Honours and Awards

2026

THE COLLEGE OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS OF CANADA

LE COLLÈGE DES MÉDECINS DE FAMILLE DU CANADA

Foundation for Advancing Family Medicine

Fondation pour l'avancement de la médecine familiale

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About the 2026 Honours and Awards Program

The Honours and Awards (H&A) Program is a joint program of the College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC) and the Foundation for Advancing Family Medicine (FAFM) made possible by generous sponsorships through the CFPC and donations and investment income earned on endowed funds through the FAFM.

Committed to fostering a vibrant future and advancing family medicine, the H&A Program supports and celebrates innovation through research, educational initiatives, and strategic partnerships. This program provides CFPC members with research grants, scholarships, and awards to recognize family physician excellence.

By celebrating the achievements of clinicians, educators, researchers, and family medicine residents, this program strengthens the future of the profession and promotes excellence across the field. Every year approximately $400,000 in sponsorships through the CFPC and donations and investment income earned on endowed funds through FAFM provide for various awards, grants, and scholarships.

Congratulations to all the award, grant, and scholarship recipients for 2026 listed in the program. Many of the recipients were able to attend and be recognized during Family Medicine Forum in Toronto, Ontario.

The CFPC thanks the Canadian Medical Association, MD Financial Management Inc. and Scotiabank for their generous support of the Awards Gala; the awards, grants, and scholarships; as well as the generous donors to the FAFM, and their firm commitment to championing family physician excellence and advancing health in Canada.

Message from



Michael Allan, MD, CCFP, FCFP
Chief Executive Officer, CFPC and FAFM



Sarah Funnell, MD, MSc, CCFP, FRCPC
President, CFPC

We are celebrating the remarkable achievements of family physicians, residents, educators, researchers, and leaders from across Canada on the traditional territory of many Nations, including the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishinabeg, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee, and the Wendat people. Toronto is now home to many diverse First Nations, Inuit, and Métis people. We also acknowledge that it is covered by Treaty 13 with the Mississaugas of the Credit.

On behalf of the CFPC and our 46,000 members, we extend our heartfelt congratulations to this year's award, grant, and scholarship recipients. Through your leadership, innovation, compassion, and commitment to championing family medicine excellence, you are making a meaningful difference in the lives of patients, families, and communities, and are strengthening family medicine.

The joint CFPC-FAFM H&A Program celebrates people whose contributions strengthen our profession. Whether advancing research, demonstrating leadership, educating future family physicians, supporting their communities, or providing exceptional patient care, each recipient reflects the very best of family medicine.

We also extend our sincere thanks to the donors, volunteers, awards committee, CFPC Chapters, universities, and directors of the CFPC and the FAFM Boards whose generosity, dedication, and support make these awards possible.

To all recipients, congratulations on this well-deserved recognition. We celebrate your achievements and thank you for the extraordinary contributions you make to family medicine every day.

Message from



Frank Martino, MD, CCFP(EM), FCFP
Chair, Board of the FAFM

As Chair of the FAFM, it is my great pleasure to present the recipients of the 2026 H&A Program. The H&A Program celebrates the dedication, compassion, and excellence demonstrated by family physicians throughout every stage of their careers—whether they are residents just beginning their journey, or experienced professionals in the late stages of practice. It provides a special opportunity for us to come together, support one another, inspire the ongoing advancement of family medicine, and celebrate significant accomplishments.

The FAFM is delighted to host this year's awards events in partnership with the CFPC. Family medicine is at the heart of our health care system, and the recipients recognized here have shown remarkable commitment to advancing the well-being of patients, communities, and the profession itself. Over the past year, family physicians have navigated challenges related to enhanced primary care delivery in all corners of our country while advocating for an increase in the availability of family physicians. As champions of accessible primary care, your unwavering commitment to your patients' well-being has made a difference and is reinforcing the essential role of primary care in the health care continuum. The Foundation is proud to support these extraordinary individuals through this program, which reflects our ongoing commitment to fostering excellence in family medicine. We look forward to continuing to support family physicians at every stage of their careers, helping them achieve their fullest potential and contribute to the strength of health care in Canada. Let us continue to lift and inspire one another as we push the boundaries of family medicine and advance care for the communities we serve.

