



NOSM and its Indigenous Reference Group (formerly known as Aboriginal Reference Group) together announced the School's adoption of the terminology "Indigenous Peoples" in place of "Aboriginal Peoples." This change in terminology, recommended by NOSM's Indigenous Reference Group was motivated by the Canadian Government's recognition of the United Nations Declaration of Rights of Indigenous People, included within the Calls to Action made by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada (TRC).

## Educational Excellence

More than just a medical school, NOSM is involved in the education of MD students, residents, physician assistants, dietitians, audiologists, physiotherapists, speech-language pathologists, and occupational therapists. Learners are woven into the fabric of more than 90 Northern Ontario communities, where they learn in context about the determinants of health relevant in the region.

Incoming students in MD class of 2020:

**2,153 applications**  
were received for 64 spots.

**13%**

self-identifies  
as **Indigenous**.

**20%**

self-identifies  
as **Francophone**.

**89%**

are from  
**Northern Ontario**

**11%**

are from other **rural** and  
**remote** areas in Canada



**465 MDs**

have **graduated** from NOSM.

**5 new residency positions**

were added this year—4 additional  
family medicine and 1 in psychiatry.

**94%**

of **NOSM MD graduates** who  
have also completed their  
residency with NOSM are now  
**practising in Northern Ontario**.



**74%** of NOSM-educated  
Registered Dietitians are  
**practising in Northern Ontario**.

**More than 2,100**

**health professionals and administrators** have  
participated in NOSM's continuing medical  
education and faculty development training.

## Making it Work

Recruiting and retaining health-care professionals for rural and remote communities is an ongoing challenge in many parts of the world. NOSM has partnered with four European countries (Sweden, Scotland, Iceland, and Norway) to advance recruitment and retention of health and other public sector workers in the Northern Periphery and Arctic region. The project, titled Recruit and Retain 2: Making it Work, has received €2 million from the European Union. Within Canada, the project activities will focus on recruitment and retention initiatives of physicians in Northern Ontario and Nunavut.

## Outstanding Research

Research at the School addresses the questions of importance to improving the health of the peoples and communities of Northern Ontario.

The Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation invested \$1 million to establish a new Research Chair at NOSM that is focused on developing remote sensing technology to identify waterborne microbes that pose a health risk to people and animals who drink or bathe in the water.

Bruce Power provided \$5 million to support the NOSM/Bruce Power Research Centre for Health, Environment, and Radiation who will continue to conduct health research in Northern Ontario, specifically in relation to radiation and the environment. This funding will also provide for a free, clean energy electric car charging station that is open and available to the public, as well as an electric car for conducting research.

The Northern Ontario Academic Medical Association (NOAMA) has awarded more than \$8 million in research funding to NOSM faculty members since 2009.

## Community Collaboration

On September 23, 2015, more than 700 people in more than 20 communities across Northern Ontario participated in the Be Active with NOSM event through a wide range of activities including running, canoeing, yoga, and more. In 2016, Be Active with NOSM lives on—the School continues to invite all Northern Ontarians to engage in 30 minutes of physical activity a day, and use the hash tag #beactivewithnosm on photos of healthy activities to demonstrate their commitment to a healthier Northern Ontario!



**NOSM was awarded a Gold Award of Excellence** by the Canadian Public Relations Society for the communications plan associated with the **Be Active with NOSM** initiative.

In 2016, NOSM partnered with HealthForceOntario Marketing and Recruitment Agency (HFO MRA) in order to increase access to health professionals in Northern Ontario, particularly in high needs areas, including Indigenous, Francophone, remote, rural, and underserved communities. The partnership also looks to increase the supply of physician educators in the North, and track trends in order to inform future health human resource decisions.

## Empowered Faculty

NOSM faculty members located across the region play a critical role in the School's success by educating our learners, conducting outstanding research, delivering high-quality clinical care, and playing leadership roles in our organization.

More than 275 participants attended NOSM's fifth annual faculty development conference, Northern Constellations in April 2016 in Thunder Bay, Ontario.

**This year, NOSM's more than 1,400 NOSM faculty members across the North teach approximately:**

**255**

**MD students**

**178**

**residents**

**12**

**dietetic  
interns**

**28**

**physician  
assistants**

**277**  
visiting  
learners

**168**

learners in audiology, speech-  
language pathology, physiotherapy,  
and occupational therapy learners

## Conclusion

Since NOSM opened its doors in 2005, the School has proven that this unique, made-in-the-North solution to improving the health of the people and communities of Northern Ontario is working. NOSM and its collaborators continue to work diligently to ensure the School has the necessary support to continue to deliver on its mission of Innovative education and research for a healthier North.

# Keep in Touch



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