



THE COLLEGE OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS OF CANADA
LE COLLÈGE DES MÉDECINS DE FAMILLE DU CANADA

The 3rd Annual Sadok Besroun Global Health Conference

“Innovating for Action: Tools and Strategies to Advance
Global Family Medicine”

Executive Summary

November 13-15, 2014

Fairmont Le Château Frontenac

Québec, Canada

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The 3rd Sadok Besroul Global Health Conference held in Québec from November 13-15, 2014 brought together representatives from all departments of family medicine across Canada and from 16 countries across five continents. The initiative (founded by Dr. Sadok Besroul at the turn of the decade and sponsored by the College of Family Physicians of Canada) aims to advance family medicine as a means toward equity globally. Over the course of three days of discussion, participants established a concrete work plan to further develop the Besroul Centre, a centre for innovation and collaboration on global health, family medicine and primary care.

During the conference, physicians and deans from Australia, Brazil, Canada, Haiti, Kenya and Tunisia, namely, shared their perspectives on practice, standards and training in family medicine. Participants also discussed issues pertaining to administration and public health policies with various international partners such as the World Bank. Moreover, working groups created during the Vancouver conference in 2013 presented the results of their work and prepared their plans for the coming years. These groups will work within the areas of research, academic development, continuing education and advocacy.

Five strategic priorities were proposed to participants with respect to the development and mission of the Besroul Centre:

1. Establish family medicine as an effective and viable element of healthcare systems,
2. Enable effective faculty development,
3. Strengthen continuing medical education,
4. Support the adoption of standards and accreditation,
5. Support scholarship and facilitate evaluation

Measurable objectives will be developed over the coming months. In order to achieve these objectives, we plan to strengthen existing partnerships with various public and private organisations, create a board and bring in new resources by hiring a director and coordinator. In the long-term, the Centre would also like to found a research and innovation grant.

The College of Family Physicians of Canada (consisting of 30,000 members across the country and recognised globally as a leader in family medicine) is proud to support the Besroul Centre, an international initiative founded upon the principles of social accountability and the development of primary care.

We spend a lot of time in our business talking about family medicine, talking about the medicine part. But tonight, I would like to focus for just a minute on the family part. Family as in nurturing, as in gathering, as in belonging, as in growing. I want to bring to mind the families and the individuals in our home communities, who are the people we are truly, ultimately here for.

Lorsqu'on parle de notre discipline, la médecine familiale, on passe beaucoup de temps à discuter de l'aspect médical. Or, ce soir, pour quelques minutes, j'aimerais mettre l'accent sur la famille. Famille au sens du rassemblement : se rassembler, grandir, être protégé. J'aimerais aussi que nous pensions à ceux qui ne sont pas ici, ceux et celles pour qui nous travaillons, ces communautés, ces individus pour qui nous exerçons la médecine familiale.

- Dr. Katherine Rouleau, chair, Global Health Committee