

Partners

January 2024

Delve into the hearts and minds of 2023 recipients of the Foundation for Advancing Family Medicine (FAFM) Honours and Awards as they reveal what motivates their passion for family medicine. Each quote reflects a unique perspective, weaving a tapestry of inspiration, dedication, and profound care that continue to shape and enrich the lives of families and communities.



Applications for Honours and Awards are now open! Recognize excellence in family medicine by applying or nominating a colleague today. Learn more at <https://fafm.cfpc.ca/h-a/about-honours-and-awards>.

“Family medicine is a one-of-a-kind specialty, I love that I get to build relationships with patients and families over time, seeing them at all stages of life and being part of their health journey.”

**Dr. Danielle Brown-Shreves,
The Reg L. Perkin Award Recipient 2023**

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“I love Rural Family Medicine because it allows me to practice very broad spectrum generalist medicine in rural and remote settings with challenging and complex patient populations.”

**Dr. Sean Groves,
The Reg L. Perkin Award Recipient 2023**

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“Family practice gave me the privilege of being able to enter and influence the life of many patients and their families, for the little and big health problems and decisions affecting them. I loved the variety family practice brought in my life, over several decades.”

**Dr. Francine Lemire,
Calvin L. Gutkin Family Medicine Ambassador
Award Recipient 2023**

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“I like connecting with people and being able to provide long-term care, especially in the communities that I grew up in.”

**Ashley Monture,
CFPC Indigenous Medical Student Scholarship
Award Recipient 2023**

“My interests lie everywhere, and I like to do a bit of everything. I like people. I like to hear their stories. I know my patients well, their family, their life story and their medical journey.”

As family physicians, we are also polyglot: we adapt to the language of our patients, of our colleagues in other medical specialties and health care professions, and of the administrative system. We often act as an interface and, occasionally, as translators.”

**Dr. Guy Béland,
Jean-Pierre Despins Award Recipient 2023**

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“I have always been a medical educator. I am most proud of being able to work with students, residents, and practising colleagues across the professional spectrum. I am proud of the changes this has brought to our patients.”

**Dr. Lisa Graves,
Ian McWhinney Family Medicine Education
Award Recipient 2023**

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“I love Family Medicine for the joy it provides walking alongside patients through their lives, and for the satisfaction knowing that family medicine provides the best opportunity the health system offers to support this. The driver for my research interest has always been a lever for advocacy for Family Medicine clinicians and for patients, to support care for patients that will best enable a life worth living on their terms.”

**Dr. Derelie (Dee) Mangin,
Family Medicine Researcher of the Year Award
Recipient 2023**

“I love family medicine because we are the Swiss Army knives of medicine! We can do a little bit of everything, we adapt to the situation we’re facing, and you can take us anywhere. Plus, we love adventure.”

Dr. Claire Bodkin,
Early Career Development Award Recipient 2023



“I love family medicine because of its complexity, variety and long-term relationship-based care. I also love family medicine because of its outsized impact on health outcomes.”

Dr. Sheryl M. Spithoff,
CFPC Outstanding Family Medicine Research Article Award Recipient 2023



“Family medicine has the broadest scope of practice of all medical specialties. As a nascent first year medical student I was immediately drawn to the breadth of family medicine, and I was ultimately inspired to apply after working with exceptional clinicians and role models in the field. As a family physician you can deliver a person into this world, ease another’s departure from it, and care for everyone in between.”

Dr. Meghan Kerr,
Val Rachlis Leadership in Family Medicine Award Recipient 2023



“My love for family medicine is very much imbedded in our leadership role and in advocating for our patients. I cherish the opportunity in my profession to fight for better care, especially for the most vulnerable people in our communities.”

Dr. Noémie Frenette,
Nadine St-Pierre Award Recipient 2023

“I want to work together with other health care providers to strengthen primary care in Quebec. I want to continue learning throughout my career. And most of all, I hope to make a real difference in people’s lives by choosing this unique profession that is family medicine.”

Dr. Catherine Dupuis Vaillancourt,
Nadine St-Pierre Award Recipient 2023



“The family of family medicine, of course, is reflected in our organizations that support family physicians in their work and nurture learners to become the best they can be whatever their career pursuits.”

Dr. Cheri Heather Bethune,
Jim Ruderman Family Medicine Education Leadership Award Recipient 2023



“Family medicine has been a perfect fit for my goals as a physician. I love the ability to practice in a number of different fields, as well as focusing on special interests, such as women’s health and northern medicine. My goal as a First Nation family physician has always been to work with and in Indigenous communities.”

Dr. Brooke Cochrane,
Indigenous Family Medicine Resident Scholarship Award Recipient 2023



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