

# COMMUNITY REPORT 2011



Northern Ontario  
School of Medicine  
École de médecine  
du Nord de l'Ontario  
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**SIGNS** of  
**SUCCESS**

[www.nosm.ca](http://www.nosm.ca)



230+  
NOSM Staff

127  
CEPD  
Applications  
Reviewed and  
Approved

119  
CEPD  
Hosted  
Events

2  
University  
Campuses

9  
Residency  
Programs

480.25  
CME Credit Hours

94%  
of Medical  
Students from  
Northern Ontario

3.72  
Average  
GPA of  
Medical Students

70+ NOSM  
Communities

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>4</b>	<b>New! Health-Care Professionals Ahead</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>Measuring Success</b>
<b>16</b>	<b>Charting Research Across the North</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>Greenlight for Collaboration</b>
<b>20</b>	<b>Setting the Scene for Learning</b>
<b>24</b>	<b>Working with Community Partners</b>
<b>31</b>	<b>Recognizing Excellence</b>
<b>34</b>	<b>Dedicated to the Vision</b>
<b>37</b>	<b>Success Comes with Balance</b>
<b>38</b>	<b>Mapping NOSM's Distributed Model</b>

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Northern Ontario School of Medicine

The Northern Ontario School of Medicine's  
*Community Report* is published annually.



**Dr. Roger Strasser**  
**NOSM Dean**

## Message from the Dean

### Talk About Signs of Success!

Welcome to the Northern Ontario School of Medicine's (NOSM) **2011 Community Report**, which shines a spotlight on "Signs of Success." These signs, as you will see throughout the following pages, encompass the outstanding achievements and contributions made by alumni, learners, staff, faculty, and our many collaborators.

In 2011, several members of the School's Charter Class of MD graduates completed Family Medicine residency training at NOSM. This means that, for the first time, there are MD graduates of the Northern Ontario School of Medicine who are now fully licensed physicians. In addition, many residents coming to NOSM's residency programs from other undergraduate medical education programs have completed training, and are fully licensed.

As of July 2011, four classes of the Northern Ontario Dietetic Internship Program (NODIP) have graduated from NOSM. Occupational therapists and physiotherapists have continued to receive training in the North through clinical placements offered by NOSM's Northern Studies Stream.

Talk about signs of success! NOSM-trained health professionals are now living and working in communities across Northern Ontario. NOSM's distinct model of distributed, community-engaged medical education and research is working as intended.

Throughout the year, NOSM staff and faculty have focused on implementing the *Strategic Plan 2010-2015*, building on a foundation of values including innovation, social accountability, collaboration, inclusiveness, and respect. Our values are embedded in every facet of NOSM's organization. They are reflected in the way we educate our learners, conduct research projects in communities across the North, and foster our partnerships with Francophone and Aboriginal populations.

**Many thanks to all who have contributed to making NOSM a continued success.**



**Mr. Dominic Giroux**  
**Chair, NOSM Board of Directors**  
**and President and Vice Chancellor,**  
**Laurentian University**

## **Message from the Chair, Board of Directors**

2011 proved to be another successful year with tremendous milestones for NOSM, as we saw members of the Charter Class of MD graduates and other residents complete Family Medicine training. These graduates have gone on to improve health care in our Northern communities by opening and joining practices and undertaking health research suited specifically to our needs in the North. This is nothing short of a dream come true!

When NOSM was created six years ago, it was in large part to address the shortage of physicians in Northern Ontario. Now it has grown to become home to dietitians, physiotherapists and occupational therapists who have been trained in the North.

We can be proud of the citizens across Northern Ontario whose advocacy and support turned this dream into a reality. Year after year, NOSM's achievements contribute to building our healthy communities, and I look forward to what lies ahead.

As Chair of NOSM's Board of Directors, and on behalf of Laurentian University, I congratulate NOSM on these many clear signs of success.



**Dr. Brian Stevenson**  
**Vice Chair, NOSM Board of Directors**  
**and President, Lakehead University**

## **Message from the Vice Chair, Board of Directors**

Congratulations to the learners, staff, faculty, and partners of NOSM for another year of exciting achievements. NOSM may be a young medical school by measure of years, but by most other measures, NOSM has become an impressive leader in the delivery of medical education.

What defines a sign of success? For Northern Ontario, signs of success are emerging across the region. We now have Northern-trained health-care professionals practising in rural and remote areas across the North. Already, these health professionals are becoming preceptors, researchers, and leaders who are changing the future of health care in our communities.

As Vice-Chair of NOSM's Board of Directors, and President of Lakehead University, I am truly proud to witness the ongoing successes of a medical school committed to contributing to the health of the people and communities of Northern Ontario.



# SIGNS OF SUCCESS

**Like a roadmap, the Northern Ontario School of Medicine's journey through 2011 has been filled with landmarks and milestones.**

For the first time, there are NOSM-trained physicians opening practices, joining family health teams, and providing locum support for communities across the North. Alumni from the Northern Ontario Dietetic Internship Program (NODIP) and Northern Studies Stream are also now working in communities across Northern Ontario.

In 2011, many successes were achieved by learners, which demonstrate the advantages provided by a community-engaged, distributed model of education. NOSM's residents ranked first nationwide on their Medical Council of Canada (MCC) Part II qualifying examinations. Both NOSM's residents and MD graduates, including those who have chosen to pursue residency at other medical schools, achieved a 100 percent pass rate on their MCC exams.

And, for the second time, NOSM's fourth-year learners matched 100

percent in the first round of the Canadian Resident Matching Service (CaRMS) – a feat that has not happened at any other Canadian medical school for more than ten years.

Throughout the year, there have been accomplishments made by staff, faculty, preceptors, alumni, and learners, many of which are highlighted in the following pages.

Both the Postgraduate and the Continuing Education and Professional Development (CEPD) portfolios successfully achieved continued accreditation, and the School is preparing for the upcoming UME Accreditation Site Visit (ASV).

In 2011, NOSM was selected as the only medical school outside of the United States to be studied within the *Beyond Flexner* project at the George Washington University. One of six sites visited, NOSM was chosen for its

distributed model of education and social accountability mandate.

Not only has NOSM gained significant international attention for its innovation in medical education and research in the past year, the School has inspired the premise of a new fictional television series – titled *Hard Rock Medical* – that will soon air on two Canadian television networks.

These and many other successes will be shared with international delegates at the upcoming joint world conference, *Rendez-Vous 2012*, which will be held in Thunder Bay on October 9 to 14, 2012.

Thank you for joining NOSM on this journey and taking the time to *slow down, yield, and turn* the pages to read about our latest **signs of success!**



## NOSM-Trained Physicians Now Practising

Since 2007, MD graduates from medical schools across Canada have chosen NOSM's Family Medicine residency program to continue their medical training in Northern Ontario. Many of these NOSM-trained physicians are now practising medicine in communities across Northern Ontario.

In 2011, the School celebrated as, for the first time, several NOSM MD Charter Class graduates completed Family Medicine residency training at NOSM and became fully licensed physicians. In other words, there are now individuals who have successfully

completed the full spectrum of medical education at the School – a journey which began with entry into NOSM's MD program in 2005, and finished with the completion of NOSM's family medicine residency training six years later.

Whether entering NOSM as a medical student or a resident in one of the School's postgraduate programs, NOSM-trained, fully licensed physicians have begun seeing patients across Northern Ontario, and elsewhere.



## NOSM Model Proves Effective in Nationwide Examinations

NOSM announced in May 2011 that residents completing Family Medicine residency training ranked first among Canada's 17 medical schools in overall performance on their Medical Council of Canada (MCC) Part II qualifying examinations. NOSM's residents also rated first in the category of legal, ethical and organizational aspects of the practice of medicine, achieved an above-average standing in the categories of patient interaction and data acquisition, and received a 100 percent pass rate.

Additionally, NOSM's Charter Class MD graduates who chose residency at the School, or went on to pursue residency at other medical schools across Canada, did remarkably well as an aggregated group. They ranked fourth nationwide compared

to other Canadian medical schools, and also achieved a 100 percent pass rate.

These results emphasize the high calibre of NOSM medical students and residents, the effectiveness of the School's undergraduate and postgraduate medical education programs, and the exceptional quality of clinical training received from health-care professionals across Northern Ontario.

The qualifying exams are administered by the Medical Council of Canada and are a requirement of physician certification.

## NOSM Doctor Plans to Give Back to Dryden

**Dr. Adam Moir** believes the training he received at NOSM will set him and his fellow graduates apart from other physicians. “Our experiences in rural communities were invaluable. We had great rural preceptors who immediately involved us with the delivery of health care. That’s difficult to do in an urban setting,” he said.

