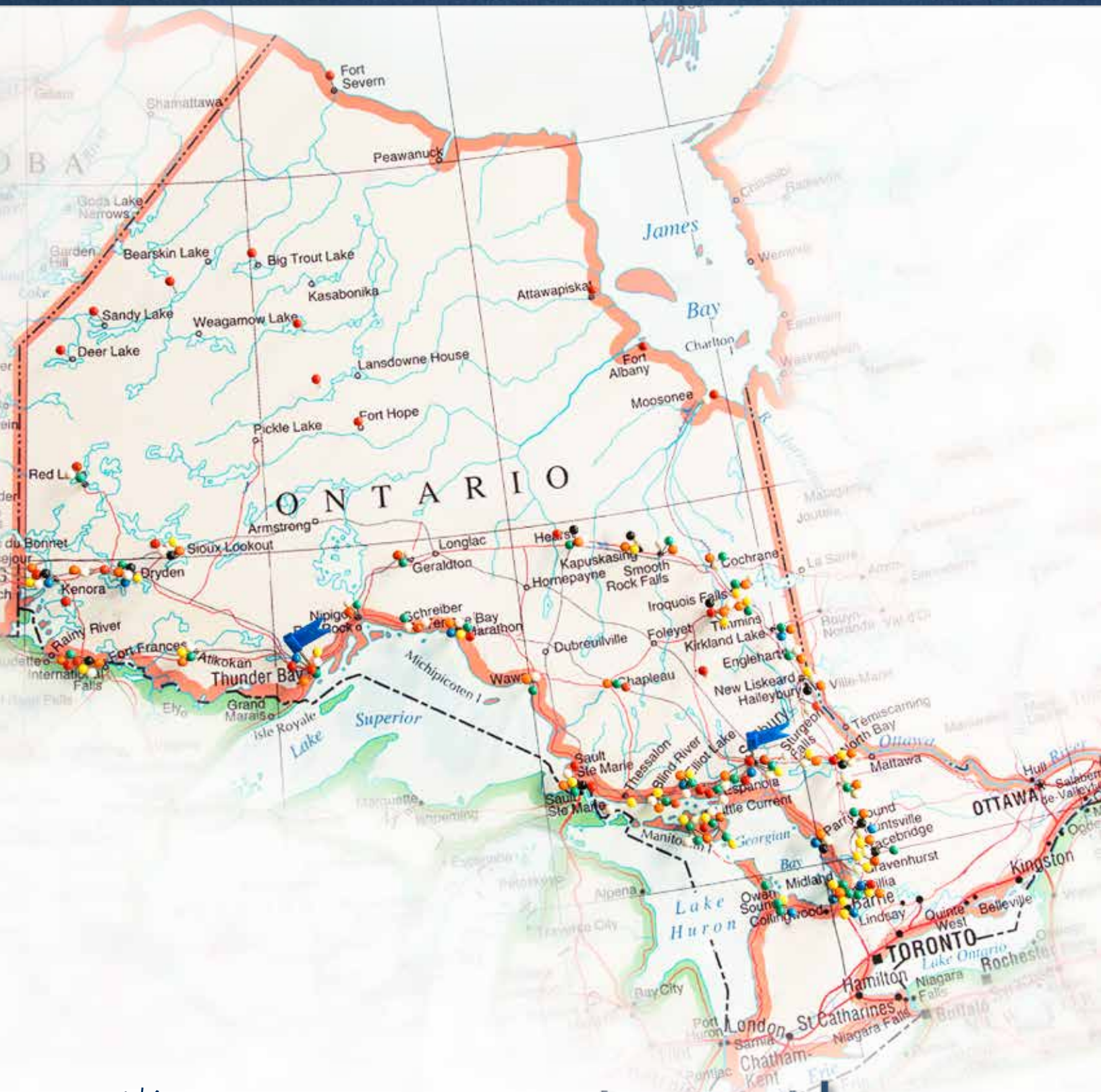


# COMMUNITY REPORT 2012



Northern Ontario  
School of Medicine  
École de médecine  
du Nord de l'Ontario  
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together  
and engaged

# Mapping NOSM's Distributed Model



## **Aboriginal Communities**

First-year medical students spend four weeks in an Aboriginal community in Northern Ontario.



## **Rural/Remote Communities**

Second-year medical students complete two four-week placements in small rural or remote Northern Ontario communities.



## **Comprehensive Community Clerkships (CCC)**

Third-year medical students spend eight months completing the CCC in a host community in Northern Ontario.



## **Clinical Clerkships**

Fourth-year medical students undertake six core rotations in a twelve-month period at the academic health science centres in Sudbury and Thunder Bay.



## **Postgraduate Residency Training**

Residency training at NOSM occurs at distributed learning sites throughout Northern Ontario.



## **Northern Ontario Dietetic Internship Program (NODIP)**

Forty-eight week internships are completed in communities throughout Northern Ontario and North Simcoe Muskoka Local Health Integration Network (LHIN).



## **Physician Assistant (PA) Program**

PA students undertake 40 weeks of supervised clinical rotations in rural and urban settings throughout Ontario, including 20 weeks in the North.



## **Rehabilitation Studies**

Audiology, occupational therapy, physiotherapy, and speech-language pathology learners undertake clinical placements in a diverse range of practice and community settings ranging from four to 12 weeks in duration.



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# Message From the Dean

## Dr. Roger Strasser, NOSM Dean

So much has been accomplished since the Northern Ontario School of Medicine (NOSM) opened its doors in the fall of 2005. Four classes of MD students are now undertaking residency training and opening practices across Northern Ontario and beyond, five classes of dietitians have graduated from the Northern Ontario Dietetic Internship Program (NODIP), four groups of residents have completed Family Medicine residency training, and, for the first time, a class of physician assistants (PAs) has completed training through the Consortium of PA Education.

NOSM's collaborations are deepening and contributing to tangible changes for the people of Northern Ontario. Collaboration occurs in NOSM's partnerships with academic health science centres. It happens between NOSM's researchers and researchers around the globe. It happens on a weekly basis between NOSM's learners and other health professional learners. It happens between faculty, as they share resources and experiences to ensure NOSM's learners and residents receive quality education. And it happens every day in over 70 communities across 800,000 square kilometres as individuals and organizations work together to support a distinct model of education that is very clearly working successfully.

A significant achievement for NOSM in 2012 was the accreditation of the School's MD program, the Consortium of PA Education, and the Continuing Education and Professional Development (CEPD) program. These successes can be attributed to the dedication of NOSM's staff, faculty, and partners, without whom accreditation could not have been a reality.

This year, NOSM hosted two simultaneous research conferences, combining the seventh Canadian Oxidative Stress Conference and the sixth annual Northern Health Research Conference (NHRC) at Lakehead University in Thunder Bay.

And finally, in 2012, NOSM welcomed the world of medical education to Thunder Bay and many other Northern Ontario communities for Rendez-Vous 2012. NOSM was thrilled to welcome our worldwide colleagues from five partnering organizations, and others, who share a common interest in socially accountable medical education. Together, we developed the *Thunder Bay Communiqué*, which is being used by NOSM and our partner organizations to encourage improvements to the delivery of medical education around the globe.

I invite you to read on and discover how, *together and engaged*, individuals and organizations across the region continue to collaborate to realize the Northern Ontario School of Medicine's vision of *Innovative education and research for a healthier North*.







## Message from NOSM Board Chair and President, Laurentian University

### Mr. Dominic Giroux

You do not have to look far to see the significance the Northern Ontario School of Medicine is having on health care in Northern Ontario.

NOSM alumni are opening up practices across the North, and we can see the difference our graduates are making in providing primary health care to more people across the region.

Chapleau is one example—a Northern community which has not had medical care offered by a local physician in more than seven years. That changed in 2012, when NOSM graduates Drs. Doris Mitchell, Stephen Saari, and Kendra Saari began practising in the community. Chapleau is not the only community reaping the benefits of newly practising NOSM physicians.

Highlighted in this report are a number of NOSM alumni who have chosen to practise in the North, from Dryden to Bracebridge, and many points in between.

As Chair of the Board of Directors for NOSM, I extend my sincere appreciation for the contributions made by NOSM's staff, faculty, and community partners. Together, we are making a difference in the health of people and communities across Northern Ontario.



## Message from NOSM Board Vice-Chair and President, Lakehead University

### Dr. Brian J.R. Stevenson

What an exciting year it has been for NOSM! Welcoming more than 850 delegates to Northern Ontario and the community of Thunder Bay was truly a great honour, and rewarding confirmation that NOSM has become an international leader in socially accountable medical education and research.

The *Thunder Bay Communiqué*, which was developed by conference participants, will be a guiding resource for the six conference-organizing partners as they return to their regular activities. These guiding principles have the ability to change the face of medical education for years to come. I am proud to witness NOSM's leadership in this effort to improve the provision of health care globally.

I extend my appreciation to all of the conference organizers and NOSM's staff and faculty for their hard work and tireless efforts to ensure that everyone attending Rendez-Vous 2012 was truly *together and engaged*.



# Community Participation in Education, Research, and Service



*Together and engaged* at the Northern Ontario School of Medicine signifies the importance of working together to educate high-quality medical and health professionals with an affinity for, and an understanding of, the people and communities of the North.

In this report, we invite you to discover how our learners, staff, faculty, and community and international partners achieved many successes by being *together and engaged* in 2012.



International student, Elkin Cabrera (centre), with Rendez-Vous 2012 staff Cathy Powell (left) and Catherine Vallé (right).

## Partner Organizations



Since its official opening in 2005, NOSM has developed and delivered a distinctive model of distributed, community-engaged, and socially accountable medical education and research. In just over seven years, NOSM has become a world leader in community-engaged medical education and research, while staying true to its social accountability mandate of contributing to improving the health of the people and communities of Northern Ontario.

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



The Network: Towards Unity for Health (The Network: TUFH) is a global network of individuals, institutions and organizations committed to improving the health of the people and their communities. The Network: TUFH is a Non-Governmental Organization, in official relationship with the World Health Organization, and has played an important role in fostering community-oriented innovations, leading to curriculum reforms in education institutions around the globe.

