



Northern Ontario  
School of Medicine  
École de médecine  
du Nord de l'Ontario  
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# NOSM Activity Report

Dr. Roger Strasser, Dean-CEO  
September-October 2018



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## NOSM Board of Directors Celebrates Successful Year

*Rooted in the North*

Using a combination of web- and teleconference connectivity across Northern Ontario, the Northern Ontario School of Medicine (NOSM) held its Annual Members and Board of Directors meetings on Wednesday, September 19, 2018.

In accordance with Board policy, Dr. Alexandre Anawati, Danielle Bélanger-Corbin, Mark Hurst, and Bruce Sutton were reappointed as Directors. George Payne, NOSM medical student, was appointed as a Director for a one-year term. The audited financial statements for the year ending April 30, 2018 were approved as presented, and the Board approved the auditors for the fiscal year ending April 30, 2019.

Board members received updates on the many successes celebrated at NOSM over the past year, including Gididaa bimaadiziwemin wenji-maamoobiiding—NOSM's Indigenous Community Partnership Gathering—taking place in Wauzhushk Onigum Nation and the 13<sup>th</sup> annual Northern Health Research Conference happening this week in Kenora.

Board members and invited guests received copies of three new NOSM publications: Northern Passages, The Scope, and NOSM's annual Report to Northern Ontario. The theme of this year's annual report is *Rooted in the North*. This unifying theme captures the progress that NOSM has made in establishing its roots in Northern Ontario, and reinforces the idea that the School is anchored in its mandate to be socially accountable to the needs and the diversity of the peoples and communities of Northern Ontario.

At the meeting, Dr. Moira McPherson, Board Vice Chair, congratulated Dr. Roger Strasser, Dean, on behalf of the Board, on achieving his performance goals of 2017/2018. "The annual review committee reviewed the documentation provided and the committee was very impressed with the quality of work that took place over the past year," says McPherson. "Dean Strasser made important steps forward with a focus on Francophone and Indigenous relationships at the School. The work done around the strategic focus of NOSM as well as funding initiatives, has also been valuable. The annual review committee provided a strong and unanimous recommendation of support to the Board executive."

The next Board of Directors meeting will be a two-day session held in Sudbury on November 22-23, 2018, when some sessions will be held jointly with NOSM's Academic Council.

For more information about NOSM's Board of Directors, please visit our website at [nosm.ca/board](http://nosm.ca/board).

## Le conseil d'administration de l'EMNO célèbre une année réussie

*Enracinée dans le Nord*

Au moyen d'une combinaison de liaisons en ligne et par téléconférence dans le Nord de l'Ontario, l'École de médecine du Nord de l'Ontario (EMNO) a tenu la réunion de son conseil d'administration le mercredi 19 septembre 2018.

Conformément à la politique du conseil, le mandat du D<sup>r</sup> Alexandre Anawati, de Danielle Bélanger-Corbin, Mark Hurst, et Bruce Sutton a été renouvelé. George Payne, étudiant en médecine à l'EMNO, a été nommé pour un mandat d'un an. Les états financiers vérifiés de l'exercice terminé le 30 avril 2018 ont été approuvés

sans modification, et le conseil a aussi approuvé la nomination des vérificateurs pour l'exercice se terminant le 30 avril 2019.

Les membres du Conseil ont reçu des mises à jour sur les nombreux succès célébrés à l'EMNO au cours de l'année écoulée, notamment Gididaa bimaadiziwemin wenji-maamoobiiding - Rassemblement des communautés autochtones partenaires de l'EMNO – tenu dans la Wauzhushk Onigum Nation, et la 13<sup>e</sup> Conférence de recherche sur la santé dans le Nord qui a lieu cette semaine à Kenora.

Les membres du conseil et les invités ont reçu des exemplaires de trois nouvelles publications de l'EMNO : Passages du Nord, The Scope et le Rapport au Nord de l'Ontario. Le thème du rapport de cette année est *Enracinée dans le Nord*. Il capture les progrès que l'EMNO a réalisés dans l'établissement de ses racines dans le Nord de l'Ontario et renforce l'idée que l'École est ancrée dans sa responsabilité sociale qui est de répondre aux besoins et de tenir compte de la diversité des gens et communautés du Nord de l'Ontario.

Pendant la réunion, Mme McPherson, vice-présidente du conseil, a félicité au nom du conseil le D<sup>r</sup> Roger Strasser, doyen de l'EMNO, qui a atteint ses objectifs de rendement de 2017-2018 : « Le comité chargé de l'examen annuel a pris connaissance de la documentation fournie et a été très impressionné par la qualité du travail accompli au cours de l'année écoulée. Le doyen Strasser a fait de grands pas en avant en matière de relations avec les francophones et les Autochtones à l'École. Le travail accompli sur l'accent stratégique de l'EMNO ainsi que sur les initiatives de financement est aussi appréciable. Le comité a recommandé fortement et à l'unanimité l'appui au doyen à l'exécutif du conseil. »

La prochaine réunion du conseil d'administration aura lieu à Sudbury, les 22 et 23 novembre 2018 et comportera des séances conjointes avec le Conseil de l'enseignement de l'EMNO.

