

Celebrating excellence and achievements in family medicine

# Awards Gala 2021

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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# Welcome!

**Thank you for joining us to celebrate the achievements of remarkable family physicians from across the country.**

Family medicine is at the heart of Canada's health care system. As front-line care providers with broad competencies, family physicians innovate and collaborate to ensure our patients continue to receive compassionate, safe, and timely medical care. We also pitch in to bolster other parts of the health care system.

The pandemic has challenged us all. Throughout it, we have seen remarkable resilience and strength in our members. We thank you for your steadfast commitment to your patients and communities.

Tonight we are celebrating leaders in family medicine from across the country. This recognition of their incredible work would not be possible without the Foundation for Advancing Family Medicine (FAFM)'s unwavering focus on philanthropic efforts.

Every dollar the FAFM raises helps the College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC) realize its vision for family medicine, which includes

supporting excellence in education, advocacy, and research and continuing to develop and sustain family physicians who provide care that adapts to the needs of their communities.

This is all made possible by the generosity of individuals like you—CFPC members, volunteers, members of the public, and charitable and corporate partners—who understand and appreciate the immense contributions family physicians make to the health and well-being of everyone in Canada.

We also want to highlight the time and energy that members of the CFPC Board, the FAFM Board, and the Honours and Awards Committee selflessly devote to our program and are essential to our success. We are deeply indebted to all our volunteers.

We are grateful to each of you for being champions of family medicine. Congratulations to each recipient of our honours, awards, and grants, and thank you to all our supporters!



**Francine Lemire,**  
MD CM, CCFP, FCFP, CAE, ICD.D  
Executive Director and CEO, CFPC and FAFM



**Jeanette Boyd,**  
MD, CCFP, FCFP  
Chair, FAFM Board of Directors

# Message from the FAFM

**Over the past two years family physicians have faced unique challenges, reminding us of the immeasurable value of the care they provide and of their constant efforts to achieve the best possible outcomes for their patients.**

This year, during our second virtual Awards Gala, we are especially proud to celebrate the accomplishments of CFPC members who have distinguished themselves in various challenging aspects of their profession.

The amazing individuals recognized in these pages include clinicians leading the fight against COVID-19 and strengthening the delivery of primary care in rural settings; advocates addressing health inequities and the social determinants of health; and inspiring family doctors who excel as educators.

When I look at the extraordinary contributions our award recipients have made to family medicine in Canada, I recognize the FAFM's privileged position in providing support, educational opportunities, and recognition to emerging and established family medicine leaders.

I extend sincere congratulations to all our distinguished award recipients and heartfelt thanks to our donors and funders for their generosity. I also extend my gratitude to our dedicated Board Directors and committee volunteers, whose thoughtful guidance continues to light the way for the FAFM to advance family medicine.

As we look to the future and the impact we can make together, I invite you to enjoy the Awards Gala as a moment of joyful celebration of resilience, dedication, and leadership in family medicine. The FAFM proudly supports you—the family physicians of today and tomorrow—in your pursuit of excellence in patient care, teaching, and research.



**Claudia Zuccato Ria**

Executive Director, FAFM





## CFPC Early Career Development Awards

The FAFM gratefully acknowledges the generous contribution from TD Insurance in support of the CFPC Early Career Development Awards.

These awards recognize new family physician leaders of tomorrow for their outstanding contributions today. Nominees for this award are CFPC members who have been in active practice for five years or less.

### Previous recipients

#### 2020

Dr. Kimberly Lazare  
Toronto, Ontario

Dr. Nicole Stockley  
Conception Bay South, Newfoundland and Labrador

#### 2019

Dr. Stephane Lenoski  
Winnipeg, Manitoba

Dr. Julien Quinty  
Lévis, Quebec

#### 2018

Dr. Paul Dillon  
Sechelt, British Columbia

Dr. Ryan Patchett-Marble  
Marathon, Ontario



**Dr. Clark Svrcek**  
Calgary, Alberta

Like many family physicians, Dr. Clark Svrcek is a lifelong learner with a keen interest in expanding his understanding of the physical world. After finishing his master's degree in engineering, Dr. Svrcek shifted his focus to medicine and earned his medical degree at the University of Alberta in 2014. He then completed his family medicine residency at the University of Calgary in 2016.