[the-networktufh.org](http://the-networktufh.org)



The mission of Wonca, the World Organization of Family Doctors, is to improve the quality of life of the peoples of the world through defining and promoting its values, including respect for universal human rights and including gender equity, and by fostering high standards of care in general practice/family medicine. The Wonca Rural Working Party's mission is Reaching Towards Rural Health, with the vision of Health for All Rural People.

[globalfamilydoctor.com](http://globalfamilydoctor.com)





# Rendez-Vous 2012

## A World of Medical Education Meets in Northern Ontario

From October 9-14, 2012, the Northern Ontario School of Medicine welcomed the world to Northern Ontario for one of the year's most exciting international conference opportunities for health professional education.

Rendez-Vous 2012 brought together the Wonca World Rural Health Conference and The Network: Towards Unity for Health annual conference, as well as the third NOSM/Flinders Conference on Community-Engaged Medical Education, the Consortium for Longitudinal Integrated Curricula, and the Training for Health Equity Network.



### Global Participation

More than 850 delegates from six continents and nearly 50 countries attended Rendez-Vous 2012.

Africa	124
Asia	80
Australia	100
Europe	51
North America	486
South America	37

An overview of the Rendez-Vous 2012 joint world conference, including many archived presentations and highlights, can be found at: [rendez-vous2012.ca](http://rendez-vous2012.ca)



Flinders University School of Medicine has an international reputation for integration and innovation in patient care, education and research. In addition to the main campus in Adelaide, South Australia, the School has a significant rural and remote presence with clinical training and research activities in regional areas of Australia.

[flinders.edu.au/medicine](http://flinders.edu.au/medicine)



The Training for Health Equity Network: THEnet is composed of medical schools located in underserved and rural regions. Partnering with others, THEnet seeks to transform medical education, build institutional capacity, and shape policy so as to make health systems around the world more equitable.

[thenetcommunity.org](http://thenetcommunity.org)



The Consortium for Longitudinal Integrated Curricula (CLIC) is a group of faculty from medical schools around the world who have or are considering developing, implementing and studying the longitudinal integrated clerkship model to address core clinical training for undergraduate medical education.

[clicmeded.com](http://clicmeded.com)

## Keynote Addresses Global Public Health

Kicking off a series of 14 plenary presentations was keynote speaker Dr. Timothy Evans, the Dean of James P. Grant School of Public Health at BRAC University and International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research in Bangladesh.

Evans presented *Does Praxis Make Perfect? Reflections on the Transformation of Global Public Health Education from the Perspective of a Migrant Health Worker*, which highlighted the long history of medical professional shortages around the world, and provided insight into how global public health education must transform to address these shortages.

If you were unable to attend Rendez-Vous 2012, you are able to view Evans' keynote address and other archived presentations by visiting [rendez-vous2012.ca](http://rendez-vous2012.ca).

Above:  
Rendez-Vous 2012 Keynote Speaker, Dr. Timothy Evans, inspires delegates.

### Photos Left:

1. Dr. Chet Raj Pant (Kathmandu University) speaks to delegates.
2. Rendez-Vous 2012 Co-Chairs Sue Berry (NOSM) and Kaat De Backer (The Network: Towards Unity for Health).
3. Drs. Darlene Kitty (University of Ottawa) and Doris Mitchell (NOSM Alum, Family Physician, and Rendez-Vous 2012 Plenary Speaker).
4. Dark Cloud Community Drummers perform at Rendez-Vous 2012 Cultural Evening in Thunder Bay.
5. Dr. Lisa Graves, NOSM's Associate Dean, Undergraduate Medical Education, with conference delegates.



## First John Macleod Oration in Honour of Rural Practice

One highlight of the Rendez-Vous 2012 conference was the inaugural John Macleod Oration delivered by Dr. Ian Couper, Chair of the Wonca Working Party on Rural Practice. The late Dr. John Macleod, who passed away in 2010, was a lifelong crusader for rural practice and founding member of the Wonca Working Party on Rural Practice. Macleod's widow and son presented Couper with the Inaugural John Macleod Oration Award following the oration.

Left to right: Dr. John Wynn-Jones (Institute of Rural Health), Alistair Macleod, Lorna Macleod, Dr. Ian Couper (University of the Witwatersrand), and Dr. Sarah Chalmers (Flinders University).

## Fourth Symposium Considers Francophone Health

On October 10, 2012, NOSM welcomed community stakeholders and Rendez-Vous 2012 conference delegates with an interest in Francophone health to the School's fourth Francophone Symposium, held in Thunder Bay. This single-day event encouraged participants to examine current best practices and the resulting impact of service, education, and research on the health status of Francophones in Northern Ontario and around the world.

*"NOSM is a school where we not only train future health professionals, but also agents of change."*

M. François Boileau  
Ontario's French Language Services  
Commissioner, Francophone  
Symposium Moderator

## La santé des francophones à l'ordre du jour du quatrième symposium

Le 10 octobre 2012 à Thunder Bay, l'EMNO a accueilli au quatrième Symposium francophone des intervenants communautaires et les délégués à la conférence Rendez-Vous 2012 qui s'intéressent à la santé des francophones. Au cours de cette journée, les participants ont examiné des pratiques exemplaires et l'incidence du service, de l'éducation et de la recherche sur l'état de santé des francophones du Nord de l'Ontario et de partout au monde.

*« L'EMNO est une école qui forme non seulement de futurs professionnels de la santé mais aussi des agents du changement. »*

M<sup>e</sup> François Boileau  
Commissaire aux services en français  
de l'Ontario et animateur du  
Symposium francophone

M. François Boileau addresses delegates at NOSM's Francophone Symposium.

M<sup>e</sup> François Boileau adresse la parole aux délégués présents au Symposium francophone de l'EMNO.



## Learning Through Improv at Rendez-Vous 2012

During Rendez-Vous 2012, several hundred delegates actively and enthusiastically participated in an improvisational session presented by NOSM faculty member Dr. Bryan MacLeod entitled, *Failing Well and Learning to Laugh About it... Lessons in Regaining Humanity Through Improv Theatre*.

MacLeod highlighted the important intersection between medicine and improvisation – the ability to expect and even celebrate the unexpected. At the beginning of his presentation, MacLeod polled the audience to identify the challenges that physicians face: loss of human life, lack of resources, community pressures, and extremely high personal expectations. These factors are significant contributors to physician health and remain unaddressed as taboos of a perfectionist profession. Improv, according to MacLeod, provides an environment in which failure is encouraged, “do-overs” are common, taboos are addressed, and laughter is paramount.

MacLeod explained that improv is being used successfully in medical education across the world to enhance learners’ empathy, communication skills, and the ability to work in teams. But mostly, improv teaches people in the medical profession to always remember to laugh.

*“Are you failing well?  
I struggled with this  
title. As a physician, the  
word ‘failing’ made me  
uncomfortable. But this is  
where we learn our most  
valuable lessons.”*

Dr. Bryan MacLeod  
Family Physician,  
Faculty Member, NOSM

Dr. Bryan MacLeod (NOSM) engages Rendez-Vous 2102 participants (shown left) with improvisation exercises.



# Student Program Engages Learners from Around the World

## New Friendships, Strong Networks

A Student Organizing Committee, led by Co-Chairs and NOSM MD students Derek Bos, Vanessa Ellies, and Emily Robinson, organized parallel programming for more than 300 NOSM and international students from many countries including Australia, Belgium, Nepal, and the Philippines attending Rendez-Vous 2012.

The student program included a preconference workshop, site visits, and social events designed to stimulate dialogue between students from around the globe about current health-care issues affecting people worldwide.



Above:  
NOSM medical students Natalie Gleeson, Patricia Lyle, Kate Gibson, Emily Robinson, and Steve Russell.

Photos Right:

1. NOSM medical students Hillary Bohler and Patricia Lyle.
2. Student delegates enjoy watching the Strasser Cup, where NOSM's medical students battle it out in an annual hockey game.
3. International and NOSM medical students hike Northern Ontario wilderness.
4. NOSM medical students Michael Watson, Kendra Komsa, and Tamara Delorme.
5. Student Organizing Committee Co-Chair, Derek Bos (NOSM).



# Getting Social with Our Media at Rendez-Vous 2012

Exciting technological amenities were prepared for Rendez-Vous 2012 to help delegates stay connected, informed, and engaged throughout the conference.



## Keeping the World Connected

An extensive WiFi-enabled network, including an Internet Café, was created to provide delegates free access to the internet throughout the duration of the conference. A custom Rendez-Vous 2012 Mobile App allowed delegates to access the conference program, review speaker bio information, see exhibitor details, and use social media.



## Twitter and Facebook

Delegates and others followed the conference on Twitter @Rendez-Vous2012, as live news, updates, and information was tweeted from the conference. Many joined the conference on Facebook at Rendez-Vous2012 to connect with speakers and other attendees. Participants were encouraged throughout the conference to continue the conversation on Twitter and Facebook. The exceptional presentations generated lively discussions.



## Rendez-Vous 2012 Website

Prior to the conference, a website was created for promotion, information, and registration purposes. The same website now reflects upon the conference and proceedings. Visit [rendez-vous2012.ca](http://rendez-vous2012.ca) for a snapshot of the largest medical education conference ever held in Northern Ontario.

Kaat De Backer (The Network: Towards Unity for Health) is connected with Rendez-Vous 2012 technology.

## Recommendations to Improve Health Worldwide

Each of the partnering organizations of the Rendez-Vous 2012 conference has garnered international recognition among world health leaders for influencing change to medical and health professional education. Leveraging the opportunity to harness this collective of like-minded organizations and individuals, conference delegates were invited to participate in the development of a series of guiding principles and recommendations intended to influence change in medical education, research, and service around the world.

*Thunder Bay Communiqué: New Ways of Thinking* is being disseminated as a challenge to individuals, organizations, and governments for implementation.

A full version of the *Thunder Bay Communiqué* is available at: [rendez-vous2012.ca/communique](http://rendez-vous2012.ca/communique)





# Conference on the Move

## Experiencing NOSM's Distributed Model First Hand

Conference participants were able to visit a variety of Northern Ontario health-care providers, community organizations, and cultural and historical sites on an exciting component of Rendez-Vous 2012, called *Conference on the Move*. Four bus excursions took participants to several of NOSM's community partners on the way to, and including, the destinations of Marathon, Sioux Lookout, and Sudbury.