To all the 2026 award recipients, a heartfelt congratulations. We are honoured to be able to recognize your achievements, and we look forward to seeing the lasting impact you will make in the years to come. Thank you for joining us in recognizing the power of family medicine!

Awards of Excellence

The Awards of Excellence recognize outstanding contributions in a specific area pertaining to the specialty of family medicine: patient care, community service, hospital or health care institutions, CFPC activities (including Chapters), teaching, research, or other elements of the academic discipline of family medicine.

Each CFPC Chapter acknowledges exceptional accomplishments and/or innovations pertaining to the specialty of family medicine by their members.

British Columbia

Dr. Sharmila Yang – Surrey

Dr. Miranda Du Preez – Kamloops

Dr. Lindsay Hawkins – Victoria

Dr. Stéphan Ferreira – Prince George

Dr. Winnie Su – Vancouver

Alberta

Dr. Derrick Chan – Calgary

Dr. Adam Neufeld – Calgary

Dr. Omar Rahaman – Edmonton

Saskatchewan

Dr. Evan Mah – Melfort

Dr. Craig Cantin – Prince Albert

Manitoba

Dr. Louis Fourie Smith – Grande Pointe

Dr. Phoebe Thiessen – Selkirk

Ontario

Dr. Ojistoh Horn – Summerstown

Dr. Loredana Di Santo – Maple

Dr. Jennifer Bondy – Windsor

Dr. Samantha Lavitt – Kemptville

Dr. Rajesh Girdhari – Toronto

Quebec

Dr. Tania Riendeau – Montreal

Dr. Marie-Audrey Brochu-Doucet – Quebec

Dr. Maude Rhéaume – Quebec

Dr. Jérôme Patry – Levis

New Brunswick

Dr. Roxane Savoie – Saint-Quentin

Nova Scotia

Dr. Andrew Holmes – Baddeck

Prince Edward Island

Dr. Shannon Curtis – Charlottetown

Dr. Mitchell Stewart – Charlottetown

Newfoundland and Labrador

Dr. Philip Holloway – Lower Island Cove

Dr. Stephen Lee – Conception Bay South

Bruce Halliday Award for Care of the Disabled

This award is named in memory of Dr. Bruce Halliday, a past president of the CFPC and the Ontario College of Family Physicians (OCFP), a Member of Parliament for 20 years, and an advocate for the care of people living with a disability in Canada. The award recognizes the achievements of a CFPC family physician member in good standing who is making an exceptional contribution to the welfare of the disabled in their community through practise, teaching, research, or advocacy.

This award is made possible through the generosity of the FAFM's donors.



Dr. Pamela Liao
Toronto, Ontario

Calvin L. Gutkin Family Medicine Ambassador Award

This award is named in honour of Dr. Cal Gutkin, who served as Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer of the CFPC from 1996 to 2012, and whose work was instrumental in advancing family medicine in our country and supporting the development of family medicine on the global stage.

The award recognizes a dynamic leader in Canadian family medicine who is distinguished by their vision, innovation, strong communication skills, and effective relationship building with national and international organizations and working groups that support and positively influence the ever-changing role of the family physician and family medicine in Canada.

This award is made possible through the Calvin L. Gutkin Endowment Fund bestowed upon the FAFM.



Dr. David Ponka
Ottawa, Ontario

CFPC Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Program Award

The CFPC Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Program Award recognizes a Mainpro+® certified educational program that has provided an exceptional learning experience to either practising or practice-eligible members of the CFPC. The award is presented to an individual or a group responsible for the design, development, and implementation of the winning CPD program.

This award is made possible through the generosity of the FAFM's donors.



