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# Community Engagement in Health Professional Education

Professor Roger Strasser, Dean  
Northern Ontario School of Medicine



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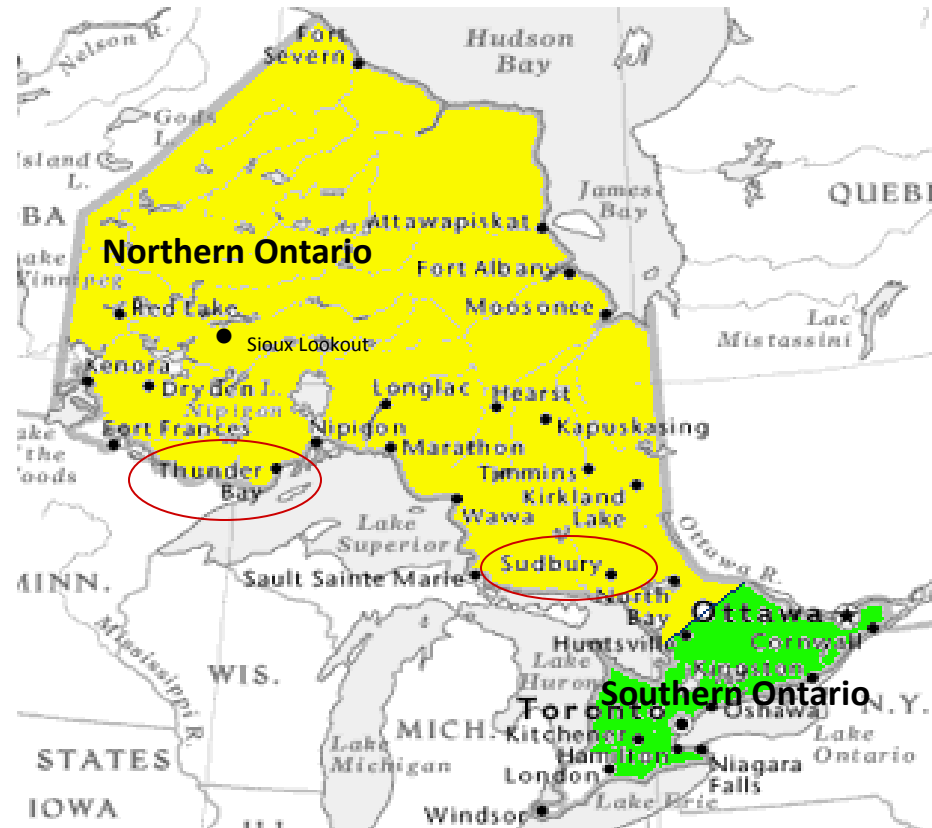




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# In, by and for Northern Ontario



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# Northern Ontario School of Medicine

- Faculty of Medicine of Lakehead
- Faculty of Medicine of Laurentian
- Social Accountability mandate
- Commitment to innovation





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# Academic Activities

- MD Program
- Residency Programs
- Continuing Education
- Health Sciences - Dietitians,  
Physician Assistants &  
Occupational / Physiotherapy
- Interprofessional Education
- Digital Library Services
- Research



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# Admissions 2005-2013

18,000 applications for 538 places

- 20% of applicants interviewed
- 15% of interviewees enrolled

## Class Profile

- 92% Northern Ontario
- 40% Remote and Rural
- 7% Aboriginal 22% Francophone
- GPA 3.7
- Age 26 (except 28 charter class)
- 68% Female 32% Male