Moir believes that his clinical and procedural skills were enhanced greatly because the excellent hands-on training he received during the School’s third-year Comprehensive Community Clerkship and from his preceptors during

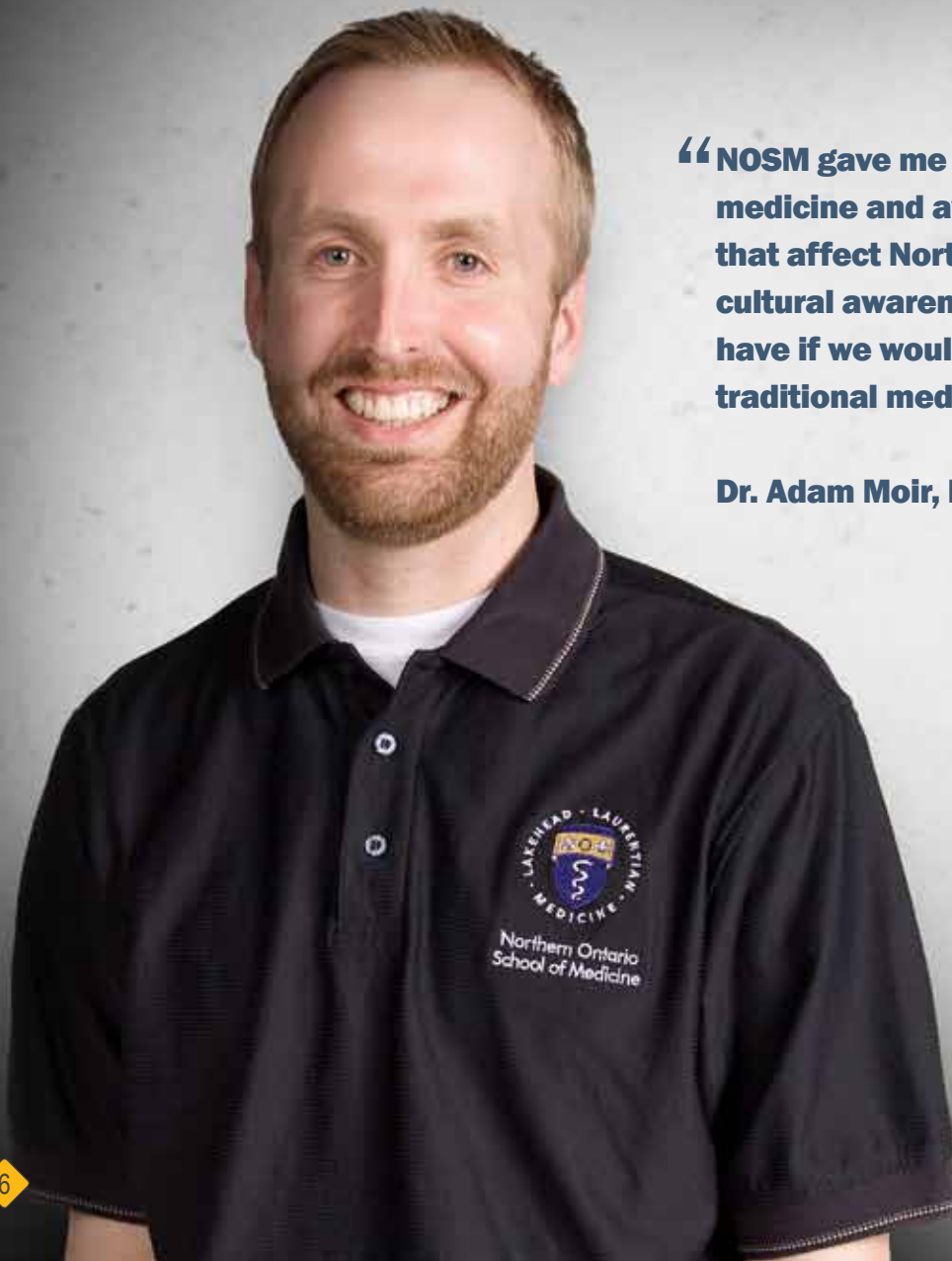
his Family Medicine residency training. “NOSM has some incredible faculty members and a great program director for its Family Medicine residency program. The pressure to demonstrate that you are working to the best of your ability is significant,” he said.

Since becoming a licensed physician, Moir has moved his family to Dryden, where he has joined the Dingwall Medical Group/Family Health Network. As for his future with NOSM, Moir said, “I’ve already filled out the application to become faculty and would love to give back by teaching.”



**“NOSM gave me an enthusiasm for rural medicine and awareness of the issues that affect Northerners. We gained cultural awareness that we wouldn’t have if we would have trained at a traditional medical school.”**

**Dr. Adam Moir, NOSM-Trained Physician**







## SOCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY



### Bringing Experience Back to Northern Ontario

After graduating from NOSM in 2009, **Dr. Alex Anawati** chose a Rural Family Medicine residency program at the University of British Columbia (UBC). “UBC’s Rural Family Medicine Program provided a unique opportunity to learn about different approaches to similar health challenges we have in Northern Ontario,” he said.

Placements in Aboriginal communities, which Anawati undertook at NOSM, prepared him for residency, but also allowed him to appreciate a culture and peoples that are often stereotyped and misunderstood. “I believe that a different approach to the concept of health is needed, an approach that I still do not fully understand, but at the very least, was impressed on me,” Anawati explained. “This concept falls in line with the principles of social accountability, which is the foundation of NOSM, and my approach to medicine.”

Anawati has returned to Sudbury to complete NOSM’s Postgraduate Year 3 Emergency Medicine program – described by Anawati as the best kept secret in the country. “This is home for me. My family and good friends are here. The staff and faculty in the ER have been very supportive and welcoming. Of all the places I’ve lived and travelled to in Canada, Northern Ontarians are among the nicest people out there,” he concluded.

*Dr. Alex Anawati,  
NOSM Resident*



*"This is an opportunity that doesn't come around very often in life, and I certainly know that I owe the fact that I am a physician to NOSM. Practising medicine is everything I thought and hoped it would be."*

**Dr. Sandi Adamson,**  
NOSM-Trained Physician



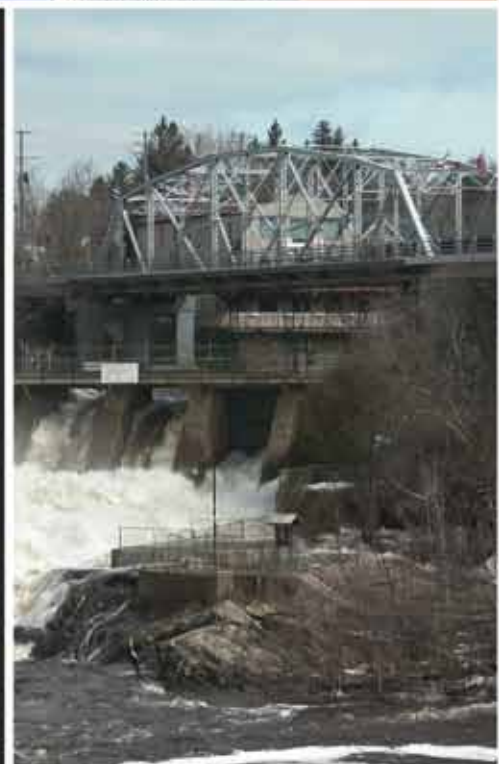
## Charter Class Doctor Goes Home to Bracebridge

**Dr. Sandi Adamson** knew from the beginning that her experience at NOSM would be like no other medical school. She soon discovered that hands-on experiential learning is what sets NOSM students apart from other medical students across Canada.

"I remember in my very first week of medical school, I sat down and talked with a patient. That doesn't happen at other schools. From the beginning we are talking to patients, and by the time we are done we are able to better communicate with them," said

Adamson. She believes that early patient interaction is a key reason why NOSM has seen so much success from learners in both the undergraduate and postgraduate programs.

Adamson is part of a group of the first students to complete their entire medical education at NOSM, from degree to residency. She has returned to Bracebridge and is now practising obstetrics and performing locum work throughout the Northeast until she sets up her own practice within the community.







## Discover More Successes of NOSM-Trained Health Professionals

*While this Community Report features the accomplishments of several NOSM-trained physicians and dietitians, there are many other NOSM-trained health-care professionals who are now practising across the North.*

*For more signs of success, please visit:*

[www.nosm.ca/signsofsuccess](http://www.nosm.ca/signsofsuccess)



*"Being able to practice medicine in my home town is more than I could imagine. As a member of a Family Health Team, I look forward to practising in an interdisciplinary environment with dietitians, social workers, and nurse practitioners to provide better health care for our patients."*

**Dr. Ben Quackenbush,**  
NOSM-Trained Physician



## New Physician Continues to Call Manitoulin Island Home

For **Dr. Ben Quackenbush**, being able to work and live in his home town of Little Current is what makes him happy. Quackenbush is one of NOSM's first MD graduates to complete residency and begin practising.

Quackenbush remembers one of the most difficult parts of medical school was moving his family with him as he completed his community placements, which are a unique component of NOSM's distributed, community-engaged model of medical education. "It was a challenge, but also the strength of the program. Being able to travel to different communities and gain experience was enormously beneficial," he said.

Back on Manitoulin Island after completing NOSM's Family Medicine residency program, Quackenbush has joined the Northeastern Manitoulin Family Health Team.

# NODIP

## MUCH MORE THAN AN INTERNSHIP

The ability to learn about population health and nutrition, and especially nutrition in Aboriginal communities, is what drew **Crystal Morra** to the Northern Ontario Dietetic Internship Program (NODIP) at NOSM. Morra knew she had selected the right program when her placement brought her to the community of Sioux Lookout, where she had the opportunity to work with the Sioux Lookout Diabetes Program. During her internship, she travelled to the community of Webequie First Nation, where she had her first experience in a remote Northern Ontario Aboriginal community.

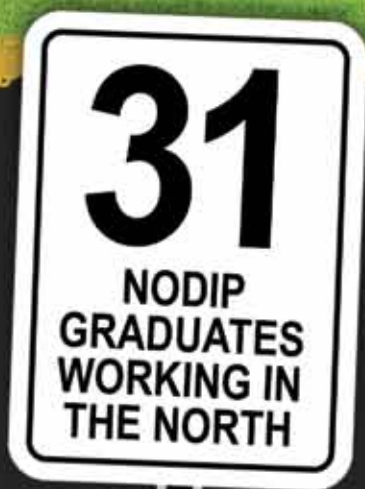
"I quickly understood the challenges of accessing health care in remote communities. It was amazing to see how the video technology was being utilized to fill some of the service gaps," said Morra.

