



## NOSM's Achievements and Upcoming Events Highlighted at Board of Directors Meeting

Using a combination of video- and tele-conference connectivity across Northern Ontario, the Northern Ontario School of Medicine (NOSM) held a regular meeting of the Board of Directors on Wednesday, March 22, 2017.

At the meeting, NOSM Dean Dr. Roger Strasser presented an update on NOSM's Performance Goals, highlighting recent achievements in the areas of educational excellence, outstanding research, whole school culture, faculty empowerment, and community engagement. These areas reflect the School's priorities relative to NOSM's social accountability mandate and address the strategic goals set out in the [NOSM's 2015-2020 Strategic Plan](#).

In addition, the Board heard about the recent successful collaboration with Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre (TBRHSC) and Health Sciences North (HSN) to establish an accredited Medical Physics Residency Education Program (MPREP) to train medical physicists in the North, for the North. Medical physicists are health-care professionals with specialized training in the medical application of physics, and most often work in hospital diagnostic imaging departments, cancer treatment facilities, and hospital-based research establishments.

Another highlight brought forward was the launch of the NOSM's Library Endowment Fund at the School's



I NOSM Open House held at Lakehead University and Laurentian University on February 15, 2017. The Endowment Fund was established to offset the rising costs of the School's Health Sciences Library, which provides an essential service to the more than 900 learners and 1400 faculty across Northern Ontario. All Northern Ontarians are invited to invest in high quality patient care by donating to NOSM's Health Sciences Library Endowment Fund at [nosm.ca/donate](http://nosm.ca/donate).

Board members were reminded of an important upcoming event being hosted by NOSM. The sixth annual [Northern Constellations](#), a conference that brings together NOSM faculty from across Northern Ontario to share experiences, network, and participate in workshops related to educating future health professionals, will take place April 21 - 22 in Sudbury.

The Board approved the Financial Report for the period ending January 31, 2017.

The next meeting of the Board of Directors is the Annual Board Face-to-Face Meeting, this year scheduled for May 11 - 12, 2017 in Thunder Bay, Ontario.

## NOSM's Annual Health Sciences Summer Camp Application Deadline Extended



The Northern Ontario School of Medicine (NOSM) maintains a commitment to providing information to rural, remote, Indigenous, and Francophone youth about health careers.

This year, the School will host its annual Health Sciences Summer Camp from July 10 – 14, 2017 at NOSM at Laurentian University in

Sudbury and from July 17 – 21, 2017 at NOSM at Lakehead University in Thunder Bay. These week-long programs provide high school students with an opportunity to explore health-care careers, obtain hands-on experience, and find a student-mentor.

Camp activities include: casting and x-rays; CSI; physiology and anatomy; suturing, Francophone and Indigenous health and culture, and, so much more!

NOSM is currently seeking interested high school students who will be attending Grade 10 and 11 in September 2017. The application deadline has been extended to April 21, 2017. Accepted applicants will be contacted by NOSM by April 28, 2017 and will be required to submit a non-refundable registration fee of \$400.

Students interested in participating in either camp are encouraged to contact Véronique Poirier, Health Sciences Summer Camp Coordinator, toll free at 1-800-461-8777 ext. 7198 or by email to [camp@nosm.ca](mailto:camp@nosm.ca).

### **Admissions Weekend 2017**

This past weekend (March 25-26) and next (April 1-2) are the interview weekends for applicants to the 2017 intake to the NOSM MD program. In all, 326 individuals have been called for interview over the two weekends selected from the 2089 applications received for 64 available places. This confirms the competitive nature of securing a place as a medical student with NOSM. 60% of those interviewed this year are females. Amongst the 326, there are 57 (17%) self-identified as Francophone and 38 (12%) self-identified as Indigenous. Following the interviews, the Admissions Committee will assess all the information on the candidates prior to sending out first round offers to 64 candidates on May 9. Orientation week for our 2017 first year class begins on September 5.

Interviewing around 320 applicants over two weekends is a huge logistical exercise and a major challenge for all involved. It is also of great importance to the School as the process is as much about inspiring applicants that this is the medical school for them, as it is about selecting which of them will be offered places in the NOSM MD program. Many students, faculty and staff members, as well as individuals from the communities of Northern Ontario (not just Sudbury and Thunder Bay), contribute considerable time and effort to the success of the interview weekends. Thank you to all of you for your participation in this process which is very important to the School. Congratulations to Dr Owen Prowse, Assistant Dean Admissions, Miriam Cain, Director Admissions and Learner Recruitment, Julie Pacifico, Admissions Officer and the whole team on the success of the process.

### **Northern Ontario Academic Integration**

In just over a decade, NOSM has contributed to a dramatic improvement in access to healthcare in Northern Ontario. This achievement is a collective effort which occurred through multiple partnerships and collaborations. Amongst those partnerships, the relationships with the regional hospitals in Thunder Bay and Sudbury have been critical.

Health Sciences North (HSN) and Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre (TBRHSC) were designated officially as Academic Health Science Centres (AHSC) in 2006. 10 years on, it is timely to fine-tune the nature of the collaboration to support excellence in medical education, research, and the quality and safety of patient care. To this end, NOSM, HSN and TBRHSC have established the Northern Ontario Academic Health Sciences Integration Project lead by Drs Catherine Cervin, Janice Willett, Robert Smith, Chris Bourdon, and Stewart Kennedy, with Jennifer Wakegijig as project manager.

The project is informed by an extensive environmental scan and has four themes, each with a working group: leadership accountability; research support services; administrative support; and collaboration and governance. On April 20-21 in Sudbury, there will be a Symposium at which key findings from each theme will be shared, and the best-fit options for actions/strategies for future collaborations will be presented for discussion by a broad group of stakeholders. There are many opportunities for synergies, with the potential for the whole academic collaboration to be greater than the sum of the parts. Today, the two AHSC CEOs and I present a joint communique (attached and copied below) and encourage all

invited academic and clinical leaders to participate in the Symposium and contribute to the future successful collaboration across the North.

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### The Noojamadaa Exhibit: Indigenous Perspectives on Healthy Relationships



The Noojamadaa Exhibit is a stunning new photovoice collection on display now through April 1, 2017, at the McEwen School of Architecture in Sudbury. Noojamadaa means "let's heal" and the exhibit provides a safe space for Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples to reflect on our shared journey towards wellness, through contemplation of our relationships with one another and our surroundings. Over the past year, a research team—led by Northern Ontario School of Medicine (NOSM) Associate Professor Dr. Marion Maar—has collaborated with Manitoulin First Nations communities and health organizations on research in support of healthy

relationships to help counteract intimate partner violence.

**Northern Constellations Conference** link for registration and more information:

[http://www.nosm.ca/education/cepd/event\\_detail\\_new.aspx?courseInstanceID=CFINC\\_58397208](http://www.nosm.ca/education/cepd/event_detail_new.aspx?courseInstanceID=CFINC_58397208)





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NORTHERN HEALTH RESEARCH CONFERENCE

**OCTOBER 13 - 14, 2017**  
**THUNDER BAY, ONTARIO**

***Northern Ontario School of Medicine Achievement Report 2016*** - [HERE](#)

***Northern Passages***: Fall 2016 [\[English\]](#) [\[Français\]](#)

For more news and information visit [www.nosm.ca](http://www.nosm.ca)

Respectfully submitted,

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