Foundation for Advancing Family Medicine Fondation pour l'avancement de la médecine familiale

May 2022

Philanthropy Done Right

When the Foundation for Advancing Family Medicine (FAFM) and the College of Family Physicians of Canada[™] (CFPC) celebrate family physicians making outstanding contributions to their field, inspiring leadership in their first five years of practice, or environmental activism, we do so thanks to the long-standing support of TD Insurance.

For almost two decades, TD Insurance has made it possible to shine a light on inspiring stories of family physicians distinguishing themselves at different stages of their career through awards presented annually at the FAFM Awards events.

A partnership centered on highlighting the inspirational value of family physicians' achievements may seem too abstract to translate into selection criteria for an award and yet, inspiration has the power to see the possibilities beyond the present and dramatically affect outcomes.

The Spotlight on Achievement Award, the Early Career Development Awards, and the Environmental Health Award have been conferred to recipients whose stories of commitment and achievement continue to energize and motivate family physicians across Canada.

Check out the 2021 award recipient supported by TD Insurance.

https://fafm.cfpc.ca/dr-brian-hodges

"We are proud to support family physicians through our partnership with the Foundation for Advancing Family Medicine," says Anna Kavanagh, VP, Affinity Market Group, TD Insurance. "This work is a key part of TD's corporate citizenship platform, The Ready Commitment, focusing on fostering Better Health for Canadians. We continue to stand behind family physicians who make a tremendous difference in the lives of people and families in across Canada."

During Family Medicine Forum (FMF) 2022, returning in-person to Toronto this fall, we will once again celebrate the power of inspiration and will recognize TD Insurance for giving us this opportunity. Join us at FMF.

https://fmf.cfpc.ca

Dr. Lemire's Legacy Initiative

Since the announcement of Dr. Francine Lemire's retirement from her position as Executive Director and CEO of the CFPC and the FAFM, the conversation about her remarkable legacy and how to best celebrate it has resonated frequently around the virtual office hallways.

Following the CFPC's established tradition of selecting an initiative to mark a departing CEO's legacy, the FAFM invited Dr. Lemire to offer input on the nature of the project that will bear her name. The task of synthesizing a long and distinguished record of leadership of the CFPC in one project is a daunting one. Dr. Lemire identified the Trailblazer initiative, a recently established elite donor community, to focus her commitment to advancing family medicine through the projects this group will support over the years.

Trailblazers is dedicated to supporting strategic advancements in family medicine. Members are invited to join from the ranks of recipients of the major awards conferred every year by the FAFM as part of the Honours and Awards program. Trailblazers support one strategic initiative every year throughout the arc of the project with their generous donations. The initiatives supported by Trailblazers are well aligned with Dr. Lemire's achievements as the leader of the CFPC: they embody the strategic direction of the College and themes of diversity, innovation, and health equity, amongst many others, which have been prominent in Dr. Lemire's work over the years.

Stay tuned for more on the development of Dr. Lemire's legacy projects through the Trailblazerssupported initiatives and for opportunities to celebrate Dr. Lemire's extraordinary legacy as the leader of the CFPC.

Trailblazers Lead the Way

We are happy to announce that Trailblazers, our elite donor community, has designated their support to advance the Family Medicine Around the World Mapping Project: Lessons for Canada and Beyond, led by Dr. David Ponka, The Besrour Centre for Global Family Medicine director.

"Mapping family medicine models around the world, which remain very variable, will improve our understanding of what attributes of our discipline lead to better population health outcomes. Above all, as the world vacillates between infectious and chronic phases of a global pandemic, a generalist perspective is needed at this time to integrate layers of care at the health system level."

- Dr. David Ponka, Director The Besrour Centre for Global Family Medicine

The Trailblazers program is comprised of recipients of the Family Physician of the Year Award. Nearly \$30,000 was collected through direct donations from Trailblazers; a generous contribution from Scotiabank-MD Financial; and Dr. Reg L. Perkin's leadership gift. For more information about Trailblazers and to join the Trailblazers mailing list, visit **https://fafm.cfpc.ca/trailblazers**.

Co-RIG Phase II Interim Reports

As we round off Co-RIG Phase II's halfway point, we have received fantastic updates from our recipients:

COVID-19 Vaccine Navigators: Leveraging existing primary care infrastructure to increase access and reduce hesitancy among refugee and new immigrants

This project offers a comprehensive approach to ensure marginalized and vulnerable newcomers to Canada have equitable access to vaccination across Calgary, Alberta. The goal is to provide support to marginalized communities to address vaccine literacy, readiness, and uptake.

Additionally, the Calgary Catholic Immigration Society has been facilitating onsite mobile clinics, including administrative work, in creating health profiles and ensuring first language and cultural safety for newcomers not familiar with the mainstream public health system.

Enhancing Rural Community Resiliency to Climate Change and Ecosystem Disruption: Building on the lessons learned from the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic to strengthen rural community health and health services

Physician leadership is an important component of community resiliency, and the Society of Rural Physicians of Canada (SRPC) provides system-wide influence to improve rural care. This project directly engages physician leaders through stories of resilience and strategies of strengthening rural health.

Look for more information about our Co-RIG Phase II projects at https://fafm.cfpc.ca/corig-phasetwo and follow us on Twitter (@fafm_cfpc).