Morra found NOSM's use of technology to be of great benefit to her internship. "It provided educational opportunities that might otherwise not have been possible because of the physical distance between learners. My experiences with technology as a NOSM intern have increased my comfort and knowledge when using technology in my career," she said.

Now a NODIP graduate, Morra is working at the Noojmowin Teg Health Centre. She is currently supporting NODIP interns as a research advisor and internship preceptor.



Crystal Morra,  
NOSM-Trained Dietitian



### NODIP Grad Attributes Her Success to NOSM

**Erin Reyce**, a graduate of the Northern Ontario Dietetic Internship Program's inaugural class, believes she was fortunate to have been chosen to participate in such a unique model of education.

Hands-on experience is what Reyce attributes to her success after graduation. "I had more of an internship in public health with NODIP than I would have had at any other program," said Reyce. "I couldn't imagine not having the distributed education model as a dietetic intern. It is comprehensive and you come out with a basic competency for every area of dietetic practice," said Reyce.

While studying at NOSM, Reyce enjoyed a placement with Algoma Public Health in Sault Ste. Marie, where she was able to assist in an educational campaign called, *Rethink Your Drink*. Reyce received valuable nutrition promotion experience working on this campaign and the opportunity to present her research at NOSM's Northern Health Research Conference in 2011.

Reyce is now a Public Health Dietitian working with the Healthy Living Team at the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit.





CRaNHR's John Hogenbirk (left) and Dr. Elizabeth Wenghofer (right) are joined by NOSM's Dean, Dr. Roger Strasser, and the Honourable Rick Bartolucci, MPP - Sudbury.

# Measuring Success

## CRaNHR to Continue Tracking Study

**On June 24, 2011,** Rick Bartolucci, MPP for Sudbury, announced a **\$1.145 million funding commitment** on behalf of the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. This will provide for the continuation of a multi-year tracking study of students and graduates of the School during their undergraduate medical education, residency training, and medical practice. The Centre for Rural and Northern Health Research (CRaNHR), whose work is supported by researchers and investigators in Sudbury and Thunder Bay, will measure the number of graduates practising in rural, remote, and Northern communities, the types of services they provide, as well as the role of NOSM in shaping medical practice in the North.

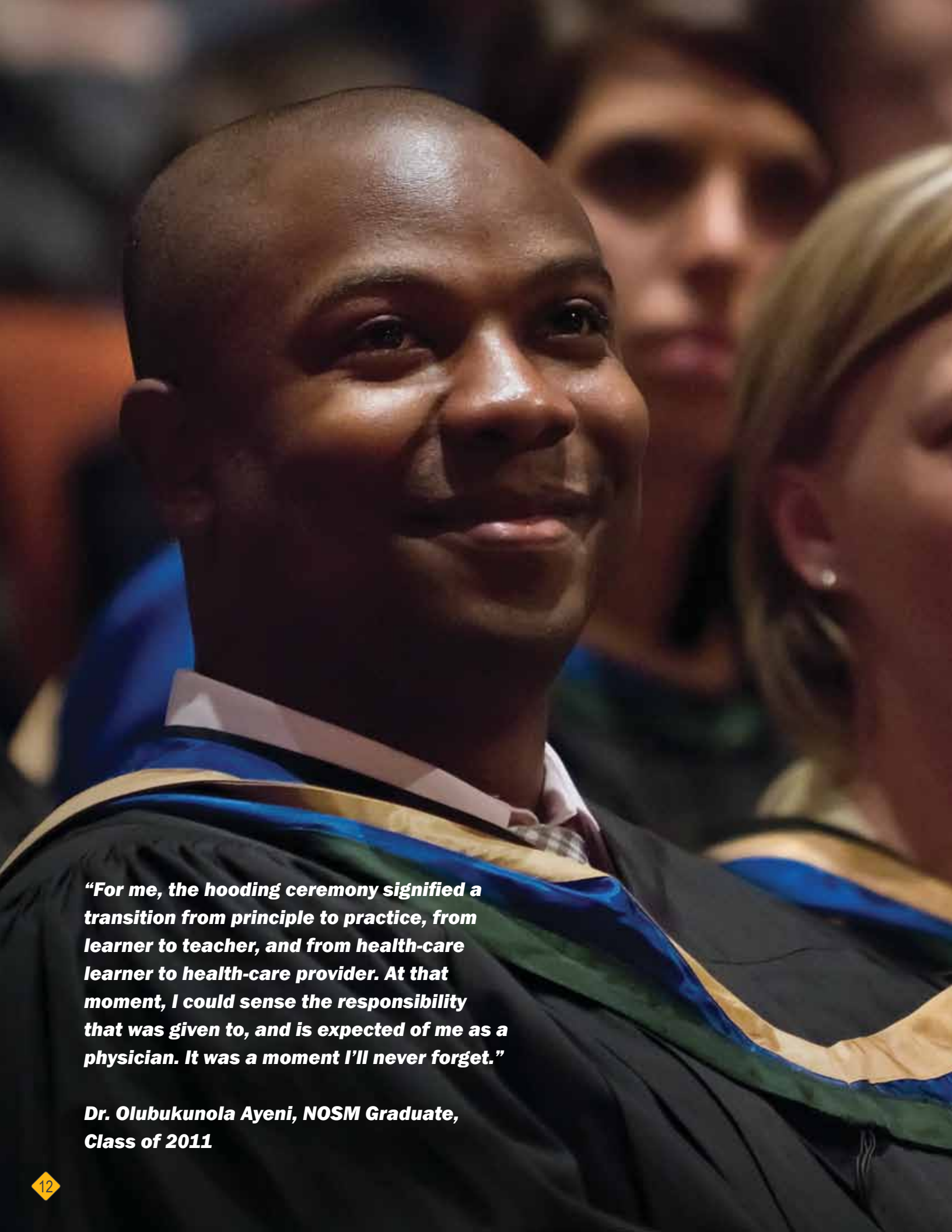
## NOSM One of Six Medical Schools Chosen as Part of Beyond Flexner Study

*Beyond Flexner* is an American study that is exploring innovations in medical education that are guided by a social mission. NOSM is one of only six medical schools, and the only medical school outside of the United States, selected to participate in this study.

The *Beyond Flexner* team visited NOSM in October 2011 to conduct a series of interviews and focus groups. During their time at NOSM, team members of the research study were able to visit the Town of Kapuskasing, one of NOSM's partner communities that hosts third-year medical learners during their Comprehensive Community Clerkship.

Representatives from the University of Toronto and the Beyond Flexner study visit NOSM's East Campus in Sudbury.





***“For me, the hooding ceremony signified a transition from principle to practice, from learner to teacher, and from health-care learner to health-care provider. At that moment, I could sense the responsibility that was given to, and is expected of me as a physician. It was a moment I’ll never forget.”***

***Dr. Olubukunola Ayeni, NOSM Graduate,  
Class of 2011***



# Newest Graduates Demonstrate Excellence

NOSM's graduating class of 2011 was **100 percent** successful in matching in the first round of the Canadian Resident Matching Service (CaRMS). This is the second time that medical students from NOSM have matched within the first round — and only the second time that this has happened in all of Canada in over ten years. More than 60 percent of the 2011 graduating class will go on to Family Medicine programs.

Many graduates will undertake their postgraduate training at NOSM, in communities across Northern Ontario, while others — some pursuing residency at other medical schools — will represent NOSM in postgraduate programs across the country.

"I congratulate the students on their achievement and wish them the very best as they move to the next stage to becoming fully licensed physicians," said Dr. Lisa Graves, NOSM's Associate Dean of Undergraduate Medical Education.

## Hooding is More Than Academic Regalia

In 2011, NOSM celebrated the third graduation of medical students from the Undergraduate Medical Education program. Convocations and hooding ceremonies occurred on May 27, 2011 at Lakehead University's Port Arthur Collegiate Institute (for West Campus MD graduates), and on June 3, 2011 at Laurentian University's Fraser Auditorium (for East Campus MD graduates).

The time-honoured tradition of hooding medical graduates recognizes achievement and acknowledges the transition from student to physician. The Hooding Ceremony, and administration of the Hippocratic Oath, remind the students of the obligations and high standard of behaviour and conduct of their chosen profession. The academic hood, placed over the robe during the Hooding Ceremony, includes several sections: the black shell, the velvet edge signifying the degree conferred, and the chevron with the colours of the institution conferring the degree. Typically, kelly green velvet is used to represent a degree in medicine.



## NOSM Student Society Hosts 2011 Ontario Medical Student Weekend

**From October 14 - 16, 2011,** the NOSM Student Society hosted the annual Ontario Medical Student Weekend (OMSW) in Sudbury. The Ontario Medical Student Association, which is the student section of the Ontario Medical Association, plans and oversees this annual weekend event.

More than 450 medical students attended the 2011 OMSW to explore and discuss the theme of the conference, *Leading Health Care in a New Direction*. Medical students attended presentations by internationally-renown speakers, such as Drs. Marla Shapiro and Captain Ray Wiss, and several clinical skills workshops.

Each year, the OMSW is hosted by a different medical school in Ontario. OMSW 2012 will be hosted by the University of Ottawa.