### Northern Route to Sudbury

On Thursday, October 11, 2012, several delegates travelled to Sudbury experiencing rural and Northern Ontario culture and health-care systems. Delegates made stops in the communities of Lake Helen, Hearst, and Cochrane along the way.



### Southern Route to Sudbury

On Thursday, October 11, 2012, several delegates travelled to Sudbury, visiting the communities of Nipigon, White River, Wawa, and M'Chigeeng First Nation enroute.



### Marathon

On Friday, October 12, 2012, several conference delegates visited NOSM's partner community, Marathon. During the two-day educational excursion, they toured Wilson Memorial Hospital, learned about the impact of NOSM on physician recruitment in Northern Ontario, and participated in learning sessions that focused on the treatment of pain and addiction in rural community settings.



### Sioux Lookout

On Friday, October 12, 2012, several delegates visited Sioux Lookout, one of NOSM's partner communities that hosts medical learners for eight months during their third year of training. After touring the Meno Ya Win Health Centre, delegates attended educational sessions, which focused on the topics of integrating learners in Sioux Lookout, treating approaches for narcotic drug use in Aboriginal communities, and a First Nations woman's perspective on menopause.



### 1,100 Kilometres Later... Two Routes Come Together

On Saturday, October 13, delegates on the two routes to Sudbury came together to participate in a variety of unique community services and organizations, including Sudbury's Dynamic Earth, Maison Vale Hospice, the Apology Cairn, the Vale Living with Lakes Centre at Laurentian University, and the Shkagamik-Kwe Health Centre. The final stop was NOSM's East Campus at Laurentian University for an experiential learning session with simulation.

Aurora Borealis, Northern Ontario.

## Community Journey on the Portage Express

### Delegates Explore Thunder Bay and Area Services

Delegates who did not participate in *Conference on the Move* had the opportunity to explore and meet some of NOSM's Thunder Bay and area community partners on the *Portage Express*.

Delegates visited more than 30 locations and were able to experience Aboriginal and Francophone culture, take part in interactive historical displays, trek in the wilderness, and witness health education, research, technology, and search and rescue in action.





## PA's Now Practising

On June 5, 2012, NOSM celebrated with the other members of The Consortium of PA Education as the first class of physician assistants graduated, noting a 100 percent pass rate for the graduates who wrote the national certification exam. The Physician Assistant Professional Degree Program is Canada's newest PA training program, part of The Consortium of PA Education, which is a collaboration between NOSM, the University of Toronto (U of T), and The Michener Institute for Applied Health Sciences. The 17 graduates secured employment as PAs across Ontario.

Four graduates chose to begin practising in communities across the North, including Huntsville, Thunder Bay, and Timmins.

## PA Graduates Choose to Practise in Thunder Bay

In June 2012, the Consortium of PA Education celebrated the graduation of its first class of physician assistants. A new program designed to help reduce the impact of the doctor shortages, PAs are highly skilled health-care professionals who can provide a broad range of medical services under the supervision of a licensed physician. Upon graduation, Tiffany Oddleifson and Britton Sprules have chosen to practise in the community of Thunder Bay.

Tiffany Oddleifson began working at the St. Joseph's Care Group in January of 2012, and has since worked in geriatric care and rehabilitation. Over time, Oddleifson's duties will evolve as she begins to consult with a single physician and undertake patient rounds. Britton Sprules' role is very similar, though she is working in a different environment. As a PA at the Superior Family Health Organization, she works alongside four family physicians at the practice, and sees patients throughout the day.



Physician Assistants Tiffany Oddleifson and Britton Sprules.



Dr. Chris Bourdon (Health Sciences North Chief of Staff) and Dr. Denis Roy (Health Sciences North President and CEO) are presented with a Canadian Medical Association Certificate of Accreditation as a Clinical Partner Site by John Shea (Clinical Coordinator, Physician Assistant Program, NOSM), and Dr. Maureen Gottesman (Medical Director for the Consortium of PA Education, University of Toronto).

## A Year of Successful Accreditations

In 2012, accreditation was a priority for several NOSM programs. In May, the Committee on Accreditation of Continuing Medical Education (CACME) voted to continue full accreditation of the Continuing Education and Professional Development (CEPD) program for a five-year term. In December, the Canadian Medical Association, which accredits Physician Assistant (PA) programs in Canada, accorded a six-year accreditation status to the Bachelor of Science Physician Assistant degree (BScPA) offered by the University of Toronto, NOSM, and the Michener Institute through the Consortium of PA Education. Last, but not least, in August, the educational program leading to the MD degree received full accreditation for the maximum allotted time of eight years.



# NOSM Grads a Perfect Match

In June 2012, NOSM celebrated the graduation of its fourth class of medical students. Of the 2012 graduating class, more than 60 percent of the class has chosen to complete family medicine residency training. Others will continue in residency programs to specialize in psychiatry, anesthesia, dermatology, orthopedic surgery, general surgery, radiation oncology, internal medicine, and obstetrics and gynecology.

This is the third time that NOSM learners have matched 100 percent to their residency program of choice since the first class of MD students graduated in 2009 – a feat that has not occurred at other Canadian medical schools in more than a decade.

*"A common expression is that 'it takes a village to raise a child'. At NOSM, it takes half a province to raise a medical student. Chi Miigweetch to the Aboriginal communities who invited us to share in their culture. Merci beaucoup to the rural communities where we first practised our clinical skills in the real world. And, thank you to the communities and people of Northern Ontario who have so warmly welcomed us."*

Dr. Sean Sullivan  
Student Representative addressing the Class of 2012 at the Convocation held at Laurentian University in Sudbury.

**Photos Right:**

1. Dr. Jeff Heringer receives NOSM MD certificate from Dr. Roger Strasser, NOSM Dean.
2. Drs. Laura Caria, Brittany Parlett, and Aeysha Butt recite the Hippocratic Oath.
3. Drs. Teena Chase and Shawna Comstock.
4. Dr. Sarah Penfold receives NOSM MD certificate from Dr. Roger Strasser, NOSM Dean.







Left to right: NODIP graduates Natalie Hastings, Julia Freeman, Atheana Buckley, Kelsey MacKinnon, and Danielle Brubacher.

## NOSM Celebrates Newest Dietitians

On July 26, 2012, NOSM celebrated the fifth graduation of dietitians from the Northern Ontario Dietetic Internship Program (NODIP) during a video-linked celebration held between Barrie, Sault Ste. Marie, Sudbury, and Thunder Bay.

Fourteen graduates were inspired by guest speaker Lynsay Clark, a dietitian with more than 20 years of clinical experience and the Professional Practice Lead for the Registered Dietitian Professional Council at Health Sciences North in Sudbury.

NODIP is administered by NOSM, in collaboration with multiple communities and facilities throughout Northern Ontario, and offers diverse and distributed experiences in the provision of nutrition care across the health-care continuum.

## Three Times a Charm

### NOSM Honoured with Rural Medical Education Award

In April 2012, NOSM was presented with the Society of Rural Physicians of Canada (SRPC) Rural Medical Education Award. This is the third consecutive year NOSM has received this honour. The award recognizes the medical school program that paired the most graduates to rural family medicine programs in the 2011 Canadian Resident Matching Service (CaRMS) match. In 2011, 44 percent of NOSM's graduating MD class matched to a rural family medicine residency program.





# NOSM Attracts Visitors from Far and Wide

Each year, NOSM welcomes visitors from all over the world to tour and meet representatives from the School. In some cases, these visitors present research and share insights, and in others, visiting guests are interested in gaining a better understanding of NOSM's leadership in medical education and research.

## Chinese Medical Board Studies NOSM

In September 2012, NOSM welcomed nine delegates from the China Medical Board Study. Comprised of medical leaders from various medical universities in Western China, the delegation came to learn about rural health in Canada and how NOSM collaborates with local communities and health services to recruit students, provides education programs grounded in the Northern and rural context, and trains health professionals with the skills and the desire to practise in rural and underserved areas.

*"There are so many things we have learned since our arrival. The curriculum and how it is delivered at the Northern Ontario School of Medicine is so vastly different to curricula used at medical universities in China."*

Roman Xu  
China Medical Board  
Office Director



Dr. James Orbinski, Chair of Global Health, Dalla Lana School of Public Health addresses audience at Dean's Hour.

## Dean's Hour Focuses on Equity and Global Health

Dr. James Orbinski presented a Dean's Hour discussion on Equity and Global Health in January 2012. Throughout his presentation, he outlined topics relevant to rural, community-engaged health professional education and research. Following the presentation, Orbinski toured NOSM's educational facilities and research laboratory in Sudbury. Orbinski is the Chair of Global Health at the Dalla Lana School of Public Health and served as the president of Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) from 1998 to 2001. He launched MSF's Access to Essential Medicines campaign and accepted the Nobel Peace Prize awarded to MSF.

## Exploring the Effects of Under-Nutrition and Over-Nutrition

In June 2012, NOSM hosted a Dean's Hour presentation by Dr. Richard J. Deckelbaum from the Columbia University Institute of Human Nutrition. The presentation, titled *The Costs of the Double Burden: Under- and Over-Nutrition*, discussed potential health outcomes for populations in developing countries that are affected by under-nutrition early in development and over-nutrition later in adulthood.



Members of the China Medical Board Study Group stand in front of NOSM's East Campus at Laurentian University with Dr. Roger Strasser, NOSM Dean.





## NOSM's Laboratories: Leveraging Resources and Infrastructure

Collaborating researchers at NOSM work together to provide insight into health questions that have a direct relevance to Northern populations. NOSM's state-of-the-art biomedical research facilities at the School's East Campus at Laurentian University and West Campus at Lakehead University are designed to serve the needs of investigators living across the region.

Two multi-purpose research facilities are located at each campus, including dry lab facilities optimized for research in behavioral sciences, history of medicine, medical geography, and many other disciplines. NOSM faculty members also work in a host of clinical sites across the region, addressing the issues that impact Northern people and communities.