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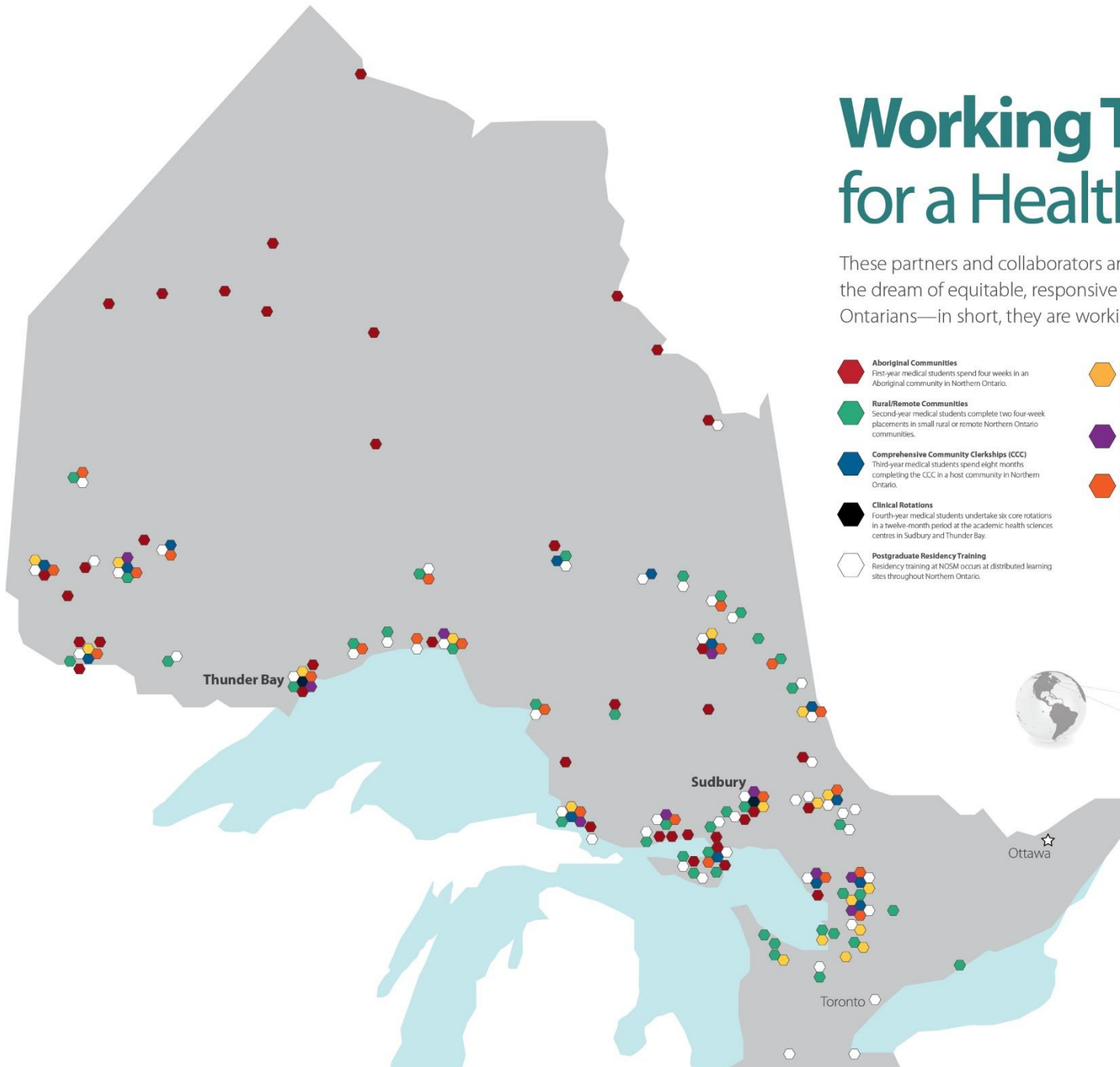
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# Distributed Community Engaged Learning

- widely distributed human and instructional resources
- independent of time and place
- community partner locations distributed across Northern Ontario
- over 90 different sites

# Working Together for a Healthier North

These partners and collaborators are working together to advance the dream of equitable, responsive health care for all Northern Ontarians—in short, they are working together for a healthier North.



- Aboriginal Communities**  
First-year medical students spend four weeks in an Aboriginal community in Northern Ontario.
- Rural/Remote Communities**  
Second-year medical students complete two four-week placements in small rural or remote Northern Ontario communities.
- Comprehensive Community Clerkships (CCC)**  
Third-year medical students spend eight months completing the CCC in a host community in Northern Ontario.
- Clinical Rotations**  
Fourth-year medical students undertake six core rotations in a twelve-month period at the academic health sciences centres in Sudbury and Thunder Bay.
- Postgraduate Residency Training**  
Residency training at NOSM occurs at distributed learning sites throughout Northern Ontario.