# NOSM INSPIRES HARD ROCK MEDICAL

*Standing, from left to right: Mark Palumbo, President, Music and Film in Motion; Lisa de Wilde, CEO, TVO; Honourable Rick Bartolucci, Ontario Minister of Northern Development and Mines; Frank Taylor, President, Title Entertainment Inc.; Derek Diorio, President, Distinct Features Inc.; and, Tracy-Michelle Legault, Executive Producer, Carte Blanche Films Inc. Sitting: Dr. Roger Strasser, NOSM Dean.*

**On December 9, 2011**, Minister of Northern Development and Mines and Chair of the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation (NOHFC), Honourable Rick Bartolucci, alongside representatives from TVO, Title Entertainment Inc., Distinct Features Inc., and Carte Blanche Films Inc., introduced a new medical drama that will begin production in Northern Ontario. As part of the announcement, the NOHFC committed **\$1 million in new funding** towards production. Loosely inspired by NOSM, *Hard Rock Medical* is a television series that follows a diverse group of medical students navigating their way through a fictional school's four-year program.





# Rendez-Vous 2012

together | ensemble | maamawi  
and engaged | et engagé | nakiidaa



**In October 2012**, NOSM will host a major joint world conference in Thunder Bay, Ontario. This conference will bring together the Wonca World Rural Health Conference and The Network: Towards Unity for Health annual conference, the next NOSM/Flinders Conference on Community Engaged Medical Education, the Consortium for Longitudinal Integrated Curricula (CLIC), and the Training for Health Equity Network (THEnet).

Rendez-Vous 2012 has been designed for health professionals, educators, students, and researchers from all parts of the world to share experiences, opportunities, and challenges related to the conference theme: *Community Participation in Education, Research and Service*.

Visit **[www.rendez-vous2012.ca](http://www.rendez-vous2012.ca)** for details.

**1** Major Joint  
**World**  
Conference

**5** Conference  
Organization  
**Partners**

**500+**  
Participants



Northern Ontario  
School of Medicine  
École de médecine  
du Nord de l'Ontario  
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CONSORTIUM for  
LONGITUDINAL  
INTEGRATED  
CURRICULA (CLIC)

# CHARTING RESEARCH ACROSS THE NORTH

*"This is Northern health research, based in a Northern community, designed by that community with direct benefits to that same community. That's what research at NOSM is all about."*

*Dr. Aaron Orkin, NOSM Faculty Member*

## Research Project Builds Partnerships and Solutions

Sachigo Lake First Nation is a remote community. With a population of less than 400, Sachigo Lake is more than 400 kilometres north of Sioux Lookout, and only accessible by air or, during the winter months, a temporary ice road. Health care for this remote community is provided by a local nursing station or a visiting physician, and there are no local paramedic services.

NOSM faculty and co-investigators Drs. Aaron Orkin and David VanderBurgh are leading a project to improve local first response skills and the management of critical health emergencies. They have partnered with the community of Sachigo Lake First Nation to develop and evaluate a first aid education program that is culturally specific to the community.

"If you look at the communities north of Sioux Lookout and First Nations reservations across Canada, the health statistics and rates of emergency health crises are dramatically elevated in comparison with the Canadian average," said Orkin. This is especially

true with regard to trauma: injury accounts for a third of all deaths among Aboriginal peoples in Canada. "With a collaborative, community-centred approach, we hope that first response training can build a healthier community and ultimately save lives in some of the most isolated and underserved settings in Canada."

Orkin believes that the project reflects common approaches that NOSM uses when educating medical learners. "Our entire project has focused on building a partnership with the people of Sachigo Lake First Nation," said Orkin. He and VanderBurgh partnered with local government and the Sachigo

Lake First Nation Health Authority's Health Director, Jackson Beards, to understand local needs and review how the community had managed and processed past critical incidents. Using this information, they have designed a learning plan that is specific to Sachigo Lake First Nation.

Orkin and VanderBurgh are now expanding the project to involve NOSM medical students and residents. "With NOSM learners on board, community-based research can become a part of how new physicians think about research from the start," said Orkin.



## NHRC Inspires Secondary Students from Northern Ontario

***“Events such as this, we hope, will encourage students to consider a future career in the field of health care. Our goal is to engage students at a time when they are able to start making decisions about courses and post-secondary education that will benefit them if they decide to pursue a health-related profession.”***

**Danielle Barbeau-Rodrigue, NOSM's Director of Francophone Affairs**

In June 2011, NOSM hosted the sixth annual Northern Health Research Conference (NHRC) in Huntsville. Through oral and poster presentations, researchers from Ontario and beyond presented projects with relevance to the health of Northern peoples and communities.

During the two-day conference, a special session was held for high school students from Bracebridge, Gravenhurst, Huntsville, and Parry Sound. Hosted by NOSM's Francophone Affairs Unit, the session encouraged Aboriginal and Francophone participants to consider a career in a health-related field. The students were provided with the opportunity to learn about health research from a NOSM researcher, and to discuss the medical profession with a NOSM medical student. Students were also invited to sit in on presentations by a Sudbury family physician, graduates of the Northern Ontario Dietetic Internship Program, and researchers from Lakehead University in Thunder Bay.

**The seventh annual NHRC will be held in May 2012 in Thunder Bay.**



Dr. Paul Fredette (top right) NOSM faculty member, and NHRC keynote speaker (bottom right) Dr. David Henry, President and CEO of Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences (ICES). D' Paul Fredette (en haut à droite), membre du corps professoral de l'EMNO et conférencier principal à la CRSN (en bas à droite) D' David Henry, directeur général de l'Institut de recherche en services de santé (IRSS).

## La CRSN inspire des élèves du secondaire du Nord de l'Ontario

***« Nous espérons que des événements comme celui-ci encourageront les élèves à envisager une carrière dans le domaine des soins de santé. Notre but est de les interpeler à un moment où ils sont en mesure de commencer à déterminer les cours et l'éducation postsecondaire qui leur seront utiles s'ils décident d'embrasser une profession de la santé. »***

**Danielle Barbeau-Rodrigue, directrice des affaires francophones de l'EMNO**

L'EMNO a tenu la sixième Conférence annuelle de recherche sur la santé dans le Nord (CRSN) à Huntsville **en juin 2011**. Au cours de présentations orales et par affiches, des chercheurs de l'Ontario et d'ailleurs ont présenté des études portant sur la santé des gens et des collectivités du Nord.

Cet événement de deux jours comportait une séance spéciale pour les étudiants d'écoles secondaires de Bracebridge, Gravenhurst, Huntsville et Parry Sound. Organisée par le Bureau des affaires francophones de l'EMNO, cette séance a encouragé des participants autochtones et francophones à envisager une carrière dans le domaine de la santé. Les élèves ont eu l'occasion de se renseigner sur la recherche en santé menée par un chercheur de l'EMNO et de discuter de la profession médicale avec un étudiant de l'École. Ils ont également été invités à assister à des présentations d'un médecin de famille de Sudbury, de diplômés du Programme de stage en diététique dans le Nord de l'Ontario, et de chercheurs de la Lakehead University à Thunder Bay.

**La septième CRSN aura lieu en mai 2012 à Thunder Bay.**



NOSM Dean's Summer Medical Student Research Award recipients: (from left) Pouya Sadeghi Aval, David Savage, and Sean Bryan.

# Research Relevant to the North

## Dean's Award Opens Doors for Research Collaboration

**Each year, the School presents NOSM Dean's Summer Medical Student Research Awards to qualifying students who will work with NOSM researchers on various research projects during the summer months.**

Under the supervision of Dr. Marina Ulanova, award recipient Pouya Sadeghi Aval worked on a project titled, *Clinical characteristics and epidemiology of invasive Haemophilus influenzae disease in Northern Ontario in the post-hib vaccine era*. This project is an example of a successful NOSM cross-campus collaboration, and is highlighted on the adjacent page.

Sadeghi Aval analyzed health records from patients who, in the last two years, were admitted to the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre (TBRHSC) with infections caused by *Haemophilus influenzae* Type A. This research will help to understand what risk factors may predispose people to this disease and what can be done to prevent infection. "On a professional level, we've established relationships with new collaborators across the country. These collaborations will not only further our project, but also enhance future research at the Northern Ontario School of Medicine," believes Sadeghi Aval.

Congratulations to the recipients of the 2011 NOSM Dean's Summer Medical Student Research Awards: Sean Bryan, Matthew Piche, Pouya Sadeghi Aval, David Savage, Leah Scott, and William Yates.

***"Securing research dollars is one of the greatest challenges faced by all academics. This award has given me the opportunity to carry out this exciting and relevant research," said Sadeghi Aval.***



# Greenlight for Collaboration

## NOSM Researchers Participate in Cross-Campus Collaboration

A project initiated five years ago by **Dr. Marina Ulanova**, an immunologist with NOSM's Medical Sciences division, has led to a collaborative project between faculty in the Medical and Clinical Sciences divisions at NOSM. This collaboration also brings together researchers from NOSM's East and West campuses.

In 2006, Ulanova found a very high incidence of a severe disease in Northwestern Ontario caused by a specific type of *Haemophilus influenzae*. "The serological type A is extremely uncommon in the world and its high rate in the region was unexpected," Ulanova explained. A similar, or even higher incidence of this disease, was only found in the North American Arctic. In Northwestern Ontario, the highest incidence of this disease occurred in Aboriginal populations and those who had severe underlying conditions causing immunosuppression.



*Dr. Marina Ulanova, Immunologist  
and NOSM Associate Professor*

"These findings became a starting point for research collaboration with NOSM's clinical faculty members Drs. Birubi Biman, Malcolm Brigden, Len Kelly, Saleem Malik, William McCreedy, and Dimitrios Vergidis, with the goal to understand the immunological reasons for such increased susceptibility, and ultimately develop a new strategy for the prevention of this infection," said Ulanova.