Since July 2018 Dr. Svrcek has been part of the clinical team at the South Health Campus Family Medicine Teaching Centre in Calgary. He says it is an amazing privilege to share experiences and work with a dynamic multidisciplinary team to make the world a little better than it was the previous day.

Dr. Svrcek loves helping families across the continuum of life. His patients say his personalized manner of care and compassionate nature are central to his approach, and he helps them feel cared for and supported.

Since 2017 Dr. Svrcek has served as a clinical lecturer at the University of Calgary. To complement his academic and clinical duties, he enjoys working with the undergraduate Family Medicine/Rural Medicine Interest Group at the university and his role as the course co-chair for medical students' first clinical experiences in family medicine. He is also interested in building quality improvement projects that help make health care more environmentally sustainable and in rewilding our built environments.



## CFPC Early Career Development Awards

These awards recognize new family physician leaders of tomorrow for their outstanding contributions today. Nominees for this award are CFPC members who have been in active practice for five years or less.



**Dr. Navid Zahedi Niaki**  
Montreal, Quebec

Dr. Navid Zahedi Niaki loves the versatility of family medicine. As part of the clinical teams at Clinique médicale l'Actuel and McGill University's Chronic Viral Illness Service at the Royal Victoria Hospital, both in Montreal, Dr. Zahedi Niaki focuses on a range of medical conditions from skin problems to mental health. He also manages the care of immigrant populations experiencing chronic viral illnesses to ensure they receive timely treatment. It is this focus on providing long-term and comprehensive care for his patients that he finds most fulfilling.

Dr. Zahedi Niaki received his medical degree in 2016 and completed his family medicine residency at the University of Montreal in 2018. In 2020 he became an assistant professor in the Department of Family Medicine at McGill University. In his work at the Chronic Viral Illness Service he is able to concentrate his teaching and research on chronic viral illnesses, which is a particular interest of his.

Students say Dr. Zahedi Niaki is an excellent role model, and colleagues attest to his ability to manage complex consultations with conscientiousness, caring, and good judgment. It is this thoughtful, hands-on approach to teaching and patient care that has already established Dr. Zahedi Niaki as a leader among his peers.



## CFPC Environmental Health Award

The FAFM gratefully acknowledges the generous contribution from TD Insurance in support of the CFPC Environmental Health Award.

This award is presented in collaboration with the Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment (CAPE) and the Canadian Health and Environment Education and Research Foundation (CHEER). It is presented to a family physician or family medicine resident who is a member of the CFPC and has demonstrated leadership in environmental health.

### Previous recipients

#### 2020

Dr. Itua Iriogbe  
Camrose, Alberta

#### 2019

Dr. Larry Barzelai  
Vancouver, British Columbia

#### 2018

Dr. Margaret Sanborn  
Chesley, Ontario



**Dr. Sonja Wicklum**  
Calgary, Alberta

A community leader and family physician, Dr. Sonja Wicklum has dedicated her career to supporting, promoting, and advocating for women's health.

In 2015 Dr. Wicklum co-founded Makoyoh'sokoi, the Wolf Trail Program, a community-based initiative that offers Indigenous women opportunities to improve their health while connecting and sharing their health stories. The program provides exposure to many types of physical activity and to health and nutrition education. It also helps connect participants to culturally appropriate support and to health care professionals, bridging biomedical Western medicine and traditional healing.

The Wolf Trail Program is expanding in early 2022, which will see it offered in Calgary, in Edmonton, to the Piikani Nation, and to the Onion Lake Cree Nation in Alberta; and to the Waterhen Lake First Nation, the Ministikwan Lake Cree Nation, and the Flying Dust First Nation in Saskatchewan.

A clinical assistant professor and Family Medicine Clerkship Director in the Department of Family Medicine at the University of Calgary, Dr. Wicklum's passions and areas of educational focus include preventive health, Indigenous health, planetary health, and obesity management.

Dr. Wicklum received her medical degree from the University of Calgary and trained in family medicine at Dalhousie University. She practised family medicine in rural Montana and Ontario for 18 years before moving to Alberta. Dr. Wicklum currently practises at the Central Family Medicine Teaching Clinic in downtown Calgary.





## Mimi Divinsky Award for History and Narrative in Family Medicine

This award is named in memory of Dr. Mimi Divinsky for her role as an early leader in narrative medicine in Canada. It recognizes the best narrative account of experiences in family medicine.

