The AFMC-IPAC Aboriginal Health Curriculum Subcommittee engaged in a broad consultation process with many partner stakeholders to develop undergraduate core competencies in First Nations, Inuit and Métis health, with the intent of increasing cultural competency and safety between medical learners/physicians and Aboriginal peoples, and between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal medical learners/faculty. This document will be available before the end of 2007.

The AFMC-IPAC Recruitment and Retention Subcommittee developed the *Pre-Admissions Support Toolkit for First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Students into Medicine* in partnership with admissions representatives from all 17 medical faculties and Aboriginal medical students. This toolkit gives medical faculties a guideline of things that work to support First Nations, Inuit and Métis students' success in their application to a faculty of medicine and during their medical education. It can be found on the AFMC website at www.afmc.ca, under the Aboriginal Health Needs section.

For more information on this Social Accountability Initiative, contact Barbie Shore, Project Manager at bshore@afmc.ca.

Medical and Health Science Students Collaborate on Public Health Interest Groups

By: *Barbie Shore, Project Manager*

The AFMC Public Health Task Group, with support from the Public Health Agency of Canada, is funding student-run Public Health Interest Groups as pilot projects over the next two years to raise awareness and interest in public health concepts and practice amongst medical students and those from other health professions.

This first year saw a tremendous response with 12 medical faculties starting new groups, each aiming their membership and activities at all health disciplines. The approach on how each will meet their objectives and the activities planned is as varied as the faculties they represent.

Some medical faculties are running their group across distributed campuses, ensuring broad reach and participation. Others have made interdisciplinary group leadership their foundation. All groups have set out creative activities to engage fellow students in public health concepts. These include: public health advocacy, training modules and electives, travel bursaries to participate in a public health elective in

another region, a speaker series, a movie series, panel discussions, debates, simulated public health emergencies, mentorship, journal clubs, direct community involvement, working in public health units, a social determinants of health game, interdisciplinary public health conferences, and developing a community health promotion/prevention programme to be delivered by first year students.

By supporting our student's enthusiasm to engage each other in public health principles and evaluating their group's successes and challenges, we hope to see sustained interdisciplinary Public Health Interest Groups across Canada after the pilot funding is complete.

For more information on this Social Accountability Initiative, contact Barbie Shore, Project Manager at bshore@afmc.ca.

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Nous vous proposons donc une soirée haute en couleurs où la culture et les arts culinaires seront à l'honneur. Dans un décor festif, des artistes et des créateurs vous donneront un avant-goût de ce que Montréal offre de mieux. Venez découvrir cette richesse culturelle qui chaque année attire des milliers de personnes. Une seule visite dans ce haut lieu de la culture vous convaincra.

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