In collaboration with Drs. Garry Ferroni of NOSM, Raymond Tsang of National Microbiology Laboratory, and Frances Jamieson of Ontario Public Health Laboratories, Ulanova has recently addressed a question whether patients' specific immune responses and characteristics of the pathogen could potentially explain the high susceptibility to the disease among Northern Ontario residents, and this research is in progress.

*"NOSM's existence has fostered research by physicians practising in the North, and has provided excellent opportunities for collaborations, discussions, and exchange of ideas."*

*Dr. Marina Ulanova,  
Immunologist and NOSM Associate Professor*



# Setting the Scene for Learning

## Boot Camp Empowers Family Practice Anaesthesiologists

In only its second year, the Family Practice Anaesthesia Boot Camp, a collaborative effort between NOSM and Health Sciences North (HSN) in Sudbury, has grown to be one of the most elaborate and successful simulation programs in the country.

Many Family Practice Anaesthesiologists work in rural and remote communities where they serve as the first contact during a crisis, usually with little in the way of resources or back up. The Boot Camp is a five-day, intense, simulation-based crisis management and anaesthesia course created to give residents the skills needed to succeed in practice.

Residents from other Canadian medical schools and from Australia joined NOSM family practice anaesthesia residents for the Boot Camp in Sudbury in early August 2011. Learners were exposed to a range of experiences, including advanced airway management techniques, reflective learning strategies, managing crisis situations, and communicating effectively under pressure. Following the program, family practice anaesthesia residents are less anxious about dealing with crisis management situations and are more motivated and competent in their approaches to developing their practice.

***“The future of this course and others like it is unlimited. Faculty in paediatrics, internal medicine, surgery and other specialties are interested in pursuing similar events for their residents. With the highly skilled faculty at NOSM, continuing medical education opportunities are very exciting.”***

**Dr. Robert Anderson,**  
**Family Practice Anaesthesia**  
**Program Director**

## Boot Camp in 2011

3 Mannequins	37 CME Credits	5 Days	20 Cases	3 Departments
	18 Faculty Members		17 Residents	





*Suzanne Lortie-Carlyle, former Coordinator for Simulation Learning Initiatives at NOSM, demonstrates the special effects created by moulage.*

# Lights, Camera, Moulage!

## The Art of Simulating Injuries

**Simulation mannequins** and **standardized patients** are resources that allow medical learners to develop and practise their professional skills in safe and controlled settings. It is important for simulation-based education to provide sufficiently authentic experiences that allow for the learning of proper diagnoses and treatment plans. That's where 'moulage' comes in. Moulage is the art of creating simulated injuries, ranging from basic abrasions and cuts to major fractures, burns, and even amputations.

Suzanne Lortie-Carlyle, NOSM's former Simulation Coordinator and moulage artist, can create the look of a very painful accident with just a few items. "I can create a burn using only a little white glue, tissue paper, and a cotton ball," said Lortie-Carlyle. Other moulage techniques make use of more complex materials, such as latex, wax, simulation gelatine, and silicone to simulate major lacerations and injuries. The injuries displayed by simulation mannequins and standardized patients can look very realistic. "Moulage brings a sense of life to our simulation mannequins, and can add a real sense of urgency to treating a standardized or simulated patient," Lortie-Carlyle explained.





NOSM medical student, Jonathan Ramkumar (middle), learns alongside students from Collège Boréal, Ginette Bradley (left) and Mercedes Byrnes (right), at an interprofessional learning session.



# Learning Together at NOSM

## Compelling Programs Feature Interprofessional Collaboration



Working towards changing the way health and social care is delivered is one of the goals of the **Interprofessional Education (IPE) program** at NOSM. Interprofessional learning occurs when two or more professions learn with, from, and about each other to improve collaboration and quality of patient care.

In 2011, NOSM hosted a variety of interprofessional learning opportunities at the East and West campuses. The School and Youth Health Interprofessional Learning Series, a collaboration between NOSM, the School of Education and the Sudbury Action Centre for Youth, explored the unique physical and emotional stressors that impact youth. Participants were engaged in discussions that reflect the reality and resiliency of marginalized youth in our community, which will enhance collaborative patient-centred care. Learners from a diverse array of health- and social-care professions engaged in interactive, small-group work, and case-based discussions that examined collaborative interprofessional learning. Another dynamic IPE program hosted by NOSM in 2011 was the Health Care Team Challenge (HCTC). Learners participated in teams of six and addressed case studies reflective of the unique challenges of working in rural Northern Ontario.



# Working Together at NOSM



Occupational therapists Laurie Macdonald, Sue Delamere, and Katherine Stewart celebrate the Northern Studies Stream's 20th anniversary.

## Choosing the Northern Ontario Lifestyle

Providing **Occupational Therapy (OT)** and **Physiotherapy (PT)** learners with the opportunity to learn about the unique health-care needs and diverse populations of Northern Ontario are key reasons why the Northern Studies Stream (NSS) was created 20 years ago. Originally a partnership between McMaster University, Lakehead University and the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care, the NSS is now administered by NOSM.

Travelling from McMaster University to Thunder Bay, students complete a clinical placement or a combined academic semester, plus clinical placement.

NSS Coordinator for Physiotherapy, Christopher Winn, strongly believes the program does attract graduates to stay in the North. Winn, a Vancouver native, participated in the NSS in 2002 and chose to start his career in Thunder Bay. He is not the only one, he explains. "A study completed by our team in the summer of 2011 showed that 37% of former NSS students chose to relocate to either Northern Ontario or other rural locations in Canada upon completion of their studies," Winn said.




## ERIC Project Promotes Interprofessional Collaboration

The Experiencing Rural Interprofessional Collaboration (ERIC) Project is an initiative by NOSM to integrate interprofessional experiences into the studies of health professional learners who are undertaking clinical placements in rural communities across Northern Ontario.

The ERIC project assisted in the development of interprofessional learning scenarios that were held within each of the twelve participating communities. Moving forward, the ERIC project will assist these communities in the growth and development of other events that encourage interprofessional collaboration for learners. The ERIC project encourages providing medical care in a collaborative patient-centred approach.

*"It is a culture change phenomenon. A collaborative patient-centred practice model would inevitably improve the efficiency, effectiveness, and quality of care that is delivered."*

*Nicole Ranger, NOSM's Former Interim Director of Health Sciences and Interprofessional Education*



*Fran Coleman,  
NOSM's pioneering  
community partner.*

## WORKING WITH **COMMUNITY PARTNERS**

### **Community Partnerships Lead to a Healthier North**

There's a sense of pride that radiates from **Fran Coleman**, Town Councillor for the community of Huntsville, when she speaks about NOSM and its presence in her hometown. The community, which has contributed to the NOSM bursary program since infancy, knew early on that it was becoming part of something much larger than a single bursary.

She considers the community's investment of \$17,000 into a student bursary at NOSM – less than \$1.00 per person in the town of Huntsville – an investment that will lead to healthier returns later on. "This is a recruitment program at its best," said Coleman.

The citizens of Huntsville, a NOSM Comprehensive Community Clerkship site, make an exceptional effort to welcome NOSM's future physicians when they live and learn in the community during their third year of medical school. "We want them to fall in love with the community, and return when they have completed their studies," said Coleman.

The Muskoka-Algonquin Healthcare site, which serves the communities of Bracebridge and Huntsville, provides training to seven NOSM medical learners annually.

### **Lifelong Dedication Helps NOSM Learners**

In honour of her hard work and dedication to Huntsville, a NOSM bursary in Fran Coleman's name has been created by an anonymous donor. Medical students from Huntsville will now be able to pursue the career of their dreams with less worry about the financial hardships that can come with student debt.

NOSM extends congratulations to Coleman for her tireless effort in the pursuit of better health care for her community and Northern Ontario.



# A Golden Gift for Marathon

## Northern Community and NOSM Benefit from Generous Support

**Barrick Gold** provided a boost to the health care of Marathon and Northern Ontario in the summer of 2011. The donation of **\$150,000** was given to support a medical learners suite, technology infrastructure upgrades, and recruitment initiatives for the community of Marathon.



*Barrick Gold presents NOSM with cheque.*

This contribution will allow for upgrades in computer equipment for delivery of care in “off site” clinics which provide health care to local high schools and area First Nations. The Marathon Family Health Team clinic has also purchased equipment that can be used for students to conduct interviews with volunteer patients in the Structured Clinical Skills Sessions through remote access technology.

Dr. Barb Zelek, a NOSM Assistant Professor located in Marathon, believes that the contribution from Barrick Gold will go a long way for physician recruitment in the rural community. “Funding for recruitment initiatives makes it possible for us to showcase our unique model of practice. A physician intending to set up their own practice or join a practice will often want to visit several communities before making their decision. We hope that these additions to the way we teach and provide patient care will help to make us more attractive to prospective physicians,” said Zelek.

In addition, Barrick Gold donated \$35,000 to establish a NOSM student bursary, to support learners who have roots in Marathon. This gift qualified for matching funds from the Ontario Trust for Student Support, bringing the total value to \$70,000.

## Advancement by Numbers

The financial need of students pursuing medical education is ever increasing, and NOSM’s ongoing fundraising initiatives ensure that future students benefit from donors’ contributions.