### Previous recipients

#### 2020

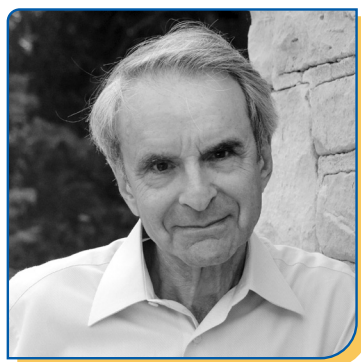
Dr. Jordan Pelc  
Toronto, Ontario

#### 2019

Dr. Anjali Bhayana  
Toronto, Ontario

#### 2018

Dr. Jesse Kancir  
Vancouver, British Columbia



### Dr. Peter Newman

Toronto, Ontario

Dr. Peter Newman is an eminent leader in family medicine in Canada and globally. He is known for his commitment to patient care, his dedication to teaching, and his passion for writing about family medicine.

In his clinical practice in Toronto, Dr. Newman has had the privilege of providing care to the same patients for more than 40 years. As an assistant professor in the Department of Family Medicine at the University of Toronto, he is committed to helping the next generation of family physicians become compassionate, community-minded leaders.

In 1993 Dr. Newman founded the Canada-Dominica Outreach Program, which combines providing medical aid to Dominica with training for postgraduate residents. In recognition of this work, North York General Hospital (NYGH) established the annual Peter R. Newman Humanitarian Award, which recognizes NYGH staff members or physicians who show an exemplary commitment to the welfare of individuals or communities.

Over the course of his career Dr. Newman has received many prestigious awards and accolades for his work, including the Community Teacher of the Year Award from the Ontario College of Family Physicians, the Presidential Award from the Ontario Medical Association, and an International Development Research Centre grant.

Dr. Newman has published a number of articles and short stories focusing on what it means to be a family doctor, and he is completing a memoir. His story "The Question" depicts a complex doctor-patient relationship filled with angst, compassion, and, ultimately, care.



## Racialized Communities Leadership Grant in Family Medicine

The FAFM gratefully acknowledges the generous contributions from Scotiabank and MD Financial Management in support of the Racialized Communities Leadership Grant in Family Medicine.

This grant supports family physicians in their efforts to enhance the delivery of primary care to racialized communities. It recognizes recipients' dedication to inclusivity and their demonstrated understanding of the diverse experiences with health care of marginalized groups. The grant is intended to support a project or initiative that will directly benefit one or more racialized communities and contribute to moving the field of family medicine forward in the equitable provision of health care.



New award  
for 2021

**Dr. Mukarram Ali Zaidi**  
Calgary, Alberta

Dr. Mukarram Ali Zaidi is the inaugural recipient of the Racialized Communities Leadership Grant in Family Medicine, which will support his research project "Assessing Access and Satisfaction of Refugee and Immigrants to Primary Health Care in Calgary, Alberta." With this work Dr. Zaidi and his colleagues Drs. Aamir Jamal, Shirley Steinberg, and Naved Bakali are seeking a greater understanding of the challenges refugees and immigrants face when accessing health care in Canada.

Exploring the impact of perceived discrimination and of language, social, and cultural barriers on health outcomes has long been an important area of focus for Dr. Zaidi. As a field doctor, a physician at Civil Hospital, and a medical officer for the Health and Nutrition Development Society in Karachi, Pakistan, in the 1990s, Dr. Zaidi had opportunities to observe the social determinants of health and their impact at the patient and population levels. He translated these early experiences into research interests after moving to Canada in 1999.

After earning his bachelor's degrees in medicine and surgery from Dow Medical College in Karachi in 1997, Dr. Zaidi completed his Medical Council of Canada qualifying examination in 2006. He also completed a master of science in epidemiology at the University of Toronto, a graduate diploma in population health risk assessment and management at the University of Ottawa, and the Family Medicine Residents of the Canadian Shield program at the Northern Ontario School of Medicine. In 2017 Dr. Zaidi started the Signature Medical Centre, where he is the medical director and a practising family physician. He is also a clinical assistant professor in the Department of Family Medicine at the University of Calgary.

With a strong interest in community outreach, in 2013 Dr. Zaidi founded Think for Actions, a national non-profit organization and scholarly think tank that aims to empower youth and assist them in their professional development. Today, Think for Actions researches the impact of hate crimes on religious and racial minorities and advocates for international humanitarian projects.



