



# AFMC

The Association of Faculties  
of Medicine of Canada

## The Future of Medical Education in Canada

**The Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada is leading a major Health Canada-funded project titled The Future of Medical Education in Canada. This 20-month project runs through March 2009 and is intended to lead to a medical education system that can better meet the needs of Canadians, both now and into the future.**

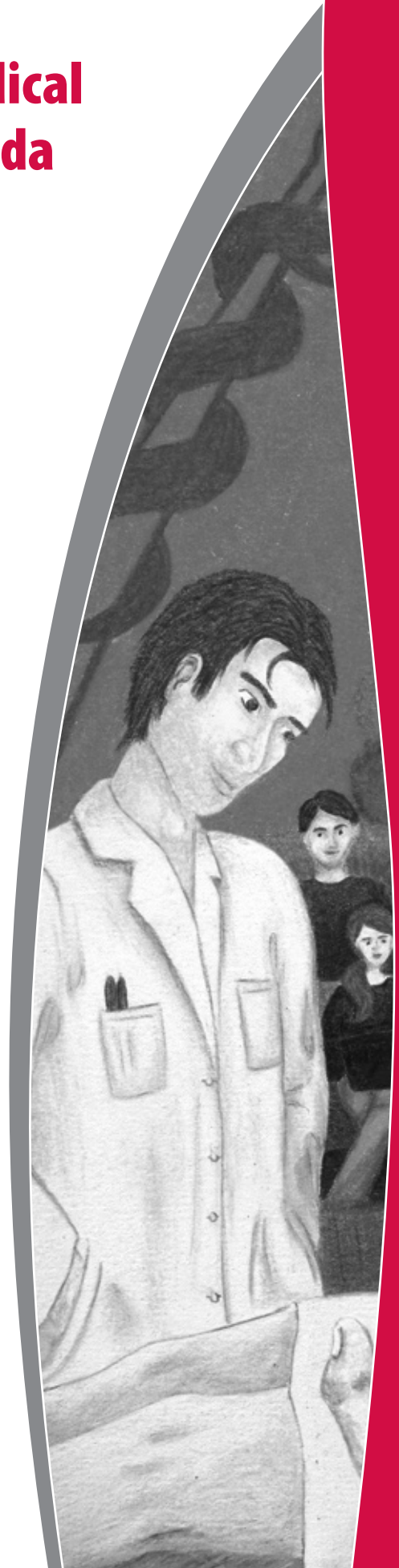
The overall goal of The Future of Medical Education in Canada is to promote excellence in patient care through reform of the medical education system where necessary and essential, based on a thorough review of undergraduate medical education in Canada that will examine society's present and future needs.

The project's steering committee is comprised of 15 individuals from across Canada, including four learners representing student and resident groups.

There are several key components to The Future of Medical Education in Canada. First, an extensive environmental scan is being undertaken by a nine-member bilingual, national collaboration between The Wilson Centre for Research in Education at the University of Toronto and Le Centre de pédagogie appliquée aux sciences de la santé at Université de Montréal. The environmental scan is comprised of a comprehensive literature review, approximately 30 national key stakeholder interviews and a synthesis report. We would also like to acknowledge our consulting team's significant financial contribution toward our comprehensive environmental scan. Second, comparative international consultations (in the U.K., the U.S. and possibly Australia and New Zealand) will be undertaken by members of the project steering committee and will yield data on best practices, challenges and innovations in medical education in relevant contexts. Finally, there will also be wide national-level consultations with experts, students and the public via the project's steering committee, a high-profile national blue ribbon panel of experts, a young leaders' forum and a data needs and access group.

Based on inputs from this early consultative work, the project's steering committee will develop a series of high-level draft recommendations for changes to undergraduate medical education in Canada. The blue ribbon panel, comprised of senior professionals from a wide range of mainly non-health sectors, will provide feedback on these draft recommendations.

The project will also involve an extensive consultation and engagement process with all 17 faculties of medicine in the second year. The proposed recommendations for change will be taken to a national forum in early 2009, for discussion, continued validation and formulation of next steps.



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