### In 2011

<b>371</b>	<b>215</b>
<b>Awards and Bursaries</b>	<b>Applicants for Bursaries</b>

**\$912,011**  
**Disbursed**

**\$14,865**  
**Highest Amount Awarded**

<b>\$1,582</b>	<b>205</b>
<b>Average Bursary Amount</b>	<b>Recipients</b>

For more information, and to make a contribution to a NOSM bursary, visit:  
**[www.nosm.ca/donate](http://www.nosm.ca/donate)**

*Dr. Jean Anawati, former Board member, a member of the Francophone Reference Group, clinical physician teacher, and faculty member.*

*D<sup>r</sup> Jean Anawati, ancien membre du conseil, membre du Groupe consultatif francophone, médecin praticien-enseignant et membre du corps professoral.*

# SENSIBILISATION FRANCOPHONE AWARENESS

## NOSM Teaches the Art of Medicine

NOSM has become a significant factor in **Dr. Jean Anawati**'s day-to-day life. Anawati is an inaugural member of the NOSM Board of Directors, a member of the School's Francophone Reference Group (FRG), clinical physician teacher, a faculty member, and he also is the proud father of Charter Class graduate, Dr. Alexandre Anawati.

Anawati has watched NOSM grow from the beginning, and with a keen eye for the needs of Francophone populations.

"You recruit learners who are from the North and represent its diversity, train them close to home, and then hope that they stay," he said.

Anawati believes the hands-on training received by medical students early on, coupled with learning innovative technologies and traditional methods of health care, is what sets NOSM apart.

"Not only are medical students learning how to use the newest technologies,

but they are also practising their communication skills. They are becoming physicians capable of effective interactions with patients, which includes taking detailed histories, demonstrating a strong sense of commitment to the patient, and drawing upon a breadth of knowledge." All of these things are key components of what Anawati refers to as the 'art of medicine.'

## L'EMNO enseigne l'art de la médecine

L'EMNO est devenue un facteur important dans la vie quotidienne du **D<sup>r</sup> Jean Anawati**. Membre du premier conseil d'administration de l'EMNO, membre du Groupe consultatif francophone, médecin-clinicien enseignant, membre du corps professoral, il est aussi le fier père du D<sup>r</sup> Alexandre Anawati, diplômé de la toute première classe de l'EMNO.

Il a regardé l'EMNO faire ses premiers pas en gardant un œil avisé sur les besoins de la population francophone. « Vous recrutez des étudiants du Nord

qui représentent sa diversité, vous les formez près de chez eux et vous espérez qu'ils resteront » dit-il.

Le D<sup>r</sup> Anawati estime que la formation pratique que les étudiants reçoivent dès le début de leurs études, ainsi que les technologies novatrices d'apprentissage et les méthodes traditionnelles de prestation des soins sont ce qui distingue l'EMNO.

« Les étudiants en médecine apprennent non seulement comment utiliser les technologies les plus

récentes, mais ils mettent aussi en pratique leurs compétences en communication. Ils deviennent des médecins capables d'avoir des interactions efficaces avec les patients, ce qui inclut relever des anamnèses détaillées, montrer son engagement solide envers le patient, et puiser dans un éventail de connaissances ». Toutes ces capacités sont des composantes clés de ce que le D<sup>r</sup> Anawati appelle « l'art de la médecine ».



# Cultural Competency

***“Ask yourself, what will I do tomorrow to make myself more culturally or linguistically sensitive?”***

***Hubert Gauthier, Workshop Facilitator***

***« Posez-vous la question suivante : “Qu’est-ce que je vais faire demain pour devenir plus ouvert aux différences culturelles ou linguistiques?” »***

***Hubert Gauthier, animateur de l’atelier***

## Eliminating Linguistic Barriers Through Awareness

On March 8, 2011, NOSM hosted a Cultural Competency Workshop with a particular focus on Francophone culture. More than 35 NOSM faculty and staff were in attendance at the session, which was video-linked between the School’s East and West campuses. Facilitated by Hubert Gauthier, President, Hubert Gauthier Conseil Gestion, the goals of the session were to raise consciousness about matters relating to linguistic and cultural competence in health and social services.

The presentation addressed the increase in costs associated with the effects of linguistic and cultural barriers. According to Gauthier, it is common to find increased consultation time, increased number of diagnostic tests, and errors involving diagnosis and treatment due to these linguistic barriers. Key messages included that the responsibility for linguistic and cultural competence lies with health-care professionals, health-care systems and organizations, and communities.

## Sensibilisation pour éliminer les obstacles linguistiques et culturels

Le 8 mars 2011, l’EMNO a organisé un atelier sur la compétence culturelle axé sur la culture francophone. Plus de 35 professeurs et employés de l’EMNO étaient présents à cette séance, où la communication vidéo était assurée entre les campus Est et Ouest de l’École. Animé par Hubert Gauthier, président, Hubert Gauthier Conseil Gestion, l’atelier visait à sensibiliser les participants aux questions liées à la compétence linguistique et culturelle dans les secteurs de la santé et des services sociaux.

La présentation a porté sur l’augmentation des coûts associés aux effets des obstacles linguistiques et culturels. Selon M. Gauthier, l’augmentation du temps de consultation, du nombre de tests diagnostiques et d’erreurs de diagnostic et de traitement attribuables à ces obstacles linguistiques n’est pas rare. Parmi les principaux messages livrés au cours de l’atelier, M. Gauthier a indiqué que la responsabilité en matière de compétence linguistique et culturelle incombe aux professionnels de la santé, aux systèmes et aux organismes de santé, ainsi qu’aux collectivités.



INCLUSIVENESS  
INCLUSIVITÉ



*Living the Vision* participant Angela Recollet, former Aboriginal Reference Group member and Board member, and others listen to keynote speaker.

Les participants à « *Living the Vision* », Angela Recollet, ancienne membre du conseil et du Groupe consultatif autochtone, et d'autres personnes écoutent la conférencière principale.

## Social Accountability in Practice

### Agreement Responsive to Métis

In May 2011, at the opening ceremony of the *Living the Vision* workshop, NOSM and the Métis Nation of Ontario (MNO) sealed their commitment to collaboration in ink. The agreement will guide the organizations to focus on the development of new medical courses, academic programs, and innovative research initiatives which are responsive to the Métis people and communities of Northern Ontario. NOSM and MNO will work together to increase the visibility and success of Métis medical professionals in Ontario, and facilitate an increase of Métis students pursuing medical careers in the North.

### Entente favorable pour les Métis

Lors de la cérémonie d'ouverture de l'atelier *Living the Vision* en mai 2011, l'EMNO et la Métis Nation of Ontario (MNO) ont confirmé sur papier leur engagement à collaborer. L'entente guidera les organismes dans l'élaboration de nouveaux cours de médecine, de programmes d'études et d'initiatives de recherche novatrices qui répondent aux besoins des gens et communautés métis du Nord de l'Ontario. L'EMNO et la MNO travailleront ensemble pour améliorer la visibilité et le succès des professionnels métis de la médecine en Ontario, et augmenter le nombre d'étudiants métis qui feront carrière en médecine dans le Nord.





# Living the Vision

## Keynote Speaker Inspires Crowd

In May 2011, NOSM co-hosted the *Living the Vision* workshop with the Métis Nation of Ontario. The three-day workshop was attended by Métis and First Nations peoples from across Northern Ontario. Participants were inspired by a keynote address from **Dr. Jessica Dunkley**. Dunkley, Canada's first deaf, Métis medical student, completed her MD at the University of Ottawa in 2010. She is currently pursuing her residency in dermatology at the University of British Columbia.

During her address, Dunkley explained the pressure she experienced in practising her skills over and over again to make sure that her preceptors recognized she was worth teaching. "There were days that I would walk home and cry. I was being treated so differently by so many people. Other doctors would take over my responsibilities because they wanted to help me, but that is not what I wanted. I knew exactly what I was capable of doing," said Dunkley.

As a Métis medical student, she wishes she had the opportunity to learn within an Aboriginal community. She believes that this aspect was lacking in her medical undergraduate degree.

Dunkley encouraged participants to open their hearts and their minds throughout the conference, "for the future of our Indigenous community, for the future of our health, and for the future of bringing our spirit together."



*Dr. Jessica Dunkley, Keynote Speaker*  
*D<sup>re</sup> Jessica Dunkley, conférencière principale*

## Une conférencière inspire la foule

L'EMNO a organisé l'atelier *Living the Vision* en collaboration avec la Métis Nation of Ontario en mai 2011. Des membres métis et autochtones de tout le Nord de l'Ontario ont assisté à cet atelier de trois jours et ont trouvé de l'inspiration dans la conférence de la **D<sup>re</sup> Jessica Dunkley**. Première étudiante en médecine métisse sourde au Canada, elle a obtenu son grade de médecin à l'Université d'Ottawa en 2010 et fait actuellement sa résidence en dermatologie à l'University of British Columbia.

Pendant son allocution, elle a expliqué combien elle a dû mettre ses compétences en pratique encore et encore pour convaincre ses précepteurs qu'elle était capable d'apprendre : « Il y a eu des jours où je rentrais chez moi en larmes. Tellement de gens me traitaient différemment. D'autres médecins prenaient mes responsabilités parce qu'ils voulaient m'aider, mais ce n'était pas ce que je voulais. Je savais exactement ce dont j'étais capable » dit-elle.

À titre de Métisse, elle aurait aimé avoir l'occasion de s'instruire dans une communauté autochtone. Elle pense que cet aspect manquait dans son programme de premier cycle.

Elle a encouragé les participants à ouvrir leur cœur et leur esprit tout au long de la conférence « pour l'avenir de notre collectivité autochtone, pour l'avenir de notre santé, et pour regrouper notre esprit à l'avenir ».