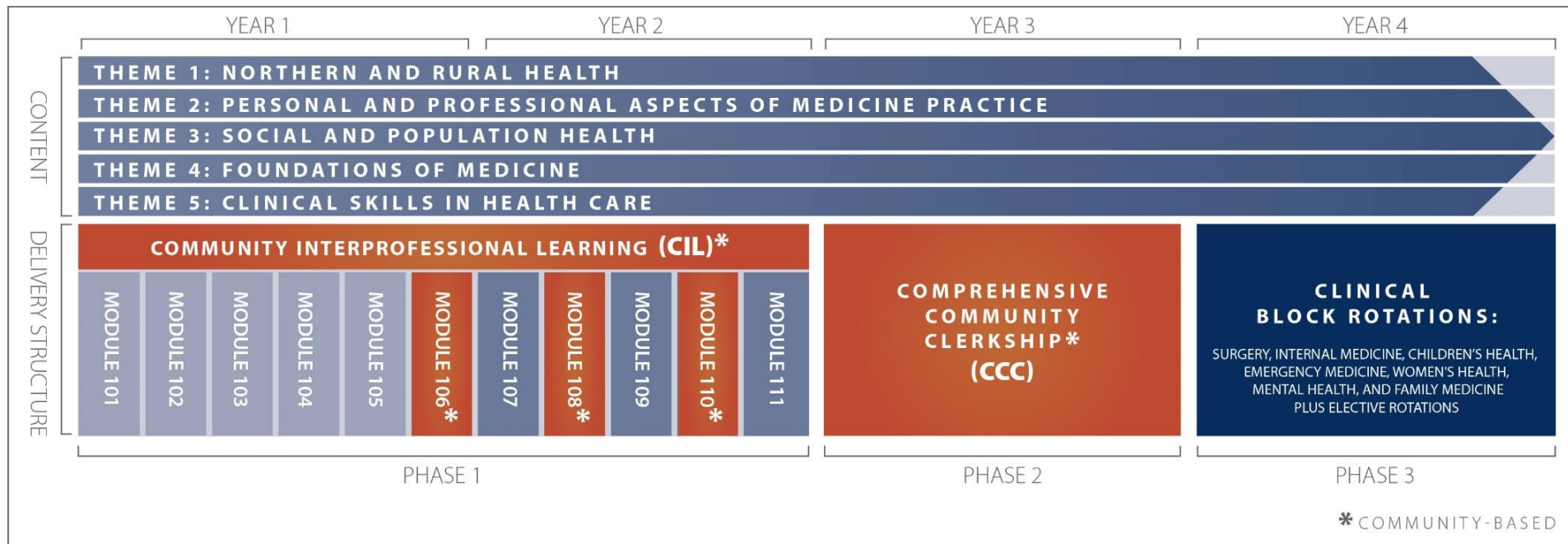
- Northern Ontario Dietetic Internship Program (NODIP)**  
Forty-six week internships are completed in communities throughout Northern Ontario and North Simcoe Muskoka Local Health Integration Network (LHIN).
- Physician Assistant (PA) Program**  
PA students undertake 40 weeks of supervised clinical rotations in rural and urban settings throughout Ontario, including 30 weeks in the North.
- Rehabilitation Studies**  
Audiology, occupational therapy, physiotherapy, and speech-language pathology learners undertake clinical placements in a diverse range of practice and community settings ranging from four to 12 weeks in duration.





# NORTHERN ONTARIO SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

## MD PROGRAM CURRICULUM STRUCTURE



The four-year MD curriculum is split into three phases: Phase 1 covers years 1 and 2 and involves a sequence of 11 modules with ongoing community integrated learning.

Phase 2 consists of an 8 month comprehensive community clerkship.

Phase 3 consists of seven clinical block rotations plus elective rotations.

Five themes link teaching, learning and assessment into a single integrated curriculum.