To leverage resources and infrastructure, reciprocal use agreements have been put into place with research laboratories at Lakehead University, Thunder Bay Regional Research Institute (TBRRI), and the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre (TBRHSC) in Thunder Bay, and Laurentian University, Health Sciences North (HSN), and Living with Lakes Centre in Sudbury.

Researchers Sandhya Khurana and Amanda Hollingsworth (above) and Collin Byrne and Julie Grandbois (below) work on NOSM faculty member Dr. TC Tai's research project.







Participants at NHRC and COSC assemble outside of the Advanced Technology and Academic Centre (ATAC) building at Lakehead University in Thunder Bay.

## Concurrent Research Conferences Attract Delegates to the North

NOSM's seventh annual Northern Health Research Conference (NHRC) and the seventh meeting of the Canadian Oxidative Stress Consortium (COSC) were held concurrently in May 2012. Hosted by NOSM at Lakehead University in Thunder Bay, the conferences attracted over 150 delegates from across the country and around the world.

A special parallel session, hosted by NOSM's Francophone Affairs Unit, provided high school students with an opportunity to learn about health research, health-care careers, and the NOSM MD program.

The next Northern Health Research Conference will be held in North Bay in the spring of 2013.

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

*"These conferences are one way NOSM can highlight the fantastic research projects underway across Northern Ontario and demonstrate the positive impact they are having on the health of those living in Northern communities."*

Dr. Greg Ross  
NOSM's Associate Dean, Research

### Keynote Addresses Diabetes among Canadian Aboriginal Populations

Dr. Sonia Anand, Professor of Medicine and the Heart and Stroke Foundation Michael G. DeGroot Chair in Population Health Research at McMaster University, delivered a thought-provoking keynote presentation that generated many questions from participants regarding rates of diabetes in the North. The title of Anand's address was *The Epidemic of Diabetes among Aboriginal People in Canada: Cause and Consequences*.

### Researchers Consider the Effects of Oxidative Stress



With a particular emphasis on new researchers, trainees who attended the COSC had an opportunity to present on a variety of oxidative stress topics, including oxidative stress and heart failure, why fruits are rich in antioxidants, and oxidative stress and cancer pain. Dr. Enrique Cadenas, from the School of Pharmacy at the University of Southern California, provided the COSC keynote address titled *The Mitochondrial Energy-Redox Axis in Brain Aging and Neurodegeneration*.

The COSC is the largest Canadian conference focusing on oxidative stress. Assembling scientists from this exciting field provided an opportunity for all to exchange ideas and initiate collaborations.

# The Impact of Food on Mental Health

NOSM Professor Dr. Brian Ross is a neuropharmacologist with a broad range of interests. Recently, his focus has been on nutritional neuroscience – looking at how what we eat affects our brain.

Ross has been collaborating with researchers at Lakehead University to study how the diets of people in the North can be less than ideal due to the high cost of food in remote areas. Poor nutrition can lead to heart disease and diabetes. But Ross is also interested in how a poor diet impacts an individual's mental health. "In some places, it's cheaper to drink pop than milk. Funds are not available to subsidize the high cost of food in Northern communities," said Ross. "How does that relate to mental health?"

Though in some ways it can be more challenging to undertake research in the North, Ross noted, there are more unique problems in this geographic area that are of great interest to many.

*"At NOSM, you work with the communities, not just study them. It's got to be a collaborative venture."*

Dr. Brian Ross  
Professor, NOSM



## Collaborators Explore Health of Northerners

According to Health Canada, there are over one million Canadians with diabetes, with Aboriginal Canadians being three to four times more likely to develop type 2 diabetes than other Canadians. A molecular physiologist and Assistant Professor at NOSM, Dr. Simon Lees is working with his research team to identify the best methods to prevent and treat insulin resistance.

Another area of focus in Lees' lab is the age-related loss of skeletal muscle, known as sarcopenia. Sarcopenia leads to increased frailty and decreased independence in aged individuals. "My research is aimed at identifying methods to improve the function of stem cells in skeletal muscle in order to better repair and maintain muscle function as we age," explains Lees.

*"Recently, there have been many new researchers recruited to Thunder Bay. This has made the region an exciting place to establish new collaborations. I have been able to forge new partnerships with researchers who have very different specializations, leading to highly innovative projects."*

Dr. Simon Lees  
Assistant Professor, NOSM





## Blood Vessel Regulation May Treat Disease

The process of angiogenesis, or new blood vessel formation, is required for tissue repair following injury due to trauma or conditions such as cancer or a heart attack. But what regulates how blood vessels are formed? This question is the basis of Dr. Tom Kovala's research. Kovala, a molecular biologist and NOSM Associate Professor, is studying molecular regulation and control of those processes.

"In some cases, you want to encourage or discourage blood vessel formation. After a heart attack, you want blood vessels to grow to feed the areas that are damaged," explains Kovala, "versus something like a tumour where you want to block the flow of blood vessels to the tumour to prevent growth." By understanding how blood vessel formation is regulated, it will be possible to enhance angiogenesis and either enable the repair of damaged tissue, or block the blood vessel growth associated with tumour formation.

*"Different people have different ideas – it makes things happen faster, brings new ideas to the table, and you consider new techniques. Collaborations provide much needed support for the valuable research we are undertaking."*

Dr. Tom Kovala  
Associate Professor, NOSM

## Collaborations Advance Understanding of Drug Resistance in Recurrent Ovarian Cancer

Ovarian cancer is the most lethal gynecological cancer, with a five-year mortality rate of over 50 percent. More than half of all patients with ovarian cancer experience recurrent disease and will eventually fail to respond to chemotherapy. The failure of chemotherapy is usually due to the development of resistance to the two main classes of chemotherapy agents used to fight it – platinating agents and taxanes.

Dr. Carita Lannér, a molecular geneticist and Associate Professor at NOSM, and her team are investigating if the development of dual agent resistance invokes different mechanisms or is a combination of the mechanisms of resistance that arise upon exposure to single agents. Lannér and her team have evidence to suggest that the latter is true: novel and different changes occur to cause resistance to the dual combination of agents.

*"We have ground-breaking, innovative work happening in Northern Ontario. It doesn't all have to happen in Toronto or Ottawa at the big universities. Up here, people have innovative new ideas that we can bring to fruition."*

Dr. Carita Lannér  
Associate Professor, NOSM





Dr. James Goertzen, Medical Director of Faculty Development and Associate Professor at NOSM.

## Faculty Research Opportunities

The Research Support Group at NOSM has been assisting faculty and learners as they embark on research endeavours across the North. Dr. James Goertzen, Medical Director of Faculty Development and Associate Professor at NOSM, and a practising physician in Thunder Bay, is one such researcher. With the help of NOSM's Research Coordinator, Ghislaine Attema, Goertzen and his NOSM faculty research team wrote a research proposal (described below). Attema provided assistance with writing and submitting the proposal, and seeking ethics approval. Staff at NOSM's Health Sciences Library assisted with a literary search.

## OSTE: An Innovative Educational Tool

Goertzen's study looks at the Objective Simulated Teaching Encounter (OSTE): a tool that enables faculty to practise their teaching skills with students or residents in a controlled setting. The theme of the research focuses on the feedback received by faculty from their colleagues, students, and residents during the OSTE. Through analysis of the feedback, appropriate educational activities will then be developed to assist faculty in improving their teaching skills. Although not part of the actual research project analysis, the NOSM students and residents assisting with the OSTE are also provided with an opportunity to further improve their teaching skills.

# Library Services Without Borders


On both NOSM's East and West campuses, the Health Sciences Library provides a wide variety of services to support learners, faculty, and staff in all levels of scholarly research. Librarians and library staff provide a myriad of services, including search assistance (literature searches, systematic review and meta-analysis assistance), inter-library loans, and instruction (in-person, email, phone, and live chat).

Overall, the library has more than 7,900 books on its shelves and more than 7,825 electronic holdings, which does not include the host universities' library collections to which NOSM users also have access. The library works with various consortia, such as the Consortium of Ontario Academic Health Libraries to ensure learners, faculty, and staff have access to the resources they require. NOSM's Health Sciences Library also formed a consortium in Northern Ontario with hospital partners, called the Northern Ontario Health Libraries Consortium.

*"We strive to provide quality service in a distributed network; we have adapted all of the traditional library services so that we can be of assistance to any user in any location."*

Patty Fink  
Director of NOSM's Health Sciences Library

 [facebook.com/NOSMLibrary](https://facebook.com/NOSMLibrary)

 @NOSMLibrary







## Coordinating Activity at NOSM's Learning Sites

NOSM has partnerships with 13 Comprehensive Community Clerkship (CCC) communities that host learners annually. Site Administrative Coordinators (SACs) at each site keep learners, faculty, and hospital staff organized to ensure everyone is meeting NOSM's curriculum requirements.

With a background in health care, Sue Featherston is a natural when it comes to connecting hospital staff, management, faculty, and medical learners. "I already knew most of the physicians at both learning sites and many of the managers and hospital staff before I became a Site Administrative Coordinator for NOSM. This made my transition to the program very easy," she explains.

Each year, the Muskoka Algonquin Healthcare group hosts eight medical students in the communities of Huntsville and Bracebridge. The communities also host approximately 50 elective rotations, which are undertaken by first-year medical students to final-year family residents. Featherston's role is to schedule orientation for learners within the community and plan all academic sessions for the students to attend during their CCC.

*"Support from the hospitals and local physicians is what makes NOSM's CCC program successful," she explains. "All levels of the hospital are encouraged to work with the medical students and residents to enhance their learning experience."*

Sue Featherston  
Site Administrative Coordinator



## Recruiting Health Professionals in Marathon

Being an ambassador for a community comes with a great deal of responsibility. For Brett Redden, it is a challenge he embraces as he looks to recruit health professionals who are a good fit with life in Marathon.

Part of Redden's role as Physician Recruitment and Retention Coordinator is to create and sustain a professional and healthy relationship with staff, medical learners, and residents. He also works to ensure learners have an opportunity to experience the recreational and social activities that the community has to offer.