*NOSM Dean, Dr. Roger Strasser and MNO President, Gary Lipinski sign collaboration agreement.*

*Le doyen de l'EMNO, le D<sup>r</sup> Roger Strasser, et le président de la MNO, Gary Lipinski, signent l'entente de collaboration.*



*Participants collaborate and provide feedback to NOSM.*  
*Les participants collaborent et fournissent des commentaires à l'EMNO.*

# Elders on Campus

## A Foundation of Support for NOSM

**NOSM has engaged the Aboriginal communities of Northern Ontario from the beginning. Most notably for Elder Julie Ozawagosh is the creation of the Elders Council. The Aboriginal Reference Group (ARG) was also created at the outset, and continues to provide the School with advice, guidance, and insight into the perspectives of Aboriginals.**

When thinking about her role as a NOSM Elder, Ozawagosh hopes that she is providing a balance to staff, faculty, and, of course, learners. “We help learners see that what they are doing is important,” explained Ozawagosh. “Elders come in to really ground the learners, and support them in their studies.”

Ozawagosh believes NOSM’s *Elders on Campus* program is a success because of the diversity of the Elders who participate in School activities. “We all do similar work, but have our own unique gifts. Diversity is important to the School and the learners because we each bring our own point of view and teachings,” Ozawagosh said.



*Elder Julie Ozawagosh’s journey with NOSM began when she participated in the opening ceremony of the School in 2005.*



## In Memory of NOSM Aboriginal Elder Mr. Curtis Hopkins

The Northern Ontario School of Medicine was deeply saddened to learn of the passing of one of our dear Elders. **Elder Curtis Hopkins**, from the Turtle clan, passed away April 10, 2011.

Hopkins will be remembered for articulating the traditional ways of the First Nations people and carrying their traditional bundles with honour and dignity. He served as a role model and had been admired for his ability to nurture and guide people to walk a traditional road. He is greatly missed by NOSM staff, faculty, and learners.





*Dr. Roger Strasser, NOSM Dean (left), with Mr. Bruce Soar, Commissioner and the Chargé d'Affaires of the Australia High Commission in Ottawa.*

## Good on Ya, Mate!

### **NOSM's Dean Honoured with Prestigious Order of Australia**

On December 20, 2011, NOSM's Dean, **Dr. Roger Strasser**, was appointed a member in the Order of Australia. The appointment was made by the Acting High Commissioner and the Chargé d'Affaires of the Australia High Commission in Ottawa, Mr. Bruce Soar. The Order of Australia is the highest civilian honour, and recognizes the achievements and service of Australian citizens.

Strasser has been honoured specifically for his service to medicine, through improving health care of people living in rural and remote communities in developed and developing nations as an educator, researcher, and physician. The School extends congratulations to Strasser for his distinguished contribution to rural medicine and medical education.

# Honouring Our Stars

## Awards of Excellence

Inspired by the movie awards season, NOSM honoured members of the School's staff at a Whole-School Session, entitled "**Honouring Our Stars.**" The celebration began with popcorn, glitter, and three short videos about initiatives of the School: *2011 Orientation Week*, *Bring a Doctor Home Hockey Tournament*, and, *Rendez-Vous 2012*. Afterwards, eight staff members were honoured as recipients of NOSM's 2011 Awards of Excellence.

Each year, NOSM also highlights the contributions and accomplishments of its medical students and faculty/preceptors. The learner and faculty/preceptor Awards of Excellence recipients are nominated by medical learners at NOSM. In 2011, the Awards of Excellence for medical students and faculty/preceptors were presented at the annual Board of Directors dinner in December.

## 5 Staff Award Categories

**Innovation**  
**Julie Pacifico**  
Admissions Officer

**Team Player**  
**Mike Lenardon**  
Information Technologist

**Leadership**  
**Sue Berry**  
Assistant Dean, Integrated Clinical Learning

**Inspiration**  
**Charlie Armstrong**  
Facilities Operations Assistant

## 8 Faculty/ Preceptor and Student Recipients



Dr. Claire Perrault

### Faculty/Preceptor Award Recipients

Dr. Tara Baron  
Dr. John Kargbo  
Dr. Claire Perrault  
Dr. Richard Senior



NOSM's Communications Team

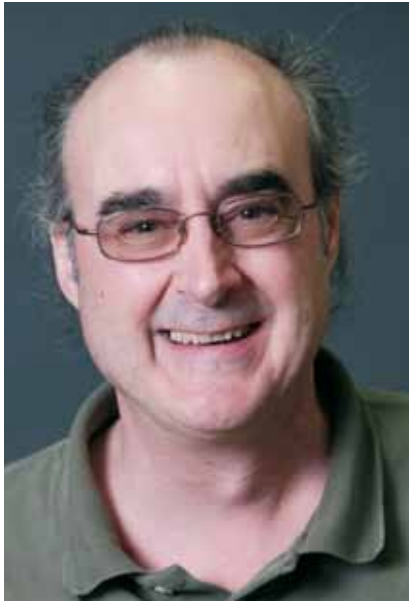
### Team Effort Communications Team

Tammy Dickey  
Kimberley Larkin  
Melanie Dellaire  
Mathieu Séguin

### Medical Student Award Recipients

Pouya Sadeghi Aval  
Daniel Durocher  
Brian Lorbetskie  
Zachary Veitch





*Charlie Armstrong*

## **NOSM Truly an Inspirational Place to Work**

Having worked at NOSM in the Facilities Unit for five years, Charlie Armstrong has taken an unofficial role as the front linesperson on the East Campus for safety, facilities, and inspiration. Officially the Facilities Operations Assistant, Armstrong is the 2011 recipient of the Staff Awards of Excellence in the category of Inspiration.

Recognized for his positive, collegial, and helpful attitude, Armstrong's nominator said, "Charlie is able to professionally prioritize and respond to the needs of his colleagues in a timely fashion. With many balls in the air, he is attentive to each issue that he is handling and never fails to follow-up. I've never been disappointed after enlisting Charlie's help. I know that I can count on him for his part in anything in which he is involved."

For Armstrong, the best part of working at NOSM is simple. "The people who work here are incredible. You receive a lot of feedback, and everyone is working for a greater good," said Armstrong. "When I found out I received this award, I was surprised and touched. This truly is an inspirational place to work."



*Daniel Durocher*

## **Inspiring a Medical Career from an Unlikely Background**

Second-year medical student Daniel Durocher acknowledges, "I took an unconventional route to being admitted to NOSM by studying music at the University of Guelph. My interest in medicine actually began during my undergrad when I chose electives in biomedical courses. All of the sudden I realized that medicine was my calling."

Durocher is considering a residency in internal medicine and a subspecialty in critical care. "Intensive care medicine seems to interest me the most, as it is both complex and rewarding. Problem solving and physiology are a stimulating combination in my mind," he said.

Chosen by his peers, Durocher is the 2011 recipient of the Learner Award of Excellence at NOSM. Modestly, Durocher insists that many of his classmates are equally deserving of this recognition. "From my experience here at NOSM, each and every learner strives to improve the education and development of their peers," said Durocher.




*Dr. John Kargbo*

## **Eager to Learn and Teach in Sault Ste. Marie**

Dr. John Kargbo, a NOSM clinical physician teacher in Sault Ste. Marie, has had a passion for teaching since the beginning of his medical career. "Medical students are a positive contribution to our community. They create an environment that encourages learning and continuing education," explained Kargbo.

Kargbo believes that NOSM also provides support and access to resources that will assist hospitals, such as the Sault Area Hospital, in the recruitment of physicians.

Kargbo admitted, "I was speechless, and a bit tearful when I received notice I was a recipient of the Faculty/Preceptor Award of Excellence." This is the second time Kargbo has been a recipient of a NOSM Preceptor/Faculty Award of Excellence.

A portrait of Helen Cromarty, an older woman with short grey hair and glasses, smiling. She is wearing a patterned brown and gold jacket over a white top. The background is a warm, textured brown.

Helen Cromarty, Former  
NOSM Board Member

## NOSM BOARD MEMBERS **DEDICATED TO** **THE VISION**

### **Helen Cromarty Receives Nishnawbe Aski Nation Award**

NOSM extends congratulations to **Helen Cromarty**, former NOSM Board member, for receiving the annually bestowed *Nishnawbe Aski Nation Woman Award* for her personal achievements that have impacted the lives of women. Recipients in this category also promote a healthy lifestyle and show dedication in working to improve the lives of women, youth, and children. Cromarty earned the award for her 40 years of influential work in the Nishnawbe Aski Nation health sector.



# Reflections of an Inaugural Board Member

NOSM has grown from a **dream to reality** right before Helen Cromarty's eyes. Cromarty participated in early discussions regarding having Canada's newest medical school located at Lakehead University in Thunder Bay and Laurentian University in Sudbury. "I was working at Nishnawbe Aski Nation at the time, and knew how important it was for the people of Northern Ontario to have a medical school," Cromarty shared.

Looking back on the planning, Cromarty attributes NOSM's success to the people of Northern Ontario. "We needed a school of medicine so badly, of course we were going to be successful in getting one. The Northern Ontario School of Medicine is the result of the hard work and pride of countless people," believes Cromarty.

Cromarty is an inaugural member of NOSM's Board of Directors. She was appointed to her position in 2003 and held positions on the Board's Executive and Advancement committees. Currently residing in Sioux Lookout, Cromarty has been described by many as an amazing individual who encourages community growth while respecting traditional values.

Cromarty completed her term as a Board member in September 2011. NOSM extends sincere gratitude for Cromarty's countless hours and dedication to the School.



## Farewell to a Cherished Friend of NOSM

### Adieu à une chère amie de l'EMNO

**Francine Chartrand-Dutrisac**, champion of the Francophone community and friend of NOSM, passed away on August 25, 2011. Francine was involved with NOSM for many years in a variety of capacities, including as Director of Development Liaison, and more recently as a consultant to NOSM's Francophone Affairs Unit and Francophone Reference Group, and as a Board member. Francine has been a great source of enrichment and inspiration to the NOSM community, and will be greatly missed.