Dr. Heather Armson
Practice-Based Learning Program
The Foundation for Medical Practice Education (FMPE) – Hamilton, Ontario

Daniel Glazier CPD Grant in Adolescent Mental Health and Substance Abuse

This grant supports continuing professional development (CPD) or the creation of clinical programs or tools to help family physicians in assessing and treating mental health and substance abuse among adolescents and young adults up to the age of 25.

This grant is made possible through the generosity of the FAFM's donors.



Dr. Tara Leary
Sudbury, Ontario

Donald I. Rice Award

This award is named in memory of Dr. Donald I. Rice, Executive Director of the CFPC from 1965 to 1985, and recognizes an outstanding CFPC family physician for contributions to teaching and leadership in the discipline of family medicine.

This award is made possible through the generosity of the FAFM's donors.



Dr. Maxine Dumas Pilon
Montreal, Quebec

Early Career Development Awards

The Early Career Development Awards recognize the efforts of new family physician leaders of tomorrow for their outstanding contributions today. Recipients of this award exemplify leadership, innovation, initiative, and dedication.

This award is made possible through the generosity of the FAFM's donor TD Insurance.



Dr. Oluseyi (Seyi) Akinola
Calgary, Alberta



Dr. Elliot Lass
Toronto, Ontario

Environmental Health Award

This award is presented to a family physician who is a member of the CFPC and has demonstrated leadership in environmental health.

This award is made possible through the generosity of the FAFM's donor TD Insurance.



Dr. Ilona Hale
Kimberley, British Columbia

Family Medicine Leadership in Underserved Communities Grant

This grant supports family physicians in their efforts to enhance the delivery of primary care to underserved communities. The recipient demonstrates an understanding of the diverse experiences of underserved groups and a dedication to equity, diversity, inclusivity, and accommodation, which contributes to moving the field of family medicine forward in achieving true health equity. This grant aims to celebrate the recipient's focus and leadership, and support their project or initiative that will directly benefit one or more underserved communities.

This grant is made possible through the generosity of the CFPC's sponsor Canadian Medical Association, MD Financial Management Inc. and Scotiabank.



Dr. Mario Mujica Mota
Montreal, Quebec

Project Name: Bonne santé, bien informé / Good Health, Well Informed Program, a community-based health promotion initiative supporting vulnerable migrant populations.

Family Medicine Research Article of the Year Award

This award recognizes the best research article published in a national or international journal in the past year based on original family medicine research carried out by a CFPC member.

This award is made possible through the Francine Lemire Fund bestowed upon the FAFM.



Dr. Scott Garrison
Edmonton, Alberta

Project Name: Antihypertensive Medication Timing and Cardiovascular Events and Death: The BedMed Randomized Clinical Trial.

Family Medicine Researcher of the Year Award

This award recognizes a CFPC member who has made original contributions to research and knowledge building in family medicine in Canada. The contribution may encompass any aspect of family medicine research, from clinical to health services to education. This award honours a researcher who has been a significant force in the definition, development, and dissemination of concepts central to the discipline of family medicine.



Prof. Marie-Ève Poitras
Saguenay, Quebec

Family Medicine Resident Awards for Scholarly Achievement

These awards recognize outstanding academic accomplishments by family medicine residents. They are intended to stimulate family medicine research and innovation in education. One recipient or team from each faculty of family medicine across Canada is selected.

This award is made possible through the generosity of the FAFM's donors.

Dr. Penelope Neocleous
University of British Columbia

Project Title: Clinician Confidence to Support Survivors of Trauma and Torture in Primary Care.

Dr. Cassandra Warbeck
University of Alberta

Project Title: Weight Cutting Practices and Indicators in RED-S in Amateur and Professional MMA Athletes: A Cross-Sectional Pilot Study.

Dr. Gaurav Adhikari and Dr. Mohamed Ghanim
University of Calgary

Project Title: Reducing Landfill Waste Through Paper Towel Composting in a Primary Care Teaching Clinic.

Dr. Dilanjani Pietersz and Dr. Onyinyechi Nwoke
University of Saskatchewan

Project Title: Influence of Prenatal Hand Expression on Postpartum Breastfeeding.