## Calvin L. Gutkin Family Medicine Ambassador Award

The FAFM gratefully acknowledges the generous support of donors including the family, friends, and colleagues of Dr. Gutkin to its Calvin L. Gutkin Endowment Fund.

This award recognizes a dynamic leader in Canadian family medicine, distinguished by their vision, innovation, and ability to build effective relationships with national and international organizations to positively influence the ever-changing roles of family physicians and family medicine in Canada.

### Previous recipients

#### 2020

Dr. Catherine Cook  
Winnipeg, Manitoba

#### 2019

Dr. David Snadden  
Prince George, British Columbia

#### 2018

Dr. Scott McLeod  
Sherwood Park, Alberta



**Dr. Darlene Kitty**  
Chisasibi, Quebec

As a family physician and Indigenous leader, Dr. Darlene Kitty is passionate about mentoring Indigenous people who work in health care.

Dr. Kitty received her medical degree from the University of Ottawa in 2002 and completed her family medicine residency and emergency medicine training in northeastern Ontario. As a Cree woman, Dr. Kitty realized her interests in Indigenous health and rural practice as she started work in 2006 as a family physician in Chisasibi, the largest of nine Cree communities in northern Quebec.

In addition to her clinical work, Dr. Kitty is President of the Council of Physicians, Dentists and Pharmacists for the Chisasibi region, an advocacy role she greatly values. In recent years she has led that organization's efforts to provide culturally safe care for Cree patients and their families.

Since 2010 Dr. Kitty has served as Director of the University of Ottawa's Indigenous Program, which recruits, admits, and supports Indigenous students seeking to become physicians. In addition to teaching about Indigenous health, she has done research; authored or contributed to several articles on Indigenous health; and made presentations at many conferences throughout her career.

Dr. Kitty has been a board member and is a former president of the Indigenous Physicians Association of Canada and has served on the national executive of the Society of Rural Physicians of Canada. In 2018 the Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada presented Dr. Kitty with the May Cohen Equity, Diversity, and Gender Award in recognition of her leadership in building diversity in academic medicine and for raising the profile of Indigenous health.

As Chair of the CFPC Indigenous Health Committee, Dr. Kitty collaborates with her colleagues to advance Indigenous health at the national level. This committee contributes to initiatives, research, and publications relevant to Indigenous communities and aims to educate family physicians and medical trainees.

Dr. Kitty greatly values her clinical, academic, and administrative work, which she says are important avenues of care, teaching, and advocacy to improve Indigenous health and address social issues, including anti-racism efforts and cultural safety, in the spirit of reconciliation.



## Jean-Pierre Despins Award

The award is named in memory of Dr. Jean-Pierre Despins, a former CFPC president (1995–1996) and chair of the FAFM Board (1999–2000). It honours a CFPC family physician member identified as an outstanding advocate and public spokesperson for family medicine, family physicians, and patients.

### Previous recipients

#### 2020

Dr. Michael Kirlew  
Moose Factory, Ontario

#### 2019

Dr. Gary Bloch  
Toronto, Ontario

#### 2018

Dr. David Price  
Hamilton, Ontario



### Dr. David Gass

Halifax, Nova Scotia

Awarded posthumously

Throughout his career Dr. David Gass worked tirelessly to build and shape family medicine and health care for the benefit of all. He championed strong, research-based primary care and interdisciplinary health care to best serve the population.

As a leader and clinical teacher, Dr. Gass was a pillar of the Faculty of Medicine at Dalhousie University, serving most recently as a professor and interim department head in the Department of Family Medicine. He led and taught through understanding and gentle challenge. His motto was, “When we tell a person something, we remove their chance to discover it themselves.” Generations of new physicians benefited from his mentorship and wisdom.

Dr. Gass’s long, distinguished career included building primary care capacity throughout Nova Scotia. He was the chief of staff at the Cumberland Health Authority from 2008 to 2010. Dr. Gass then served as the physician adviser in the Nova Scotia Department of Health and Wellness from 2011 through 2017; during that time he led the policy development and implementation of the Primary Health Care Transition Fund for Nova Scotia to support provincial health care renewal.

In March 2021 Dr. Gass died from injuries sustained in a pedestrian-vehicle accident. To the end, he lived the values of family medicine. His legacy as an exemplary role model, a compassionate family physician, a thoughtful educator, and a determined advocate will endure in many hearts and in many communities.