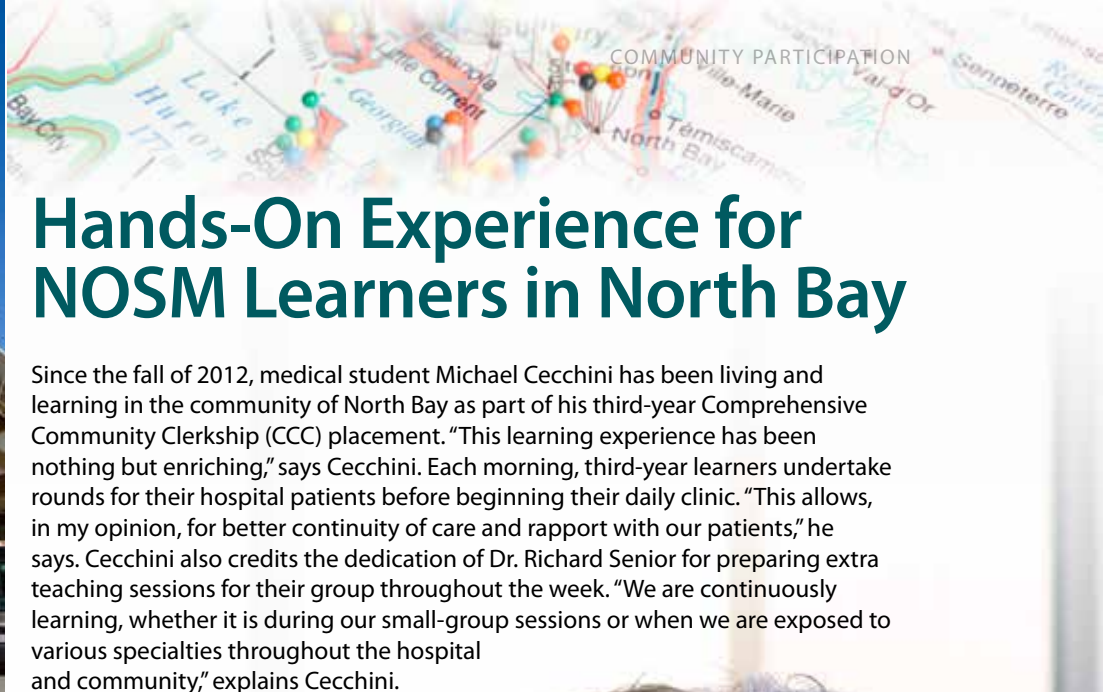
Redden's role in relationship to NOSM is the recruitment of future preceptors that will teach and guide the School's learners to become innovative leaders in their profession.

*"Having a medical school in Northern Ontario has turned out to be an effective recruiting tool, as it allows our recruits to have the opportunity to become clinical teachers. This is an opportunity that would not be possible without NOSM."*

Brett Redden  
Physician Recruitment and Retention  
Coordinator, Marathon Family Health Team







# Hands-On Experience for NOSM Learners in North Bay

Since the fall of 2012, medical student Michael Cecchini has been living and learning in the community of North Bay as part of his third-year Comprehensive Community Clerkship (CCC) placement. "This learning experience has been nothing but enriching," says Cecchini. Each morning, third-year learners undertake rounds for their hospital patients before beginning their daily clinic. "This allows, in my opinion, for better continuity of care and rapport with our patients," he says. Cecchini also credits the dedication of Dr. Richard Senior for preparing extra teaching sessions for their group throughout the week. "We are continuously learning, whether it is during our small-group sessions or when we are exposed to various specialties throughout the hospital and community," explains Cecchini.

## Training and Retaining Physicians

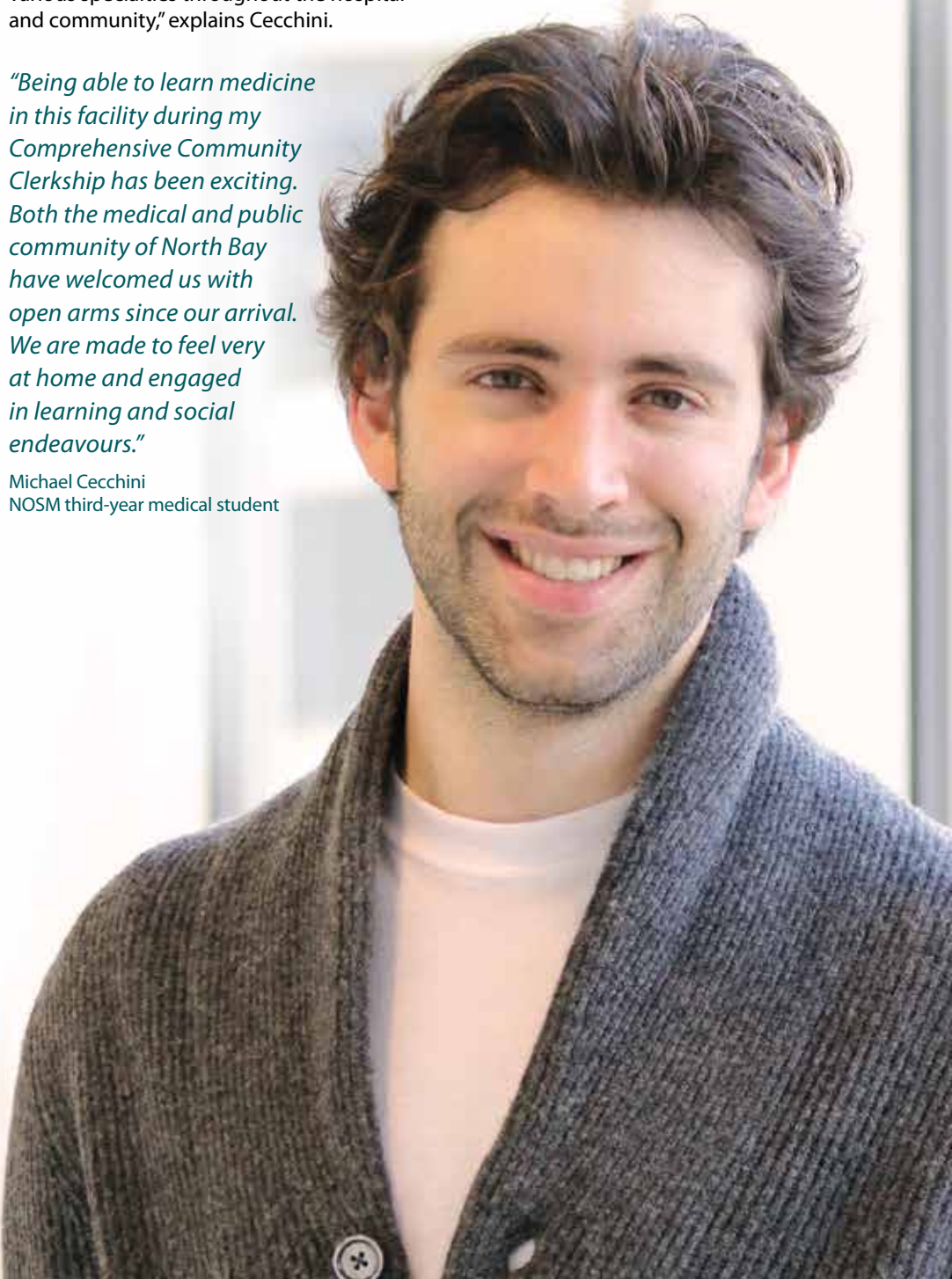
The North Bay Regional Health Centre (NBRHC), which officially opened in January 2011, is an academic health science centre that provides educational opportunities to third-year medical learners from NOSM, and residents from NOSM's Family Medicine Residents of the Canadian Shield (RoCS) program.

"Certainly our best experience is in family medicine, as we are one of the few large hospitals in Ontario in which family physicians are heavily involved in the inpatient care for their patients and orphaned patients," explains Dr. Richard Senior, North Bay Physician, Assistant Professor and Site Liaison Clinician for NOSM.

Senior credits the partnership between NOSM and the North Bay Regional Health Centre for the community's recent success in physician recruitment. "Having MDs who are involved in teaching improves the standards of education provided through the mentoring process," he explains. "Teaching opportunities also help to attract new physician recruits to North Bay."

*"Being able to learn medicine in this facility during my Comprehensive Community Clerkship has been exciting. Both the medical and public community of North Bay have welcomed us with open arms since our arrival. We are made to feel very at home and engaged in learning and social endeavours."*

Michael Cecchini  
NOSM third-year medical student







## NOSM Alum Chooses to Practise in Sault Ste. Marie

An alum of NOSM's MD program, Dr. Brandon Entwistle is now completing his residency training in Western University's Diagnostic Radiology program with training in NOSM's community partner, Sault Ste. Marie. "On a professional level, I wanted to develop a sense of what it would be like to practise medicine in the Soo," explains Entwistle. "I also wanted to form relationships with my future colleagues."

Entwistle plans to practise in the Sault area upon completion of his residency training. Adding to his long list of reasons for choosing to practise in Northern Ontario, Entwistle has already received tremendous support from the community of Sault Ste. Marie. "During medical school, I received a bursary from the *Bring a Doctor Home Hockey Tournament*, which was greatly appreciated," he says. "I also have received a great deal of support from Sault Ste. Marie physician recruitment and retention upon entrance into my residency in diagnostic radiology."

## Clinical Learning Strength of Comprehensive Community Clerkship

Since her arrival in Sault Ste. Marie, third-year medical student Yunni Jeong has had the opportunity to participate in some incredible learning experiences. "My second week into my clerkship, a surgeon guided me through my first solo toe amputation," explains Jeong. This is just one example of the kinds of activities that make the third-year integrated clerkship at NOSM so unique.

"What's most fascinating is that I have had the opportunity to interview a patient in the emergency department, follow the patient through a specialist consultation, attend the patient's surgical procedure, deliver the specimen to the pathology lab and obtain the assessment from the pathologist, and then assist the patient through post-operative care until discharge," she says.