Dr. Laryssa Steele and Dr. Ashley Carlow
University of Manitoba

Project Title: Improving Postpartum Visit Attendance at Steinbach Family Medical, Manitoba.

Dr. Khadija Ahmed and Dr. Yuchen (Sam) Cen
Western University

Project Title: Improving the Identification of Smokers and Smoking Cessation Discussions in a Family Medicine Practice at Southwest Middlesex Health Centre, Ontario

Dr. Rachel Whittaker, Dr. Amanda Lien, and Dr. Rebekah Sheppard
McMaster University

Project Title: Penicillin Allergy Delabeling in the Primary Care Office.

Family Medicine Resident Awards for Scholarly Achievement

Dr. Megan Fraser
NOSM University

Project Title: Women's Perspectives on Nexplanon Contraceptive Use.

Dr. Sawyer Karabelas-Pittman and Dr. Jacob Cuthbert
University of Toronto

Project Title: A systematic review of guidelines for care of sexualized drug use in MSM and TW: recommendations to improve quality of care.

Dr. Jillian Macklin
Queen's University

Project Title: A Needs Assessment for an Inpatient Addiction Consult Service in Belleville, Ontario.

Dr. Tyrus Gibson and Dr. Christopher Gupta
University of Ottawa

Project Title: Would you PICC WDMH or TOH for your central catheter?

Dr. Valérie Lamantia
University of Sherbrooke

Project Title: Influence of gender on nutritional supplement use and doping risk among Quebec university athletes.

Dr. Assia Rarrbo
University of Montreal

Project Title: How do asylum-seeking patients perceive the care provided by family medicine residents of a Montreal-based migrant clinic? A research proposal.

Dr. Louis Thériault
Laval University

Project Title: Don't Let Your Patients Fall: Assessing Family Medicine Residents' Competence in Fall Prevention Among the Elderly.

Dr. Olusegun Odebode
Dalhousie University

Project Title: Artificial Intelligence, when used responsibly, can serve as a valuable tool in enhancing core competencies in the Family Medicine Residency Program.

Family Medicine Resident Research Awards of Excellence

This award recognizes family medicine residents in their first or second year of training for excellent research carried out and completed prior to June 1, 2026.

These awards are made possible through the Associated Medical Services Endowment Fund and the Scotiabank Endowment Fund bestowed upon the FAFM.



Dr. Camille Mutukistna, Dr. Daniel Antonenko, and Dr. Natalie Tinney
University of Saskatchewan

Project Title: Assessing the Impact of the City of Prince Albert's Alcohol Bylaw on Emergency Department Visits.



Dr. Jillian Macklin
Queen's University

Project Title: A Needs Assessment for an Inpatient Addiction Consult Service in Belleville, Ontario.

Family Medicine Resident Scholarships

These scholarships recognize the leadership abilities of outstanding senior family medicine residents from each of the 17 Canadian family medicine residency programs.

This scholarship is made possible through the generosity of the CFPC's sponsor Canadian Medical Association, MD Financial Management Inc. and Scotiabank.