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# Curriculum Innovations

- case based learning
- learning in context
- longitudinal integrated curricula
- community engaged education
- distributed learning
- rural based education
- integrated clinical learning



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# Longitudinal Learning

- breadth of exposure to  
clinical problems over time
- continuity of relationships with  
patients and clinical teachers
- graded responsibility supports  
growing autonomy and  
counters learned helplessness



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# Community Engagement

- community active participant
  - interdependent partnership
- ensures student “at home”
- contributes to student's learning experience
- education and research activities
- community capacity building



Report of the  
 NOMS Aboriginal Workshop  
 June 10th - 12th, 2003  
 Wauzhushk Onigum First Nation

"Follow Your Dreams."



Walking the Vision

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Mii Kwen Daan

Keeping the Vision



Partnership  
 Opportunities  
 in Research

GATHERING

November 4 - 5 - 6, 2008 - Thunder Bay, Ontario

Living  
 the  
 Vision



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# Local NOSM Groups

- Local steering committee
- NOSM in community
  - community in NOSM
- Membership
  - Local faculty members
  - Community leaders
  - Non-academic NOSM personnel
  - Academic and health services





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# Community Engaged Faculty Members

- Northern Ontario is  
NOSM campus
- a faculty member is  
a faculty member
- distributed faculty development
- recognition and promotion



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## AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Faculty, residents, learners, staff members, and community partners at the Northern Ontario School of Medicine are regularly honoured with awards recognizing innovation, leadership, clinical care, community service, research, and teaching. Congratulations to the following individuals for recognition of their outstanding achievements.

**Dr. Christine Rossi**, NOSM Associate Professor and Section Chair, Family Medicine, received a Professional Association of Residents of Ontario (PARO) 2014 Clinical Teaching Award on May 9 in Toronto. Also nominated for this award were **Drs. Michele Brulo** and **Adam Moir**.

In addition, the PARO Trust Fund administers two awards: The Resident Teaching Awards and the Citizenship Awards to medical students. NOSM resident **Dr. Sean Sullivan** and third-year NOSM medical student **Kandra Komssa**, respectively, were recipients of these awards.



*Pictured: Dr. Donald Fung, NBRHC Chief of Staff & VP of Medical Affairs (left), Dr. Rick Senior (centre), and Melanie Patrie, NOSM medical student (right).*

**Dr. Rick Senior**, NOSM Assistant Professor, received the Jean Rochefort Teaching award for his work and dedication to teaching and mentoring medical residents and students at the North Bay Regional Health Centre (NBRHC) Physician Recognition Awards event on May 1.

Second-year NOSM medical student, **Graham Gayford**, finished second place in the resident/medical student research poster competition at the American Psychiatric Association annual conference in New York on May 3. During the summer of 2013, Gayford was the recipient of a NOSM Dean's Summer Medical Student Research Award and undertook a project with the supervision of **Dr. Jack Haggarty**.

**Dr. David Clark**, NOSM Assistant Professor, was the recipient of the University of Toronto's 2013-2014 Hollister King Teaching Practices Preceptor Award. The Hollister King Teaching Practices Awards were established several years ago in honour of Dr. Hollister King—a family physician whose roots were in rural practice. The award is given annually to one preceptor, nominated by his or her teaching practices resident, who best exemplifies the four principles of family medicine.

The Ontario Medical Association (OMA) recognized several of NOSM's committed physicians, residents, and medical students in Toronto on April 26.

OMA Life Membership is awarded to those who have made an outstanding contribution to the works of the OMA, the medical profession, and medical science. Congratulations to NOSM Assistant

**Dr. Jason MacDonald**, NOSM Internal Medicine Co-Chief Resident, won the OMA Resident Achievement Award. The Resident Achievement Award is awarded for outstanding contribution to the advancement of postgraduate training. Also receiving an award in this category was NOSM Alum, **Dr. Lacey Pitre**.



Third-year NOSM medical student, **Kayla Borst**, was a recipient of the OMA Medical Student Achievement Award, awarded for significant contributions at the political and/or community level that help advance the life and/or education of all medical students.

*Pictured: Kayla Borst (left) with Dr. Ved Tandan, OMA President (right).*

The OMA Community Service Award is presented annually to non-physicians for significant contribution to the health and welfare of the people of a local community, as defined by involvement in community health and public welfare, including length of involvement, roles fulfilled in local organizations, and personal achievements. Congratulations to **Deputy Grand Chief Alvin Fiddler** for receiving this award.



