



Supporting family medicine for a healthy Canada

HIGHLIGHTS

Family Medicine Scholarships
Have Expanded

Dr Manoo and Jean Gurjar Awards—
New BCCFP FM Resident Scholarships

Why donate to the REF?

REF Board 2013–2014 “My REF is ...
raising pride in family medicine”

Family Medicine Scholarships Have Expanded

The future of family medicine lives in the 17 medical schools across Canada. This year family medicine reached a new high in the Canadian Resident Matching Service (CaRMS), with nearly 40% of medical students ranking family medicine as their first choice. For a decade, our partnership with Scotiabank has ensured that every Canadian medical school has one scholarship of \$10,000 available to family medicine students. In 2014, we are pleased to announce an 18th scholarship, the CFPC Indigenous Medical Student Scholarship. This new scholarship recognizes a top First Nations, Métis, or Inuit medical student in Canada who has shown an interest in or commitment to a career in family medicine.

The Scotiabank Keynote Speaker at Family Medicine Forum (FMF) 2013 in Vancouver was Assembly of First Nations National Chief Shawn Atleo. Chief Atleo addressed important issues facing indigenous peoples, specifically the need to close “the educational gap between First Nations and other Canadians.” Chief Atleo, like our CFPC members, is committed to lifelong learning. Following his speech, CFPC members and Chapter representatives asked themselves how they could help in closing the educational gap for Canada’s indigenous people. One month later, members,



Chief Shawn Atleo at FMF 2013 in Vancouver.

provincial Chapters, and CFPC leaders had responded with a proposal to develop an Indigenous Medical Student Scholarship.

With a pledge of \$10,000 from Scotiabank, and more than \$17,000 raised through the generosity of Chief Atleo, the British Columbia College of Family Physicians (BCCFP), and CFPC leaders, members, and staff, we are pleased to announce that the first Indigenous Medical Student Scholarship will be awarded at FMF 2014 in Quebec City.

If you are interested in supporting future scholarships, please be in touch with the REF team—ref@cfpc.ca. We’d be proud to count you as a supporter!

Dr Manoo and Jean Gurjar Awards— New BCCFP Family Medicine Resident Scholarships



Dr Manoo Gurjar, Dr Patricia Mirwaldt, Mrs Jean Gurjar, and award recipient John de Lorenzana. (Missing is Dr Jennifer Boxter.)

In November 2013, the British Columbia College of Family Physicians was approached by a long-time member about creating a new award to support family medicine in BC. Dr Manoo Gurjar and his wife, Jean, a nurse, had been in practice for more than 40 years and wanted to create a living legacy. Within months, the Dr Manoo and Jean Gurjar

Partners *Supporting family medicine for a healthy Canada*

Family Medicine Resident Scholarships became a reality. On June 7, the first awards were presented by Dr and Mrs Gurjar, along with BCCFP President Dr Patricia Mirwaldt, to recipients Dr Jennifer Baxter and Dr John de Lorenzana. The awards will continue to be offered annually to one male and one female family medicine resident at the University of British Columbia. Special thanks are extended to the Gurjars for their foresight and kindness in establishing these generous awards. This investment will have a lasting impact on family medicine in their province.

REF Board 2013–2014 “My REF is ... raising pride in family medicine”



Left to right, front to back: Renu Dhir, Kiki Ziten, Dr Francine Lemire, Sandeep Kumar, Robert Zed, Dr Leslie Griffin, (kneeling) Dr Ralph Masi, Dr Catherine Cervin, Dr Jeanette Boyd, Dr Tom Barry, Dr Jamie Boyd, (kneeling) Nancy Wallace, Dr Alain Pavlanis, Dr Don Stefiuk, (kneeling) Carolyn Pancham, Dr Dan Hewitt, Dr Doug Klein, and John Jamieson. (Absent are Theresa Maguire-Garber and Sarah Delaney)

Why donate to the Research and Education Foundation?

When you consider what makes family medicine unique, you need look no further than the memorable quote by Dr Ian McWhinney, “Family medicine is the only medical discipline to define itself in terms of relationships rather than by a particular body system, technology, or technique.” Family medicine is about the health of people, families, and communities.

The REF is unique because it is the only charity in Canada whose purpose is to advance the discipline of family medicine through research and education initiatives. The REF’s mission, simply put, is to support family medicine for a healthy Canada.

The REF gives back to CFPC members and the communities they serve. In 20 years, the REF has raised over \$10 million, and disburses more than \$500,000 in scholarships, grants, and awards annually. The REF also funds more than \$250,000 in CFPC initiatives each year. We receive support from corporations, foundations, government, members, staff, and individuals.

We believe the cures start where the care starts—in the family doctor’s office. Giving to the REF is giving back to family medicine. It is affirming your commitment to delivering ever-improving patient care. As family medicine grows and evolves, we look to our members for support. Consider your gift to the REF as a pledge to the present and a stake in the future.



Donate to the REF where you see the Dr Bear symbol

Fast Facts about the REF

- The REF was established to help family doctors improve the delivery and quality of care patients receive, and to recognize excellence in the discipline.
- In 20 years, the REF has raised more than \$10 million.
- The REF is a fund-holder for CFPC Chapters who offer awards with monetary value.
- Every dollar of donations is used to advance family medicine through research and education initiatives in family medicine. The CFPC supports all administration and operating expenses.
- CFPC members can benefit from the REF throughout the course of their careers.
- A catalog of awards and grants is available to enhance skills, provide training, and advance research in family medicine.



Partners is the newsletter of the Research and Education Foundation of the College of Family Physicians of Canada. Questions? Comments? Contact Sarah Delaney CAE, Development Manager at 1-800-387-6197 +1, ext. 244 or sarah@cfpc.ca.