# 2021 Canada's Family Physicians of the Year

## Reg L. Perkin Awards

The FAFM gratefully acknowledges the generous contributions of Scotiabank and MD Financial Management in support of Canada's Family Physicians of the Year.

Since 1972 the CFPC has honoured family doctor members who exemplify excellence in the guiding principles of family medicine. In 1996 the award became known as the Reg L. Perkin Awards in honour of Dr. Perkin, who was the CFPC's executive director from 1985 to 1996.

The awards are presented to 10 outstanding family physicians—one from each province—during the annual Family Medicine Forum. Canada's Family Physicians of the Year are nominated by their health care colleagues, community leaders, and provincial Chapters of the CFPC for providing exceptional care to their patients, making meaningful contributions to the health and well-being of their communities, and dedicating themselves as researchers and as educators of future generations of family doctors.



**Dr. Reg L. Perkin**  
Executive Director, CFPC  
1985–1996





**"Family practice is the best job in the whole world. You have the privilege and opportunity to be there for birth and death, for crisis and chaos, sorrow and joy. You get to save lives, cure disease, and solve crime. There just aren't many opportunities in life to do those things concurrently."**

**Dr. Joshua Greggain**  
**British Columbia**

Passionate advocate. Visionary change leader. Quintessential rural family physician. These are the words Dr. Joshua Greggain's colleagues use to describe him.

Taking inspiration from his father, who was a rural physician in northern Alberta, Dr. Greggain was drawn to rural family medicine. After completing his family medicine residency in Chilliwack, British Columbia, Dr. Greggain relocated to the rural community of Hope. In 2007 he joined the Hope Medical Centre and the physician staff at Fraser Canyon Hospital.

Witnessing gaps in access to care in Hope and in the remote and Indigenous communities of the Fraser Canyon, Dr. Greggain sought to build a diversified, inclusive community health care system. His engagement with local Indigenous and rural communities—through his work at the Hope Medical Centre and the House of Sexwama, an Indigenous-led primary care outreach clinic in Anderson Creek—helped make this happen. His efforts to increase access to health services allowed him to establish strong relationships with the people in these communities.

Dr. Greggain received his medical degree from the University of Calgary in 2003 and completed his family medicine residency at the University of British Columbia in 2005. True to his rural roots, he received a 2020 Rural Service Award from the Society of Rural Physicians of Canada (SRPC) and his Fellowship of Rural and Remote Medicine of the SRPC in 2021. He was awarded Fellowship in the College of Family Physicians of Canada in 2019. He is most proud of the town of Hope being recognized with the 2019 Rural BC Community Award from the Rural Coordination Centre of BC.

A family man at heart, Dr. Greggain, his wife, Jennifer, and their two children enjoy the great outdoors and adventure travel. He and his family have been privileged to live, work, and play on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the Stó:lō and Nlaka'pamux First Nations for the past 18 years. Dr. Greggain was humbled to have received an eagle feather and been blanketed by both nations, an honour bestowed on few.



**“Being able to work in an environment that accepts clients where they are and understanding the drivers that impact the ability for some people to communicate and form healthy relationships are what drive me in my work.”**

**Dr. Kerri Treherne**  
Alberta

Dr. Kerri Treherne has dedicated her 25-year career to providing holistic care to vulnerable populations in Calgary. Since 1996 she has worked as a family physician at the Alex, a non-profit health and social services organization, and currently serves as its medical director.

At the Alex, Dr. Treherne is known for her ability to establish meaningful relationships with her patients, many of whom have struggled to form trusting connections with health care providers. Colleagues describe her as an effective advocate for the provision of comprehensive care for her patients. She works tirelessly to help patients get the care they need and access social and community support.

Her actions during the COVID-19 pandemic reflect Dr. Treherne's commitment to her patients. In March 2020, in response to a gap in care for individuals experiencing homelessness, Dr. Treherne helped establish Calgary's Assisted Self-Isolation Site (ASIS). The facility is designed to provide clinical and mental health care to individuals who are self-isolating due to COVID-19 symptoms. With her guidance, ASIS was up and running within two weeks of its conception. It has helped divert countless patients from acute care facilities, provided care for many unmet medical needs, and helped several clients access housing and treatment programs.

