Call for Elders and Knowledge Keepers: 
NCIME Working Groups and Elders Circle

The National Consortium for Indigenous Medical Education (NCIME) is seeking Indigenous Elders and Knowledge Keepers to join our Working Groups, and Elders Circle to help integrate cultural safety into medical education, and expand the skill sets of the next generation of physicians in the Canadian health workforce and those delivering their education. Ensuring Indigenous Peoples access to care is high quality, culturally safe, and free of racism begins with Indigenous-led systemic change in how medical professionals are instructed and evaluated.

The NCIME has established Working Groups, and workplans focused on improvements in the following priority action areas:

- Assessment of Indigenous studies, cultural safety, and anti-racism
- Anti-racism, policies, processes, and implementation support
- Indigenous student admissions and transitions
- Indigenous faculty recruitment and retention
- Improving cultural safety in curriculum
- Indigenous physician wellness and joy in work

The six Working Groups are Chaired by members of the NCIME Executive Committee, and will include an Associate Chair who is a resident or early career physician, an Elder or Knowledge Keeper, and members drawn from the NCIME’s core and stakeholder organizations. Administrative, research and evaluation support will be provided by the NCIME staff, and consultants will be utilized as needed for special areas of expertise.

The Elders Circle will be led by the NCIME Knowledge Keeper, Leslie Spillett, Giizhigooweyaabikwe (Painted Sky Woman), Mukwa Doodum (Bear Clan), and provide guidance and advice to the NCIME Executive Committee, Governing Council, staff, and Working Groups.

Working Group Membership

The NCIME is seeking up to six (6) Indigenous Elders and Knowledge Keepers to join our Working Groups and Elders Circle. Indigenous communities and organizations are invited to recommend Elders to participate in the Elders Circle, pending a review and approval by the Executive Committee.
Responsibilities

1. Attending at least three (3) virtual, and one (1) in-person Working Group meeting per year (as per CPHA regulations).
2. Supporting the Working Group as they complete the workplan, including activities and key deliverables.
3. Attending at least one virtual (1), and one (1) in-person Elders Circle meeting per year (as per CPHA regulations).

Renumeration

Working Group and Elders Circle member is a volunteer role. Elders and Knowledge Keepers will be provided honorariums for their participation in virtual and in-person meetings, and reimbursed for travel expenses to attend the annual in-person Working Group and Elders Circle meetings, in accordance with NCIME policies and procedures.

Expression of Interest

For more information on the Working Groups and Elders Circle, to express interest, or recommend an Elder or Knowledge Keeper, please contact Joseph Bastien, Project Manager, at JBastien@NCIME.CA

The closing date for expressions of interest is August 6, 2021.

About The NCIME

The National Consortium for Indigenous Medical Education (NCIME) is an Indigenous-led partnership between the Indigenous Physicians Association of Canada, the Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada, the College of Family Physicians of Canada, the Medical Council of Canada and the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada.

Quick Facts

- The NCIME was developed by Indigenous physicians working with health care organizations who recognized the need for collaboration to advance Indigenous medical education across the country.
- These leaders comprise the NCIME Executive Committee and include Dr. Marcia Anderson (Chair, NCIME), Dr. Evan Adams, Dr. Sarah Funnell, Dr. Darlene Kitty, Dr. Lisa Richardson, and Dr. Nel Wieman.
- Funding from Health Canada will support the NCIME over the next three years (February 2021 through March 2024).
- This project emphasizes the use of formative and summative evaluation and impact assessment through standard metrics as well as utilizing Indigenous approaches and evaluation frameworks.