**Dr. David Marsh** received the 2013 Physician Achievement Award from the Ontario Medical Association (OMA) Section on Addiction Medicine.

*Pictured: Dr. David Marsh, NOSM Associate Dean, Community Engagement and Senior Associate Dean, Laurentian University.*



**Dr. Janice Willott**, NOSM's Associate Dean of Faculty Affairs, was awarded the Dr. William Hutchinson Award at the Sault Area Hospital's Annual General Meeting on Thursday, June 19, 2014. Dr. Willott is a gynecologist who has worked at the Sault Area Hospital since 1992.

*Pictured: Dr. Janice Willott, NOSM Associate Dean, Faculty Affairs*



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# Community Engagement in Practice

- challenge assumptions
- always ask and listen
- embrace geographic,  
social and cultural diversity
- engage and empower
- formalize roles and functions
- connect and re-connect



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# Formal Agreements and Signage





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# Student Experience of NOSM\*

- clinical experiences during (third year) more substantial than anything in traditional med school experience
- creates “generalists” and encourages students to maintain a broad focus

\*CFMS Focus Group 2010



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# Student Experience of NOSM

- rural medicine... that's where you find the true generalists\*
- I like how much variety there can be in the doctor's role\*\*
- we're better off ... we will (learn) more skills in a rural centre\*\*
- you don't know it until you live it\*\*

\* NOSM Tracking Study, Hoi Chiu

\*\* PhD Research, Tim Dube



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# Academic Outcomes

- Residencies - 100% matched
  - 1<sup>st</sup> round Match, 3 of 4 years
- Medical Council of Canada Part 1
  - above national average
  - highest clinical decision making
- Medical Council of Canada Part 2
  - NOSM residents top total score  
in Canada 2008 & 2010



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# Career Directions

- 62% family medicine, mostly rural
  - 33% general specialties
  - 5% sub-specialties
- 
- “deep roots” in Northern Ontario
  - 70% of NOSM residents stay
  - MD graduates now practising  
doctors in Northern Ontario





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# Socioeconomic Impact

- \$67-82M new economic activity
- 245 new jobs
- economic development
  
- host universities' status raised
- improved HHR recruitment
- communities feel empowered



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# Benefits of NOSM

- More generalist doctors
- Enhanced healthcare access
- Responsiveness to Aboriginal, Francophone, rural, remote
- Interprofessional cooperation
- Health research
- Broader academic developments
- Economic development



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**THEnet: Training for Health Equity Network**

Social Accountability in Action



**THEnet's Evaluation Framework for Socially  
Accountable Health Professional Education**

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



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# Thunder Bay Communique

## *New Ways of Thinking*



**Rendez-Vous 2012**  
together | ensemble | maamawi  
and engaged | et engagé | nakiidaa





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## Those of us in universities and academic institutions resolve to:

- Have communities guide us in the implementation of health professional education that addresses their needs
- Strengthen communities to address their own health needs through participative research and evaluation
- Develop programs and new methods of education that maximise the immersion of students in communities throughout their training
- Ensure that students are properly prepared and supported and their progress evaluated during the implementation of new educational models and programs
- Teach an understanding of human rights, equity, including gender equity in communities
- Work together internationally to share education resources and research tools openly
- Provide generalist training
- Facilitate interprofessional learning for interprofessional practice
- Provide transformational educational opportunities that maximise the length and strength of relationships with patients, supervisors and communities and create authentic workplace learning and identity formation



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- # Essentials for Success
- Context is critical
  - Community participation
  - Standards and quality
  - Definition of success
  - Challenge conventional wisdom
  - Vision, mission and values
  - Program blueprint



27 – 30 October

# 2014 The Muster

Global Community Engaged  
Medical Education



27-30 October 2014  
Uluru, Northern Territory, Australia

Latest Muster  
information is available at  
[www.flinders.edu.au/muster2014](http://www.flinders.edu.au/muster2014)  
[muster2014@flinders.edu.au](mailto:muster2014@flinders.edu.au)

**CLIC**

**FRAME**





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