Dr. Treherne completed her medical degree at the University of Alberta and her family medicine residency at the University of Calgary. She received her Certification in the College of Family Physicians of Canada in 1996 and Fellowship in the College of Family Physicians of Canada in 2006. She is on the Alberta College of Family Physicians steering committee for the Collaborative Mentorship Network (CMN). Through the CMN Dr. Treherne hopes to build a network of physicians who are able to support each other in improving physician wellness and enhancing their ease in managing patients with complex conditions.

In addition to her work as a family physician, Dr. Treherne is an active volunteer, giving her time to initiatives ranging from revitalization projects with her community association to local flood emergency planning and relief efforts. One of the largest public space revitalization projects she has helped lead, Bow to Bluff, won a national planning award and is now being constructed in her community.



**Dr. Meredith McKague**  
Saskatchewan

**“Medical education is a big part of my practice and an area where I believe we make important contributions as family physicians. I work in a clinical practice where we train residents and other learners every day. It is important to me to ensure that our up-and-coming physicians have a supportive environment for learning.”**

Colleagues describe Dr. Meredith McKague as a strong, supportive role model who leads by example and greatly influences future generations of physicians and the profession.

Dr. McKague discovered the joy of teaching early in her career. Working closely with medical learners at a community health centre in Calgary, she realized she could play a role in helping them become compassionate practitioners.

Drawing on this early experience, in 2002 Dr. McKague joined the University of Saskatchewan's College of Medicine as the undergraduate director of the Department of Academic Family Medicine. Today she is the Associate Dean of Undergraduate Medical Education. She enjoys teaching and supervising residents and clerks in the Saskatoon Family Medicine Unit.

While Dr. McKague has always been a committed and exemplary teacher in the College of Medicine, she has also had a significant positive impact on undergraduate medical students during the COVID-19 pandemic. She used a recent sabbatical to partner with medical students on the Student-Senior Isolation Prevention Partnership. The initiative saw more than 50 medical students identify and respond to the needs of seniors in the community. The partnership's student lead, Masooma Bhatti, said Dr. McKague “inspired us to continue to work toward our goals and believe that nothing is impossible when you have a passion and drive for success.”

As a clinician, Dr. McKague provides integrated patient care as part of her family practice. Her research interests include the evaluation of undergraduate medical education and clinical initiatives in primary health care, including a recent project with colleagues and learners on supporting early childhood literacy.

Dr. McKague completed her medical degree at the University of Saskatchewan in 1994, her postgraduate training in family medicine at Queen's University in 1996, and a master of science in health care research at the University of Calgary in 2000.



**“Family medicine has allowed me to learn from individuals and communities who experience systemic barriers within the health care system. This has afforded me the opportunity to support my patients in real and meaningful ways.”**

**Dr. Christine Buchel**  
**Manitoba**

What Dr. Christine Buchel values most as a family physician is the opportunity to build relationships with her patients and the community.

For the past decade Dr. Buchel has provided primary care to Indigenous people living in urban Winnipeg. As a family physician with the Aboriginal Health and Wellness Centre, she is able to work alongside Indigenous Elders and Knowledge Keepers to provide holistic care for her patients.

Dr. Buchel's interest in Indigenous health started early in her career. During her first two years of practice she worked as a locum physician in rural and northern communities in British Columbia, Manitoba, and Nunavut.

Since 2015 Dr. Buchel has also been part of a multidisciplinary team at the Trans Health Clinic, where she provides gender-affirming health care to transgender and gender-diverse individuals in Manitoba. In this role she works with family medicine residents and other family physicians to increase the province's capacity to deliver gender-affirming care in the primary care setting.

Dr. Buchel received her medical degree from the University of Manitoba in 1997 and completed her residency training in family medicine at the University of British Columbia in 1999. In her personal time Dr. Buchel loves being with her family and spending time outdoors. She especially enjoys running on the beautiful river trails in Winnipeg.



**“Continuity of care and strengthening relationships with our patients matter. Understanding that family physicians are the backbone of our health care system, especially in rural communities, is something that has become even more evident during the pandemic.”**

**Dr. Barbara Zelek**  
Ontario

Dr. Barbara Zelek is passionate about rural medicine and works tirelessly to ensure that the patients in her community receive care from a doctor they know and trust.

Throughout her 20 years as a rural generalist in Marathon, Ontario, Dr. Zelek has provided comprehensive medical care for her patients from cradle to grave. She has a natural curiosity about health and a fierce determination to diagnose specifically and accurately. At Marathon's Wilson Memorial General Hospital, Dr. Zelek's scope of practice includes the delivery of chronic care, emergency medicine, and, until 2018, obstetrics support.