*"The newly-built Sault Area Hospital offers state-of-the-art technology, resources, and facilities which are attracting more physicians to the community. As medical learners, we benefit from the learning opportunities and varied backgrounds of our preceptors, which ultimately allow us to offer better patient care."*

Yunni Jeong  
NOSM third-year medical student



*"Physicians in our community are eager and take pride in teaching learners. The new hospital atmosphere is amazing and welcoming to medical learners."*

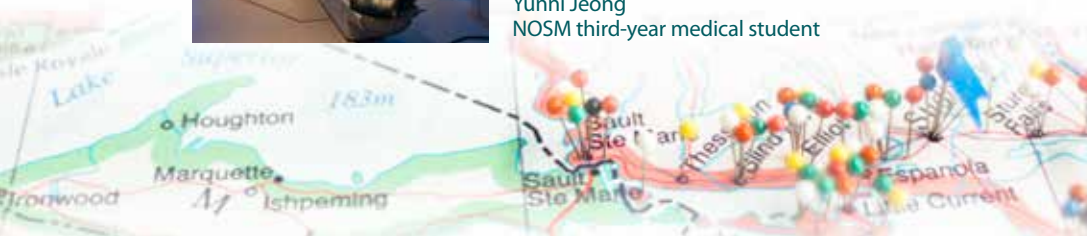
Carrie Jones, Site Administrative Coordinator (left) with Christine Pagnucco, Manager of Physician Recruitment and Retention

## Learner Coordination Complements Physician Recruitment

In the community of Sault Ste. Marie, Carrie Jones assists Christine Pagnucco with physician recruitment needs. For Jones, this begins with the coordination of NOSM learners within the Sault Area Hospital (SAH), and then physician recruitment once they have completed their training.

"The dual role provides the opportunity to develop relationships and assistance with medical learners throughout their training and with their future planning," explains Jones.

The SAH welcomes a variety of learners each year. The hospital hosts NOSM's third-year medical learners undertaking the Comprehensive Community Clerkship, first- and second-year family medicine residents, a general surgery resident, as well as both MD and postgraduate elective placements in many specialties.



## Training Health Professionals in Thunder Bay

The Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre (TBRHSC) hosts approximately 1,500 learners annually in a wide variety of health disciplines including nursing, pharmacy, dietetics, respiratory therapy, and medicine.

"Learners help to challenge us to stay current with our knowledge and skills," explains Dr. Peter Voros, Director of Academics, Health Professions and Interprofessional Education. Voros says that medical residents are an essential component to providing care at the TBRHSC. Residents are graduates of medical school and are licensed physicians when they begin residency. Supervision is a graduated system that eventually gives residents the ability to practise independently by the end of their residency period.

In 2012, 28 new medical graduates began their residencies at TBRHSC in family medicine, general surgery, obstetrics and gynecology, orthopedic surgery, internal medicine, pediatrics, and psychiatry—bringing the total current number of medical residents at TBRHSC to 64.

*"Medical residents at Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre are not only honing their skills to become independent practitioners — they are a big part of the workforce."*

Dr. Peter Voros  
Director of Academics, Health Professions,  
and Interprofessional Education, Thunder Bay  
Regional Health Sciences Centre

## Fourth-Year MD Training at Northern Ontario's Health Sciences Centres

NOSM medical students completing their fourth year of undergraduate medical education spend the academic year undertaking a series of specialist clerkship rotations in: surgery, internal medicine, children's health, women's health, mental health, emergency medicine, and family medicine.

Placed at either the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre (TBRHSC) in Thunder Bay or at Health Sciences North (HSN) in Sudbury, learners access various specialties and subspecialties during the year, which both provides clinical training and assists the students in their selection of career path and residency programs.





# State-of-the-Art Simulation Lab for Health Sciences North

A simulation lab allows learners to perfect their skills before putting them into practise. The Health Sciences North (HSN) Simulation Lab offers NOSM learners at the hospital the opportunity to develop essential clinical skills in a safe and focused environment.

"We have received such great feedback from our participating physician teachers," explains Dr. Rob Anderson, HSN Simulation Lab Medical Director and Program Director for the Anesthesiology Program at NOSM. "They are excited to offer controlled learning opportunities for their learners in an environment where it is safe to make mistakes."

HSN's Simulation Lab complements existing NOSM simulation activities by offering NOSM learners in Sudbury hands-on experience at the hospital during fourth-year MD clinical rotations, as well as during residency training.

**Dr. Rob Anderson**  
Health Sciences North Simulation Lab  
Medical Director and NOSM Program  
Director, Anesthesiology



Health Sciences North / Horizon Santé-Nord

## Training Health Professionals in Sudbury

The Hôpital régional de Sudbury Regional Hospital changed its name to Health Sciences North/Horizon Santé-Nord (HSN) to better reflect its mandate as an academic health sciences centre. HSN has redefined how it hosts medical learners annually and supports varying disciplines.

"What HSN offers is breadth of experience for medical learners, and volumes of it," explains Dr. Chris Bourdon, Vice President of Medical and Academic Affairs, HSN. "It's really that interface, the spirit of inquiry, that keeps everyone on their toes and ultimately benefits the patient from their interaction with learners."

In 2012, 33 NOSM medical graduates began their residency at HSN.



# NOSM Participates in Canadian Collaborative

## Global Forum Promotes Innovation in Health Professional Education

NOSM is now part of a Canadian collaborative selected by the U.S. Institute of Medicine that will develop new models for training health professionals who are better equipped to tackle today's realities. The Canadian Interprofessional Health Leadership Collaborative (CIHLC), led by the University of Toronto and including University of British Columbia, Queen's University, Université Laval, and NOSM, will develop health professional curriculum that fosters collaborative leadership skills.

The focus of the CIHLC project is collaborative leadership for health system change, transforming health and teaching across Canada and North America with approaches that can be transferable globally.

*"The Northern Ontario School of Medicine is excited to have a lead role in this global initiative to transform health professional education."*

Dr. Roger Strasser  
NOSM Dean

## Meeting Community Needs While Learning

Service learning is a structured learning experience that benefits both community and learner. Through their participation in service opportunities identified by communities, learners are able to contextually experience the impact of social determinants of health and the broad range of community efforts that work to improve our communities. For community agencies, there is the ability to benefit from the involvement of energetic, enthusiastic, and committed learners.

At NOSM's first Service Learning Symposium held in Thunder Bay and Sudbury in May 2012, participants considered how service learning helps to fulfill NOSM's social accountability mandate and addresses both the education and development of learners and the provision of increased resources for communities.



NOSM's Medical School Building, at Lakehead University, Thunder Bay.



NOSM's Medical School Building, at Laurentian University, Sudbury.





Youth and NOSM staff members assemble for a photograph on a field trip during the 2012 Summer Health Sciences Camp in Sudbury.  
*Les jeunes ainsi que le personnel de l'EMNO sont réunis pour une photo lors d'une journée d'excursion éducative dans le cadre du camp d'été en sciences de la santé de 2012 à Sudbury.*

## Engaging Youth to Consider Health-Related Careers

Current NOSM learners are eager to play a mentoring role in working with youth and serving as role models for high school students. Since July 2006, NOSM has hosted a total of 13 Summer Health Sciences Camps (SHSC) between NOSM's East and West campuses. The intake for the SHSC is designed to reflect the population of Northern Ontario and the communities which NOSM serves.

In 2012, during the month of July, NOSM's West Campus at Lakehead University hosted 21 high school students at Thunder Bay's seventh SHSC, and the East Campus at Laurentian University hosted 25 high school students at Sudbury's sixth SHSC. The main goal of the camps is to raise youth awareness about the variety of science and health careers open to them. The camps also provide students with an opportunity to explore the Aboriginal and Francophone cultures, experience hands-on health-related activities, and benefit from mentorship.

## Mobiliser la jeunesse à considérer les carrières en santé

Les étudiants en médecine actuels de l'EMNO sont des mentors enthousiastes de jeunes et des modèles de rôle pour des élèves du secondaire. Depuis juillet 2006, l'EMNO a organisé un total de 13 camps d'été en sciences de la santé (CESS) sur ses campus Est et Ouest. Le choix des participants acceptés aux CESS vise à représenter les peuples du Nord de l'Ontario et les communautés que l'EMNO dessert.

Au mois de juillet 2012, le campus Ouest de l'EMNO, à la Lakehead University, a accueilli 21 élèves du secondaire au septième camp d'été de Thunder Bay, et le campus Est, à l'université Laurentienne, en a accueilli 25 pour le sixième de Sudbury. Le principal but de ces camps est de sensibiliser les jeunes aux diverses carrières dans les sciences et la santé qu'ils peuvent choisir. Les élèves se sensibilisent également aux cultures autochtone et francophone, ont des activités pratiques liées à la santé et bénéficient de mentorat.



## Engaging and Developing Faculty Across Northern Ontario

In January 2012, more than 135 of NOSM's faculty members across Northern Ontario gathered together in Thunder Bay for the inaugural *Northern Constellations* faculty conference.

Designed to further develop faculty with respect to their varying roles and responsibilities at NOSM, *Northern Constellations* was a rich educational experience with a choice of 19 workshops. Topics included the orientation of new preceptors, facilitating effective small group teaching, having critical conversations with learners, research grant writing, and many other relevant subjects to assist faculty.

The conference gave faculty members many opportunities to share experiences and challenges while looking at ways to improve specific skills in the areas of teaching, educational and administrative leadership, and conducting scholarly and research activities.