**Francine Chartrand-Dutrisac**, grande promotrice de la communauté francophone et amie de l'EMNO, est décédée le 25 août 2011. Francine a participé aux activités de l'EMNO à divers titres pendant de nombreuses années, notamment comme directrice du Bureau de développement et liaison, et plus récemment comme experte-conseil auprès du Bureau des affaires francophones et du Groupe consultatif francophone de l'EMNO, et comme membre du conseil d'administration. Francine fut une magnifique source d'épanouissement et d'inspiration pour la communauté francophone et elle nous manquera beaucoup.

# A Diverse Board for a Unique School

## Discovering the History and Future of Health Care in Sioux Lookout

**NOSM's Board of Directors met in Sioux Lookout on May 12 - 14, 2011. Board members toured the newly opened Meno Ya Win Health Centre. Opened in the fall of 2010, the hospital provides health-care services to 32,000 residents of Sioux Lookout and 31 Remote First Nations Communities including: Northern Nishnawbe-Aski communities, the Treaty #3 community of Lac Seul First Nation, Pickle Lake, and Savant Lake.**

The Board visited the palliative care area, the Chief Sakatcheway Aandaaw'iwegamik Healing Room, and the diagnostic imaging area with fellow Board member Dr. Dermot McLoughlin.

## Departing Board Members will be Missed

NOSM thanks the following **2010/2011** departing Board members for their outstanding contributions to the School:

### **Dr. Jean Anawati**

Sturgeon Falls

### **Francine Chartrand-Dutrisac**

Sudbury

### **Ron Chrysler**

Sudbury

### **Helen Cromarty**

Sioux Lookout

### **Fabien Hébert**

Hearst

### **Dr. Peter Hutten-Czapski**

Haileybury

### **James Gordon**

Sudbury

### **Dr. Neil S. McLeod**

Thunder Bay

### **Dr. Dermot P. McLoughlin**

Sioux Lookout

### **Dr. William McMullen**

Sudbury

### **Dr. Paul Miron**

Sudbury

### **Dr. Adam Moir**

Thunder Bay

### **Angela Recollet**

Sudbury

### **Brian Walmark**

Thunder Bay

## Board of Directors

### **Dominic Giroux**

Chair, Sudbury

President, Laurentian University

### **Brian JR Stevenson**

Vice Chair, Thunder Bay

President, Lakehead University

### **Roger Strasser**

Dean, CEO, and Secretary, NOSM

### **Roy Christopher Allison**

Thunder Bay

### **Tracy Buckler**

Thunder Bay

### **Dr. Roger Couture**

Sudbury

### **Derek Debassige**

M'Chigeeng

### **Dr. George A. Doig**

Thunder Bay

### **Arie Hoogenboom**

Dryden

### **Austin Hunt**

Kagawong

### **Jacqueline (Jackie) Dojack**

Thunder Bay

### **Dr. Lori Livingston**

Thunder Bay

### **Neil MacOdrum**

Greenstone

### **Rosie Mosquito**

Thunder Bay

### **Michael S. O'Neill**

Sault Ste. Marie

### **Dr. Claire Perreault**

Sudbury

### **Carolyn Sinclair**

Sudbury

### **Dr. Todd Spencer**

Sudbury

### **Lou Turco**

Sault Ste. Marie

### **Jesse Zrobback**

Thunder Bay



# Success Comes with Balance

Operating in a world of fixed formula-based funding has been challenging for the Northern Ontario School of Medicine. In 2011, NOSM experienced a reshaping initiative, which has allowed the School to become aligned with the School's Strategic Plan and fiscal priorities. Operational adjustments were necessary to remedy a structural deficit and to ensure NOSM will achieve a balanced budget in 2011-12.

The Northern Ontario School of Medicine is positioning itself and is making the changes necessary to thrive and remain at the forefront of medical education and research.

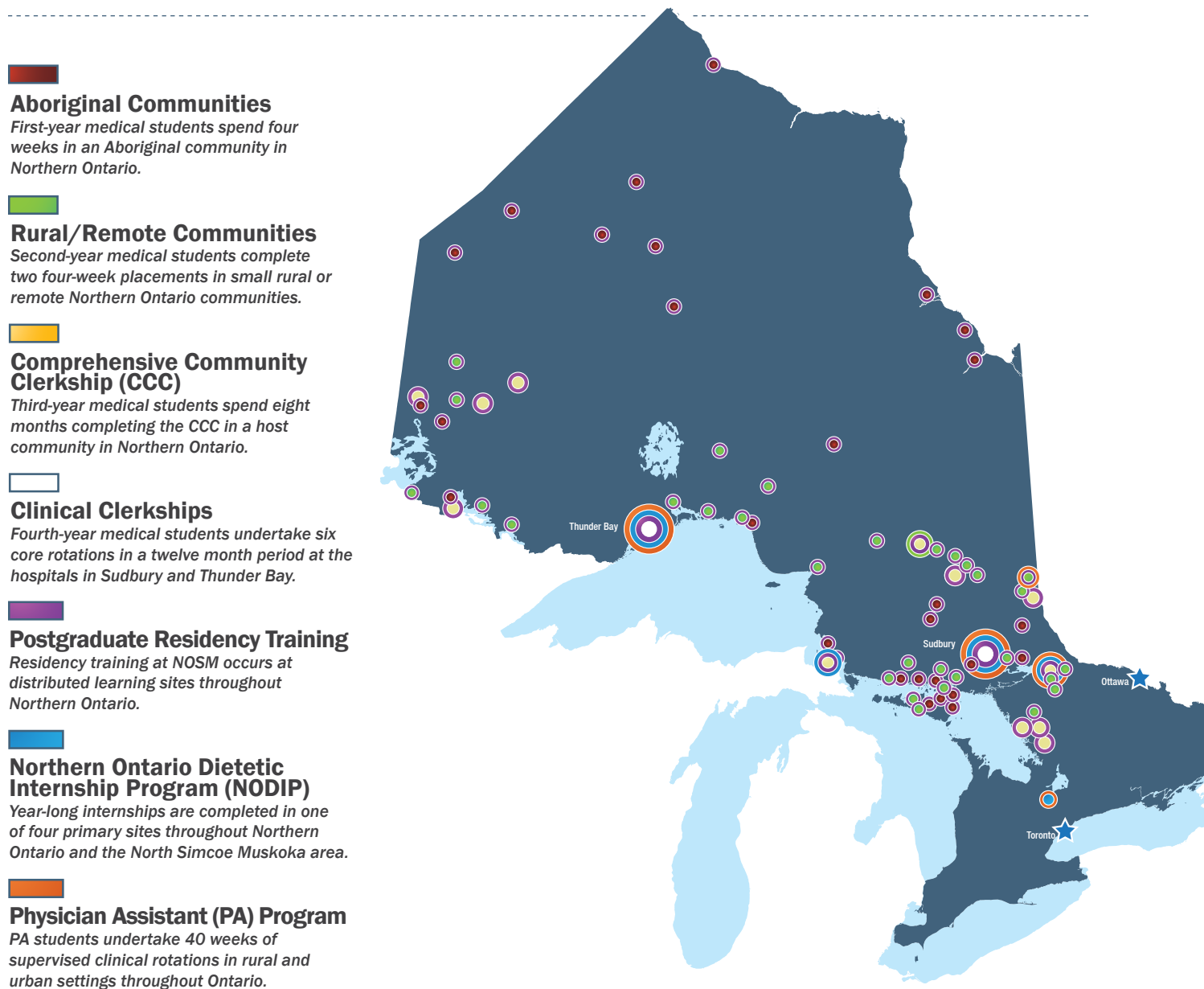
<b>\$39,200,000</b> <b>Approved Budget Expenditures</b>	<b>Salaries and Benefits</b> <b>\$21,629,000</b>	55%
	<b>Other Operating Costs</b> <b>\$5,617,000</b>	14%
	<b>Educational Operating Costs</b> <b>\$9,988,000</b>	26%
	<b>Capital Expenditures</b> <b>\$1,966,000</b>	5%
<b>\$39,200,000</b> <b>Budgeted Sources of Funding</b>	<b>Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities</b> <b>\$19,806,000</b>	51%
	<b>Ministry of Health and Long Term Care</b> <b>\$14,512,000</b>	37%
	<b>Tuition and Other Fees</b> <b>\$4,396,000</b>	11%
	<b>Other</b> <b>\$486,000</b>	1%

# Mapping NOSM's Distributed Model



**Northern Ontario**, a region of the province, is geographically vast at over 800,000 square kilometres, about the size of Germany and France combined; nevertheless, it has a relatively small population of approximately 805,250.

Forty percent of the population lives in rural and remote communities within diverse communities and cultures including Aboriginal, Francophone, and English speaking peoples.





**2011** Enrollment

**64**  
Medical  
Students

**16**  
NODIP  
Interns

**1,000+**  
NOSM Faculty  
Members  
Across Northern  
**Ontario**

**24**  
Physician  
Assistants

**69**  
Residents

**3,375**  
Clinical Placements

**800,000 km<sup>2</sup>**  
Size of Northern Ontario

**17**  
Aboriginal  
Reference  
Group  
Members

**22**  
Francophone  
Reference  
Group  
Members

**3,132**  
Participants at  
CEPD Sessions

**As of  
2011**

**166**  
MD Graduates

**48**  
NODIP  
Graduates

**108**  
Family Medicine  
Residents Completed



**Innovative Education  
and Research for a  
Healthier North.**

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