Dr. Joban Bal
Vancouver, British Columbia
University of British Columbia



Dr. Rachel Hamilton
Edmonton, Alberta
University of Alberta

Family Medicine Resident Scholarships



Dr. Miranda Schmidt
Calgary, Alberta
University of Calgary



Dr. Meghan Edwards
Regina, Saskatchewan
University of Saskatchewan



Dr. Oluwatobiloba Morakinyo
Winnipeg, Manitoba
University of Manitoba



Dr. Andrea Petrella
London, Ontario
Western University

Family Medicine Resident Scholarships



Dr. Emma McDermott
Hamilton, Ontario
McMaster University



Dr. Rachel Belanger
New Liskeard, Ontario
NOSM University



Dr. Yasmin Dini
Toronto, Ontario
University of Toronto



Dr. Michael Tavolieri
Windsor, Ontario
Queen's University

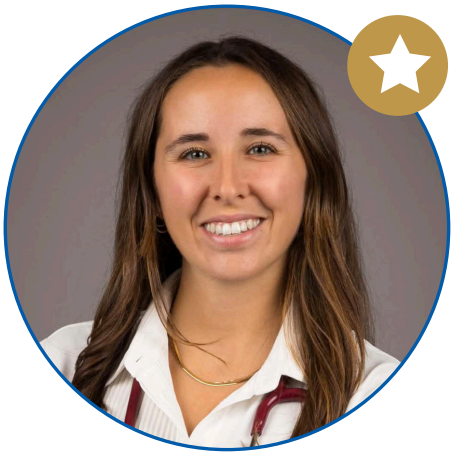
Family Medicine Resident Scholarships



Dr. Andréa Rondeau-Brown
Ottawa, Ontario
University of Ottawa



Dr. Joey Lavoie
Alma, Quebec
University of Sherbrooke



Dr. Marianne Désilets-Barnabé
Montreal, Quebec
University of Montreal



Dr. Jakob Lafon
Montreal, Quebec
McGill University

Family Medicine Resident Scholarships



Dr. Beatriz Marinho
Trois-Pistoles, Quebec
Laval University



Dr. Emmanuel Ofori
New Glasgow, Nova Scotia
Dalhousie University



Dr. Victoria Han
St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador
Memorial University of Newfoundland



Family Physicians of the Year – the Reg L. Perkin Awards

This award—named in honour of Dr. Reg L. Perkin, Executive Director of the CFPC from 1985 to 1996—recognizes outstanding CFPC family physician members who exemplify what it means to be a family doctor: providing exceptional care to patients and contributing to the health and well-being of their communities. These awards are based on peer nominations, by their fellow CFPC family physicians.

This award is made possible through the generosity of the CFPC's sponsor Canadian Medical Association, MD Financial Management Inc. and Scotiabank.



Dr. Anita Wong
Langley, British Columbia





Dr. Babatunde Awakan
Camrose, Alberta



Dr. Breanna Davis
Prince Albert, Saskatchewan



Dr. Barry Lavallee (awarded posthumously)
Winnipeg, Manitoba



Dr. Eliseo Orrantia
Marathon, Ontario



Dr. Guylène Thériault
Gatineau, Quebec



Dr. Pierre Boissonnault
Moncton, New Brunswick



Dr. Suze Egar
Inverness, Nova Scotia



Dr. Megan Armstrong
Stratford, Prince Edward Island



Dr. Jackie Elliott
Port Blandford, Newfoundland and Labrador



Dr. Alexander Kmet
Whitehorse, Yukon

Hollister King Rural Family Practice CPD Grant

This grant is named in memory of Dr. Hollister King, who was the CFPC President in 1977/78, and the Family Physician Chief at Women's College Hospital in Toronto, Ontario. This grant supports academic and community-based family physician CFPC members who are actively practising in a rural setting and wish to carry out continuing professional development (CPD) activities related to meeting the changing needs of their patients and communities within Canada.

This grant is intended to support programs based on the Four Principles of Family Medicine.

This grant is made possible through the Hollister King Endowment Fund bestowed upon the FAFM.



Dr. Breanne Abbott
Dease Lake, Alberta

Ian McWhinney Family Medicine Education Award

This award is named in memory of Dr. Ian McWhinney, the first professor and chair of a Canadian university department of family medicine (from 1968 to 1987 at the University of Western Ontario, now Western University). The award honours excellence in family medicine education and is presented to a teacher deemed by their peers to have made a unique and innovative contribution that has had a substantial national impact on the development of family medicine education in Canada. Contributions may encompass any level of aspect of family medicine education, such as CPD, teaching, curriculum development, scholarship, or administration.

This award is made possible through the Ian McWhinney Endowment Fund bestowed upon the FAFM.



Dr. Jennifer Hall
Rothesay, New Brunswick

Indigenous Family Medicine Resident Scholarship

This scholarship recognizes a top First Nations, Métis, or Inuit family medicine resident in Canada who has shown leadership and commitment to a career in family medicine.

