



Northern Ontario  
School of Medicine

École de médecine  
du Nord de l'Ontario

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

# Northern Ontario School of Medicine Activity Report

Dr. Roger Strasser, Dean-CEO  
March-April 2015

## NOSM Board Approves New Five-Year Strategic Plan

*Official launch of plan in September 2015*

Using a combination of web- 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 18, 2015.

At this meeting, the Board approved the NOSM Strategic Plan 2015-2020, the development of which was informed by strong staff, faculty, partner organization, and community participation. A Strategic Planning Project Team and a 28-member Strategic Planning Advisory Committee (representing diverse perspectives from across the region) oversaw the strategic planning process that included visiting more than 50 Northern, rural, remote, Francophone, and Aboriginal communities across the North to discuss Northern Ontarians' ongoing health-related needs. The input received provided important guidance to setting the priorities of NOSM's 2015-2020 Strategic Plan.

NOSM's Strategic Plan 2015-2020: Reaching Beyond Extraordinary Together will launch officially in September, to coincide with NOSM's new academic year. The fall will also mark 10 years since NOSM opened its doors.

At the meeting, the Board welcomed Dr. Moira McPherson, Lakehead University's recently appointed Provost and Vice-President (Academic), to the role of Chair of the Board.

The Board received reports from the Finance, Audit and Risk Management, Executive, and Governance committees. The Board also received reports from the School's Academic Council, Aboriginal Reference Group, and Francophone Reference Group.

A recently published article titled "The economic contribution of the Northern Ontario School of Medicine to communities participating in distributed medical education" was circulated to the Board for information.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report for the period ending January 31, 2015.

The next meeting of the Board of Directors is the Annual Board Face-to-Face Meeting, this year scheduled for May 7-8, 2015 in Kenora, Ontario.

For a complete list of Board members, please visit our website at [nosm.ca](http://nosm.ca).

## Admissions Weekends 2015

March 7-8 and March 28-29 were the interview weekends for applicants to the 2015 intake to the NOSM MD program at Lakehead and Laurentian University respectively. In all, 328 individuals have been called for interview over the two weekends selected from the 2130 applications received for 64 available places. This confirms the competitive nature of securing a place as a medical student with NOSM. 63% of those interviewed this year are females. Amongst the 328, there are 57 (17%) self-identified as

Innovative education and research for a healthier North.

Formation et recherche novatrices pour l'amélioration de la santé dans le Nord.



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Francoophone and 33 (10%) self-identified as Aboriginal. Following from the interviews, the Admissions Committee will assess all the information on these candidates in the lead up to sending out first round offers to 64 selected candidates on May 12. Orientation week for our 2015 first year class begins on August 24.

Interviewing 320 plus 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 selection and admissions process.

### **CaRMS Match 2015**

During their final year, MD students submit applications to undertake their residency education. They may choose a program in any specialty offered by any medical school anywhere in Canada. Residency program directors review the applications received and call selected applicants for interview in late January and early February each year. Subsequently, the student applicants and the residency program directors submit their preferences in order of priority to the Canadian Residents Matching Service (CaRMS) which runs a computer match in early March.

Wednesday March 4 was this year's CaRMS match day. This year, all NOSM students except one were matched in the first CaRMS round with 62% matched to family medicine (predominantly rural) residency programs, 27% matched to other general specialties like internal medicine, general surgery and paediatrics and 11% matched to subspecialties, including Diagnostic Radiology, Neurology, Radiation Oncology, ENT and Plastic Surgery. 35% of this year's NOSM MD graduates will be undertaking their residency with NOSM. 46 of 55 places in NOSM residency programs were filled in this round including three of the seven Royal College programs (Anesthesiology, Orthopedic Surgery and General Surgery), and all seven Family Medicine streams (including Rural). All unfilled places are likely to be matched in the second round of CaRMS. Once again, NOSM's CaRMS match results are truly outstanding when compared to other Canadian medical schools. Please join me in congratulating the students, the program directors and all involved faculty and staff members on this phenomenal success.

### **Northern Health Research Conference Registration Opening Soon**

The Northern Ontario School of Medicine (NOSM) invites you to the tenth annual Northern Health Research Conference (NHRC) to be held in Timmins, Ontario. This conference demonstrates NOSM's commitment to health care and education to the people of Northern Ontario and beyond. The NHRC continues to explore research activities within Northern Ontario arising from community-based activities. It will highlight projects underway from students, residents and community-based researchers. The conference provides opportunities for collaboration and community networking.

Visit the site for more information: <http://www.nosm.ca/nhrc/>



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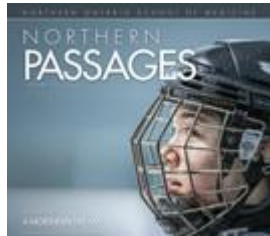
## Hard Rock Medical Season 2



Hard Rock Medical Season 2 premiered on Sunday, February 15 at 8 pm in a 1-hour special broadcast with two back-to-back episodes. The remaining six 30-minute episodes air from Sunday, February 22 to Sunday, March 29 at 8 pm.

Season 2 episodes will be available online at [tvo.org/hardrockmed](http://tvo.org/hardrockmed) following the broadcast. [Watch the trailer.](#)

## Northern Passages Winter 2015 Now Available



The Winter 2015 edition of the Northern Ontario School of Medicine's (NOSM) newsletter Northern Passages is now available online. This edition highlights the Bring a Doctor Home Hockey Tournament, which raises money each January in support of NOSM medical students born and raised in Sault Ste. Marie; postgraduate medical education at NOSM; and, articles highlighting activities occurring across NOSM's wider campus of Northern Ontario. On line version: <http://www.nosm.ca/northernpassages/>

**NOSM** CELEBRATES TEN YEARS...

WITH *Thanks*

Thank you | Merci | Miigwetch

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

Respectfully submitted,

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