## NOSM Alumni Begin Teaching the Next Generation

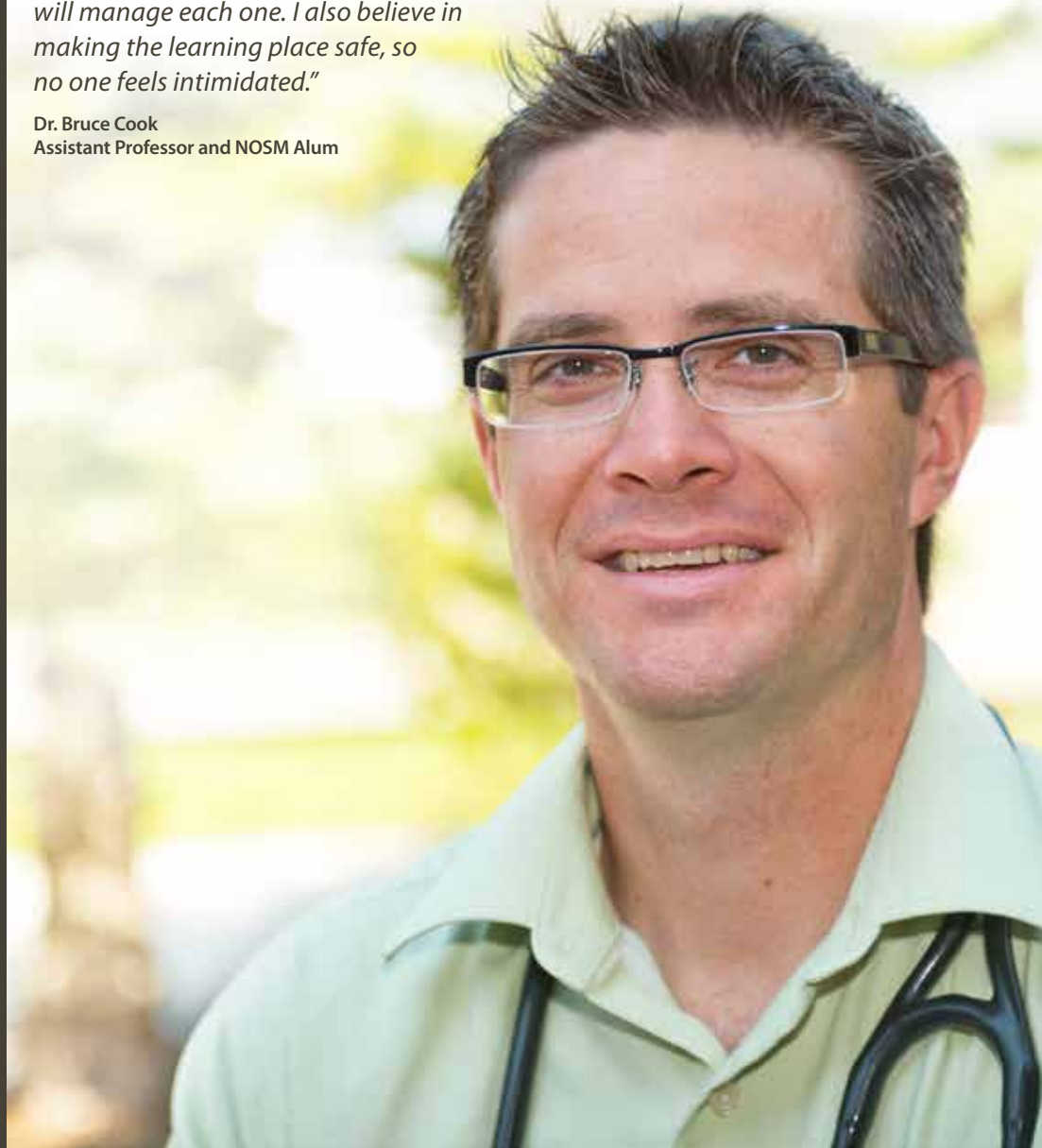
### Guiding Future Physicians in Dryden

A graduate of NOSM's MD program and alum of NOSM's Family Medicine Residents of the Canadian Shield (RoCS) residency program, Dr. Bruce Cook is now practising in the community of Dryden. He is also one of the NOSM's newest faculty members and Assistant Professors.

Cook believes that NOSM graduates develop different skill sets compared to other medical school graduates. "We are taught from an early stage how to care for all of the issues affecting a patient, not just one system," he says. Cook also believes that interdisciplinary work with physiotherapists, dietitians, and mental health workers, all part of NOSM's curriculum, contributes to the understanding of the patient's health and what resources are available to help them.

*"As a preceptor, I encourage students to identify all of the issues that are affecting a patient and propose how they will manage each one. I also believe in making the learning place safe, so no one feels intimidated."*

Dr. Bruce Cook  
Assistant Professor and NOSM Alum





# Learning from NOSM Faculty in Clinical Settings

NOSM Assistant Professor and faculty member Dr. Reena Dhatt offers students cutting-edge learning opportunities at her practice in Sudbury. Dhatt is a family physician who operates a practice consisting of 3,500 active patients.

Each year, Northeastern Ontario Medical Offices welcomes a large complement of medical professional learners including MD learners, residents, physician assistant learners, and nursing students for training. "Patients coming in to see me for an appointment are first seen by a learner," explains Dhatt. "This initial meeting with someone other than the physician allows for someone new to get the patient history and hear why the person is in to see the doctor," she says.

Dhatt believes that this fresh perspective is an advantage for patients as well as a learning opportunity for students.



Dr. Reena Dhatt  
Assistant Professor at NOSM



*"Since completing my residency training, I have been doing locum family medicine work at various local clinics throughout the city. Building experience in these clinics is assisting me as I prepare to open my own family practice in Sudbury."*

Dr. Robert Pastre  
Assistant Professor and NOSM Alum

## Giving Back Professionally is Personally Rewarding

A native of Coniston, Dr. Robert Pastre prides himself on having been educated in the City of Greater Sudbury. Following four years studying biomedical biology at Laurentian University, Pastre has completed a medical degree and family medicine residency training at NOSM. He is now working as a family medicine locum at various clinics in Sudbury.

Although Pastre is in the early stages of his career, he remains a familiar face at NOSM's East Campus at Laurentian University. Following residency, Pastre became a faculty member at NOSM.

Pastre believes his involvement in the teaching of future health professionals will ensure he becomes a well-rounded physician as he is constantly learning from the students and keeping current with the latest medical information. "I would encourage other physicians to become facilitators at NOSM, because it is personally rewarding," he says.

# Honouring Dedication

Years of Service, NOSM's newest award program, recognizes individual employees for continuous years of dedication and commitment to the School.

*"The vision of the Northern Ontario School of Medicine relies on the dedication and loyalty of staff and faculty who choose to make their careers here. I'd like to thank NOSM's long-standing staff and faculty for their commitment to the School, and the education of high-quality physicians and health professionals of tomorrow."*

Dr. Roger Strasser  
NOSM Dean



As this was the first year the Years of Service awards were introduced, several of the individuals who received Five Year recognition have more than five years service with NOSM.

# Celebrating Excellence

The Northern Ontario School of Medicine is committed to recognizing the dedication and outstanding contributions of staff, faculty, and learners. NOSM's Awards of Excellence celebrate the achievements of these individuals, and pay tribute to the important role that all NOSM staff, faculty, and learners play in the pursuit of the School's vision of *Innovative education and research for a healthier North*.

## Staff Awards of Excellence\*

### Innovation

Gina Kennedy

Secretary to the Board of Directors,  
Academic Council, and Joint Senate

### Leadership

Sue Berry

Executive Director,  
Integrated Clinical Learning

Patty Fink

Director, Health Sciences Library

### Inspiration

Denise Adams

Coordinator, Postgraduate Education

### Team Player

Bryan Stamm

Financial Aid Officer

### Team Effort

Rendez-Vous Technology Team

(Tariq Al-Idrissi, Rob Bertrand, Dimitri Demetrakopoulos,  
Nova Donaldson, Darren Foulds, Shane Freamo,  
Mike Lenardon, Joseph Modi, Terry Oja, Omair Quraishi,  
and Jamie Robertson.)

### Service Excellence

Tammy Hutchinson

Procurement Officer

### Reliability

Diane Moncion

Executive Assistant,  
Community Engagement

### Positive Attitude

Jewell Brunette

Administrative Assistant,  
Office of the Dean



Omair Quraishi

Joseph Modi

Mike Lenardon

Terry Oja

Darren Foulds

Dimitri Demetrakopoulos

Rob Bertrand

Nova Donaldson

Shane Freamo

Jamie Robertson



## 10 Years of Service

Diane Moncion

Lori Piccolo

Dr. Roger Strasser

## 5 Years of Service

Denise Adams  
Dr. Richard Almond  
Anita Arella  
Charlie Armstrong  
Vin Auld  
Danielle Barbeau-Rodrigue  
Jonny Barnstorf  
Robert Bertrand  
Marlene Bodson  
Lisa Boesch  
Sharon Boudreau  
Tamara Boyd  
Bill Bragnalo  
Gail Brescia  
Donna Brown  
Dan Burrell  
Chris Caddel  
Rita Campbell  
Nicole Cardinal

Jennifer Catanzaro  
Julia Celestini  
Bonnie Chimenti  
Julie Colquhoun  
Kristy Côté  
Dr. Thomas Crichton  
Laura Csontos  
Kim Daynard  
Carol Delorme  
Judy Depatie  
Melanie Desloges  
Tammy Dickey  
Dee-Dee Duchesne  
Jennifer Dumond  
Erica Dzuba  
Dr. Joe Eibl  
Dr. Rachel Ellaway  
Tyler England  
Siobhan Farrell

Patty Fink  
Darren Foulds  
Cara Garbachevski  
Marissa Giusti  
Cathy Gosselin  
Kim Gunn  
Dr. Geoffrey Hudson  
Tammy Hutchinson  
Dr. Kristen Jacklin  
Mike Johnson  
Christeen Jones  
Steve Kelly  
Gina Kennedy  
Dr. Neelam Khaper  
Heather Kivi  
Lisa Kokanie  
Mike Korolenko  
Dr. Tom Kovala  
Dr. Carita Lannér

Kimberley Larkin  
Nicole Lauzon  
Shanna Leclair  
Joe Lipinski  
Suzanne Lortie-Carlyle  
Dr. Marion Maar  
Cyndy MacKenzie  
Don Mackie  
Dr. David MacLean  
Jennifer Maxfield  
Michael McArthur  
Joey McColeman  
Dr. William McCready  
Connie Merenda  
Regina Mertz  
Deborah Modin  
Sherry Mongeau  
Jennifer Morris  
Lyne Morvan

Kathryn Needham  
Donna Newhouse  
Terry Oja  
Julie Pacifico  
Carmen Patry-Jutras  
Kathy Pirone  
Louise Poirier-Benoit  
Catherine Powell  
Marie Prpic  
Denise Raftis  
Debbie Reed  
Sheila Renton  
Dr. Stacey Ritz  
Jamie Robertson  
Claudia Rocca  
Dr. Brian Ross  
Dr. Greg Ross  
Jeannette Salmi  
Dr. Blair Schoales

Cathy Schroeder  
Sam Senecal  
Dr. Patricia Smith  
Bryan Stamm  
Dr. Zacharias Suntres  
Dr. TC Tai  
Pam Tallon  
Karen Tokaryk  
Dr. Marina Ulanova  
Kelley Van Den Broek  
Grace Vita  
Bev Voss  
Aaron Wright  
Jennifer Zubeil



Dr. Jean Anawati, MD student Kendra Komsa, MD student Kyle Lee, and Dr. David Clarke receive Awards of Excellence.