This scholarship is made possible through the generosity of the CFPC's sponsor Canadian Medical Association, MD Financial Management Inc. and Scotiabank.



Dr. Tina Marie Lynn Nash
Yellowknife, Northwest Territories

Janus Research Grant

This grant supports academic and community-based family physician members of the CFPC in carrying out research projects that meet the changing needs of patients and communities in Canada. The grant supports research that is grounded in principles of equity and is based on the Four Principles of Family Medicine.

This grant is made possible through the Associated Medical Services Endowment Fund and the Scotiabank Endowment Fund bestowed upon the FAFM.



Dr. Rachel Walsh
Toronto, Ontario

Project Title: How can we attract and keep physicians practicing family medicine in Ontario, Canada? A discrete-choice experiment of job characteristics in family practice.

Jean-Pierre Despins Award

This award is named in memory of Dr. Jean-Pierre Despins, who served as the CFPC President in 1995/96 and Chair of the Board of the FAFM; formerly known as the Research and Education Foundation, in 1999/2000. This award honours a family physician CFPC member identified as an outstanding advocate and public spokesperson for family medicine, family physicians, and their patients.

This award is made possible through the generosity of the FAFM's donors.



Dr. Nichelle Desilets
Neepawa, Manitoba

Jim Ruderman Family Medicine Education Leadership Award

This award is named in honour of Dr. Jim Ruderman, who was Chief of Family Medicine at Women's College Hospital in Toronto, Ontario, from 1992 to 2014. The award recognizes an outstanding Canadian family physician who embodies those qualities that made its namesake such an outstanding leader – serves as an excellent role model, inspires others to work collaboratively, promotes a work environment that is respectful, collegial, and supportive, delegates effectively, and demonstrates self-awareness and humility. The award recognizes a teacher of family medicine—either community-based or university-based—whose unique and innovative contribution has had a significant local or regional impact. This contribution may encompass any level or aspect of family medicine education, such as continuing professional development, teaching, curriculum development, scholarship, or administration.

This award is made possible through the generosity of the FAFM's donors.



Dr. Theresa van der Goes (awarded posthumously)
Nanaimo, British Columbia

Lifetime Achievement Award in Family Medicine Research

This award honours an individual who is a leader in family medicine research and who made substantial contributions to family medicine research during their active career years. This award gives public recognition to their work and to the discipline of family medicine.

This award is made possible through the Francine Lemire Fund bestowed upon the FAFM.



Dr. Alan Katz
Winnipeg, Manitoba

Marco Terwiel Rural Family Medicine Innovation Grant

This grant is named in honour of Dr. Marco Terwiel, a family physician who was devoted to the health and well-being of patients in rural and remote areas. The grant is for family physicians in northern, rural, and remote locations who would like to enhance or introduce innovative ways to serve the medical needs of their communities to increase effectiveness and efficiency.

This grant is made possible through the Marco Terwiel Northern, Rural/Remote Family Medicine Practice Innovation Award Endowment Fund, bestowed upon the FAFM.



Dr. Victoria Sparrow-Downes
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

Project Title: Virtual Health Hub: Integration of AI-Powered Cough Screening Technology into Primary Care for Tuberculosis (TB) Screening.

Scholarly Work in Family Medicine Education Grant

This grant supports academic and community-based family physician members of the CFPC in leading projects in medical education. This grant funds scholarly work with the intent of advancing family medicine education broadly.

This grant is made possible through the David Gass Legacy Education Endowment Fund bestowed upon the FAFM.



Dr. Michael Parsons
Goulds, Newfoundland and Labrador

Project Title: A Comparison of asynchronous and synchronous tele-simulation-based medical education of high-acuity low-occurrence procedures and clinical encounters.

Val Rachlis Leadership in Family Medicine Award

This award recognizes a family medicine resident who has demonstrated outstanding academic, research, and communication leadership, and who is recognized as a future leader in our discipline.

This award is made possible through the Val Rachlis Endowment Fund bestowed upon the FAFM.



Dr. Keshini Abeyewardene
Toronto, Ontario



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