

*Our 10th anniversary year provides us with the opportunity to say thanks, merci, and miigwetch to everyone who has contributed so greatly to creating and sustaining a medical school built in Northern Ontario, for Northern Ontario.*

The Northern Ontario School of Medicine (NOSM) is committed to the education of high quality physicians and health professionals, and to international recognition as a leader in distributed, learning-centred, community-engaged education and research.

When the School welcomed its first MD students in September 2005, it became the first new

medical school in Canada in over 30 years. It is the first Canadian medical school hosted by two universities, over 1,000 kilometres apart. NOSM serves as the faculty of medicine for Lakehead University in Thunder Bay and Laurentian University in Sudbury. The School has developed and delivers a distinctive model of distributed, community-engaged, and socially accountable, medical education. In addition, NOSM is the only Canadian medical school to be established as a stand-alone, not-for-profit corporation, with its own Board of Directors and corporate by-laws.

The entire 820,000 sq km of Northern Ontario is the NOSM campus. Across the region, NOSM learners (medical students, residents, and learners from other health disciplines such as rehabilitation sciences, dietetics, and physician assistants) are gaining relevant clinical experience under the guidance of health professionals in community

hospitals, clinics, and family practices. The School brings together over 90 community partners, over 1300 clinical, human, and medical sciences faculty members, and approximately 200 staff.

NOSM's success is very much a result of many partnerships and collaborations with individuals, communities and organizations including Aboriginal and Francophone, hospitals and health services, physicians and other health professionals, universities and colleges, information communication technology organizations, and other medical schools.

With learners distributed across the North, communities play a vital role in welcoming and supporting students so that they develop a personal understanding of challenges and rewards of living and working in Northern Ontario communities.



Northern Ontario  
School of Medicine  
École de médecine  
du Nord de l'Ontario  
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Since 2005, the Northern Ontario School of Medicine has made significant contributions to the health of the people and communities of Northern Ontario.

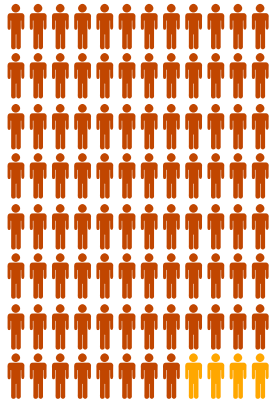
## Learn More about NOSM

Visit our website to learn more about NOSM's unique model of socially accountable education, success in training health workers in and for rural and remote areas, as well as recent achievements in fulfilling the School's vision of ***Innovative education and research for a healthier North.***

**[nosm.ca/reports](http://nosm.ca/reports)**  
**[nosm.ca/journalarticles](http://nosm.ca/journalarticles)**



# NOSM Achievements 2015



**MD students**  
**92%**  
from Northern Ontario

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**8%**  
from remote and rural  
parts of the rest of Canada

**Educational Excellence:** The Northern Ontario School of Medicine (NOSM) has come a long way in a relatively short time. Since its official opening in 2005, NOSM has: developed and delivered Distributed Community Engaged Learning as its distinctive model of health professional education and research; achieved full accreditation for its MD program, multiple residency programs, Continuing Education Professional Development (CEPD), and the Northern Ontario Dietetic Internship (NODIP) program; graduated emergency physicians, family physicians, other specialist physicians and dietitians from its programs; and seen our MD graduates move on to residencies in a range of specialties, predominantly rural family medicine, with a growing number now practising in Northern Ontario, including as NOSM faculty members.

Consistent with its social accountability mandate, NOSM seeks to reflect the population distribution of Northern Ontario in each class. Ninety-two percent of all MD students come from Northern Ontario with the remaining 8% coming from remote rural parts of the rest of Canada, and substantial inclusion of

Aboriginal (7%) and Francophone (22%) students. This has been achieved without sacrificing academic excellence; the mean grade point average (GPA) each year has been around 3.7 (out of 4) comparable with that of other Canadian medical schools.

Since 2009, there have been seven graduating classes of from which 62% of graduates have chosen family medicine (predominantly rural) training. Almost all the other MD graduates are training in general specialties such as general internal medicine, general surgery and pediatrics, with a small number training in subspecialties like dermatology, plastic surgery and radiation oncology. NOSM offers residency training in family medicine through the Family Medicine Residents of the Canadian Shield (FM RoCS) program plus enhanced skills third-year postgraduate positions, and residency programs in eight other major general specialties. 94% of the doctors who completed undergraduate and postgraduate education with NOSM are practising in Northern Ontario.



Since 2006,  
NOSM has hosted  
**10** Northern Health  
Research Conferences

**Outstanding Research:** NOSM research is guided by its social accountability mandate and is intended to address questions that make a difference to the health of Northern Ontarians. Since 2006, NOSM has hosted ten annual Northern Health Research Conferences. In 2008, NOSM hosted a three-day Partnership Opportunities in Health Research Gathering that developed a framework for research collaboration between Aboriginal people and researchers. In 2013, NOSM appointed Dr. Sheldon Tobe to the Heart and Stroke Foundation NOSM Research Chair in Aboriginal and Rural Health.

**Community Collaboration:** NOSM's success is very much a result of partnerships and collaborations with individuals, communities and organizations including Aboriginal and Francophone, hospitals and health services, physicians and other health professionals, universities and colleges, information communication technology organizations, and other medical schools. In addition to collaboration/affiliation agreements with hospitals, health services and other organizations in Northern Ontario, NOSM has established interdependent partnerships through Local NOSM Groups (LNGs) with the 15 communities that host third year MD students, as well as in Sudbury and Thunder Bay. The LNGs provide the mechanism by which NOSM is a part of the community, and the community is a part of NOSM.



**National and International Leadership:** Within Canada, NOSM is an acknowledged leader in implementing the Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada's Future of Medical Education in Canada Collective Visions for MD Education and for Postgraduate Education. NOSM initiated the Consortium for Longitudinal Integrated Curricula (CLIC), which has facilitated the introduction of longitudinal integrated clerkships in over 50 medical schools worldwide. In addition, NOSM was the only North American school amongst the founding members of the

global Training for Health Equity network (THEnet) group of medical schools with a social accountability mandate.

NOSM has received many awards, which include: three Global Best Awards for building learning communities, including the Overall Global Winner in recognition of the success of its partnership with Aboriginal communities; the IPAC Deloitte Public Sector Leadership Gold Award in education for 2010; and the international AMEE Aspire Award recognizing excellence in socially accountable medical education in 2013.

**Impact of NOSM:** NOSM is effective in enhancing the supply of generalist physicians who are responsive to diverse community needs and are collaborative members of health teams. A study of the Socio-Economic Impact of NOSM has shown that NOSM is contributing \$67 - \$82 million per year of new economic activity. The most impressive social impact finding was a sense of community empowerment summed up in the phrase "if we can do a successful medical school in Northern Ontario, we can do anything."

**\$67 - \$82  
million** per year of  
new economic  
activity



**Innovative education and  
research for a healthier North.**

**Conclusion:** In just ten years, NOSM has become a world leader in Community Engaged Medical Education, while staying true to its social accountability mandate of contributing to improving the health of the people and communities of Northern Ontario.