### Learner Awards of Excellence\*\*

Kendra Komsa (medical student)  
Kyle Lee (medical student)  
Danielle Brubacher (dietetic intern)  
Kaitlin Cobean (dietetic intern)

### Faculty/Preceptor Awards of Excellence\*\*

Dr. Jean Anawati  
Dr. David Clarke

### NICHE Award of Excellence\*\*

(Northern Interprofessional Collaborative for Health Education)

Gayle Adams-Carpino  
IPE Program Lead

\* Nominations made by colleagues, managers, faculty members, Board members, and NOSM learners.

\*\* Nominations made by NOSM learners.



Jewell Brunette

Gina Kennedy

Patty Fink

Tammy Hutchinson

Denise Adams

Diane Moncion

Bryan Stamm

Sue Berry



## Annual Hockey Tournament Raises Funds for NOSM Bursary

Each year, volunteer staff members and retirees of Essar Steel sharpen and lace up their skates in support of a medical student bursary at NOSM. The annual *Bring a Doctor Home Hockey Tournament* began in 2006, and since then, has raised more than \$120,000 to support medical students that hail from the community of Sault Ste. Marie. In 2012, over \$24,000 was raised. This brings the total raised by the tournament to \$121,713, and with past Ontario Trust for Student Support (OTSS) matching funds, the value of this endowed bursary is \$210,650.



*"For many, this tournament is more than playing hockey. We have the*

*opportunity to showcase our community and encourage our youth to choose medicine as a future career."*

Brent Lamming  
Tournament Financial Director and Treasurer



NOSM staff and faculty kick off the *Seats for Success* campaign in Thunder Bay.

## *Seats for Success* to Keep More Doctors in the North

In September 2012, NOSM launched the *Seats for Success* campaign, which asks communities across Northern Ontario to imagine a future where Northern-trained medical doctors are waiting to see patients.

Many people who dream of becoming doctors are deterred from applying to medical school because of the significant debt load. The goal of the *Seats for Success* campaign is to generate money for bursaries and other NOSM initiatives, helping to eliminate financial barriers and encourage future health professionals to pursue their career aspirations.

At the launch of the new campaign, over 1,000 chairs were set up on the lawn of the School's East Campus at Laurentian University and West Campus at Lakehead University, each seat representing one patient who, hopefully one day soon, will be on a patient list of a NOSM graduate. NOSM is inviting the people of Northern Ontario to purchase a virtual seat for \$60 to invest in, and support, the NOSM-trained health professionals of tomorrow.

More information about NOSM's *Seats for Success* campaign, and how you can support NOSM's learners, can be found online at [nosm.ca/seats](http://nosm.ca/seats).



NOSM staff and faculty kick off the *Seats for Success* campaign in Sudbury.





# IMAGINE YOUR COMMUNITY WHERE OUR DOCTORS ARE WAITING FOR YOU

**DR. JOHN AUGUSTINE**, RETIRED PHYSICIAN,  
THUNDER BAY WITH **DEREK BOS**, PRESIDENT  
NOSM STUDENT SOCIETY AND THIRD-YEAR  
LEARNER, NOSM CLASS OF 2014, TIMMINS.

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and help keep more doctors in the North. Together we can build  
a healthier community and make waiting a thing of the past.

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### Board of Directors

Mr. Dominic Giroux	Chair, Laurentian University, Sudbury
Dr. Brian J.R. Stevenson	Vice Chair, Lakehead University, Thunder Bay
Dr. Roger Strasser	Secretary Dean and CEO, NOSM
Dr. Robert Algie	Fort Frances
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Ms. Angèle Brunelle	Thunder Bay
Ms. Tracy Buckler	Thunder Bay
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Dr. George Doig	Thunder Bay
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Ms. Debbie Lipscombe	Kenora
Dr. Lori Livingston	Thunder Bay
Dr. Louise Logan	Sudbury
Mayor Marianne Matichuk	Sudbury
Mr. James Morris	Sioux Lookout
Ms. Rosie Mosquito	Thunder Bay
Ms. Angela Robson	Sudbury
Dr. Teresa O'Driscoll	Sioux Lookout
Dr. Claire Perreault	Sudbury
Mr. Ben Petersen	Sudbury
Mr. Tim Pile	Thunder Bay
Ms. Carolyn Sinclair	Sudbury
Ms. Liane Villano	Sudbury

# NOSM Board of Directors Meets in North Bay

In the spring of 2012, NOSM hosted a face-to-face Board of Directors meeting in North Bay. The Board enjoyed visiting the community's new, state-of-the art hospital. One of NOSM's Comprehensive Community Clerkship communities, North Bay provides acute-care services to surrounding communities and specialized mental health services to all of Northeastern Ontario.

The Board said farewell to seven members whose terms completed in September 2012. The members were recognized for their significant contributions to the School.

Thank you to NOSM's departing Board members:

- Dr. Adam Exley, Thunder Bay
- Dr. Todd Spencer, North Bay
- Mr. Arie Hoogenboom, Dryden
- Mr. Lou Turco, Sault Ste. Marie
- Mr. Austin Hunt, Kagawong
- Dr. Jesse Zroback, Kenora
- Mr. Neil MacOdrum, Geraldton

During the face-to-face meeting, NOSM's Board also enjoyed a panel discussion, which included students and alumni from the MD program, family medicine residents, a physician assistant, and a dietetic intern (shown below), and joined members of the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) for dinner.



Back row (left to right): NOSM-trained physicians Drs. Doris Mitchell and Alex Anawati, and medical student Alex Mantha. Front row (left to right): Physician assistant Britton Sprules, medical student Vanessa Ellies, and dietetic intern Julia Freeman.



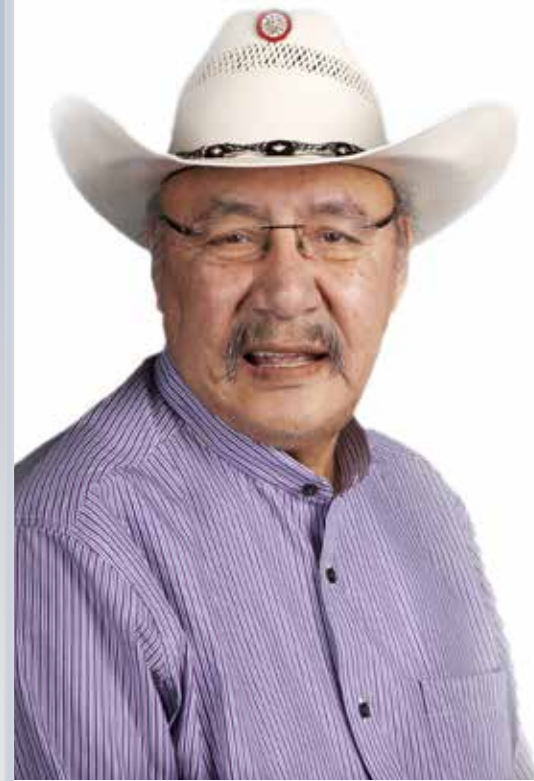
# Sustaining NOSM's Vision through the Board of Directors

As members of the municipal associations, NOSM's departing Board members Mr. Austin Hunt, Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) nominee, and Mr. Arie Hoogenboom, nominee from the Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA), have decades of organizational advisory experience. Both men have contributed greatly to NOSM's Board.

"At NOSM, we have created a model that needs to be duplicated across the country, and in other parts of the North," says Hoogenboom. "It gives me a lot of pride to be able to serve all of Northern Ontario and be part of such a great success story."

In addition to past accomplishments, Hunt and Hoogenboom are confident of NOSM's ability to sustain its success. "I have great hopes for the future of NOSM, more so since I have been on the Board," explains Hunt. "All of NOSM's Board members are dedicated to encouraging NOSM's success. I think it is going to be a new world in the North."

Although their terms of services are now complete, the ongoing successful governance of the School can be attributed to the dedication of Board members such as Hunt and Hoogenboom.



## Remembering Elder Josias Fiddler

Elder Josias Fiddler has had a profound and lasting effect on NOSM and the School's learners, staff, and faculty members. He will long be remembered at NOSM for his many contributions, which have helped shape the School into its present form.

Fiddler was one of the first Elders brought into early discussions about the development of NOSM and how the School could adequately, properly, and effectively reflect Northern Ontario's Aboriginal people in its day-to-day operations and governance.

Elder Josias Fiddler passed away on May 30, 2012, in Thunder Bay, Ontario.



Past NOSM Board members Austin Hunt and Arie Hoogenboom.

# Fiscal Sustainability

One of NOSM's many distinct features is that, according to its governance policy, the School cannot operate with a deficit budget. This means that each year, NOSM must ensure that total expenditures do not exceed funds available.

NOSM's Board of Directors reviews and approves the annual budget of the School.

## 2011-2012 Financial Overview

<b>Expenses</b>	Salaries and Benefits	\$22,241,000
	Other Operating Costs	\$5,372,000
	Educational Operating Costs	\$10,223,000
	Capital Expenditures	\$1,764,000

<b>Income</b>	Ministry of Training, Colleges, and Universities (MTCU)	\$20,515,000
	Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MoHLTC)	\$13,883,000
	Tuition and Other Fees	\$4,716,000
	Other	\$486,000

Budgeted Sources of Funding	\$39,600,000
Approved Budget Expenditures	\$39,600,000