Pour obtenir des renseignements sur le conseil d'administration de l'EMNO, consultez notre site Web à [www.nosm.ca](http://www.nosm.ca).



#### **New study from Dr. Ulanova**

Indigenous populations have stronger immunity to a serious bacterial infection than non-Indigenous populations, regardless of whether they live in an area where the infection is common or uncommon, according to a study published online today in **PLOS ONE**.

*Haemophilus influenzae* type A (Hia) is a bacterial infection that can lead to serious illnesses including pneumonia, meningitis, sepsis and epiglottitis, all of which can result in permanent disability or death.

The study compared naturally-acquired immunity to Hia infection in Indigenous adults living in Ojibwa First Nations communities in Northwestern Ontario to that of non-Indigenous people living in Northwestern Ontario and across the country, as well as Indigenous adults living in Ojibwa First Nations communities in Southern Ontario.

[> Read more](#)

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## EXPERT PANEL ON INDIGENOUS RELATIONS

READ MORE



The Northern Ontario School of Medicine (NOSM) Executive Group has engaged an Expert Panel to provide advice on the relations, structures and policies that exist between NOSM and Indigenous Peoples including NOSM's Indigenous Reference Group, Elders' Council, the Indigenous Affairs Unit, Indigenous learners, Indigenous faculty members and staff, and Indigenous communities and organizations. [▶ Learn more >>](#)

### Northern Health Research Conference: Kenora, Ontario on September 21-22, 2018.



The 13th annual NOSM Northern Health Research Conference (NRHC) was in Kenora last Friday and Saturday (September 20-21). It is becoming a recurring theme for me this year that each annual event is the last I will attend as NOSM Founding Dean and CEO.

In this context, NOSM Associate Dean Research, Dr Penny Moody-Corbett invited me to share my Reflections on [NHRC: 2006 to the Future](#). I began by sharing my view that research is: a process of answering questions in a systematic way; essential to improving health care and health outcomes; and integral to clinical practice. I then presented the development of NOSM research with its Social Accountability focus on addressing research questions, the answer for which makes a difference to the health of Northern Ontarians.

NHRC has been pivotal with 871 presentations (keynote, oral and poster) over the years addressing research into Northern Ontario health issues. I see an exciting future for health research in Northern Ontario facilitated by ICES North which opens officially this Friday (September 28) and collaborative research enhanced by the Academic Health Science Network North and the Northern Ontario Health Research Alliance involving NOSM, regional hospitals and universities.

As in previous years, the research which was presented at this NHRC ranged from the molecular to the whole society. Participants from different research backgrounds and institutions came together to share their study findings, advance knowledge and network amongst themselves. Amongst many highlights was the outstanding keynote address by Dr Catherine Cook, Vice Dean Indigenous Health, University of Manitoba who addressed the topic Indigenous Health Research: a Building Block for Equity for Indigenous People. Another highlight for me was the announcement that in future there will be a Dr Roger Strasser Founding Dean research award, which provides financial support for a learner (medical student or resident) to present at each future NHRC. Now is the time for you to plan to attend next year's NHRC in October at Manitoulin Island.

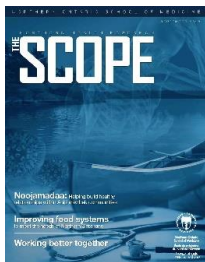


*Northern Passages*, is published twice yearly and conveys news about the School's activities.

Latest Issue - <https://www.nosm.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Report-to-Northern-Ontario-2018.pdf>

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September 2018 Edition is available online <https://www.nosm.ca/thescope/>



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#### Cocktail Reception

**Date:** Friday, November 16, 2018

**Time:** 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

**Location:** Brasserie Restaurant  
Room: Library  
461 King Street West,  
Toronto, ON  
M5V 1K4

RSVP to Katie Pasol 807-766-7474  
or [kb.asol@nosm.ca](mailto:kb.asol@nosm.ca) by  
Thursday, November 8, 2018



15 - 18 OCTOBER, 2018  
MOUNT GAMBIER, SOUTH AUSTRALIA



FOR MORE INFORMATION:  
[muster2018.com](http://muster2018.com)  
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Respectfully submitted,

Dr Roger Strasser  
Professor of Rural Health  
Dean and CEO  
Northern Ontario School of Medicine

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