As the Clinical Sciences Division Head at the Northern Ontario School of Medicine, Dr. Zelek has oversight of the program's clinical faculty. She says she feels fortunate to have the opportunity to serve as a role model for faculty members, who are often required to balance academic duties with the urgent care needs of their patients. Dr. Zelek co-created the Northern Ontario School of Medicine Research Toward Health Hub (NORTH), which collates de-identified primary health care electronic medical record data that can be used for practice-based quality improvement and community-based research.

Dr. Zelek received her medical degree from the University of Ottawa in 1998. She completed her family medicine residency at Queen's University in 2000, which included participating in the women's health and research streams.

Outside of her work Dr. Zelek volunteers with several athletic and community-based organizations. It is this all-in approach that has made Dr. Zelek a well-established and valued member of her community.





**“Stay open to any opportunities that there may be to meet and be inspired by inspiring people, because it truly is an extraordinary wealth.”**

**Dr. Mario Dubuc**  
Quebec

Over the past 40 years Dr. Mario Dubuc has distinguished himself through his medical knowledge, compassion, innovative ideas, collaborative spirit, interest in pedagogy, and profound dedication to his patients.

Dr. Dubuc received his medical degree from the University of Sherbrooke in 1979 and completed his family medicine residency in 1981. Upon the completion of his studies, he founded the Clinique Médicale Belvédère (now the Groupe de médecine de famille Belvédère). He is the last of five co-founders still on the clinic's medical team, where he holds the position of medical director.

His numerous achievements have shown Dr. Dubuc to be a true leader and builder in family medicine. At the Centre hospitalier universitaire de Sherbrooke–Hôtel-Dieu de Sherbrooke, where he has also practised throughout his career, Dr. Dubuc led a multidisciplinary team responsible for creating a palliative care unit in 1987. After heading that unit and training residents in family medicine other specialties for several years, he continues to serve on call there. In the context of his work in palliative care, he also organized medical services at the Maison Aube-Lumière, the first palliative care hospice in the Eastern Townships.

Dr. Dubuc is passionate about his clinical teaching at the University of Sherbrooke Faculty of Medicine and fosters a trusting environment for his students. He teaches the importance of relational competencies for family physicians as a means of forming strong relationships with patients and applying the principles of shared decision making.



**"Only when you have a long-standing, meaningful relationship with your patients, built on mutual trust and understanding, can you tackle difficult topics and make a marked difference in their lives."**

**Dr. Gordon J. Hollway**  
**New Brunswick**

During his 34 years in practice, Dr. Gordon Hollway has exemplified a strong commitment to family medicine through his work as a comprehensive family physician and his dedication to training the next generation of family doctors.

Currently based in Saint John, New Brunswick, Dr. Hollway has worked in a variety of rural communities including Shelburne, Nova Scotia, and Marathon, Ontario. These experiences reinforced for him the unique relationship between community-based physicians and their patients and the important role they can play in emergent situations, such as the COVID-19 pandemic.

Education is a key focus of Dr. Hollway's work. He has taught at the undergraduate level both in professional competencies small-group work and as a clinical preceptor. He also regularly serves as a clinical preceptor for residents in both the family medicine, integrated family medicine, and emergency medicine programs based in Saint John. In this role he has had the unique opportunity to shape family medicine education in the communities where he practises, an experience he has found particularly rewarding.

To complement his focus on community-based teaching, Dr. Hollway chaired the curriculum subcommittee at Dalhousie University's Department of Family Medicine from 2012 to 2018. He has also participated in CFPC curriculum meetings and has been involved in curriculum presentations at Family Medicine Forum.

Dr. Hollway received his medical degree in 1985 from Dalhousie University and completed his family medicine residency training there in 1988.



**"The most important thing we do is to be good doctors to our patients. I have a population of patients that I'm very fond of, that I love to work hard for and make sure their needs are being met, and that they're getting the support that they need."**

### **Dr. Joan Salah**

**Nova Scotia**

Dr. Joan Salah has devoted her career as a family physician to meeting the health care needs of her small Cape Breton community and inspiring medical students to take up the mantle of practising medicine in rural and remote areas of Canada.

Deeply embedded in the local health care system, Dr. Salah acts as the medical director of three small nursing homes and was an emergency room doctor at the Northside General Hospital in North Sydney for 18 years. She has also worked in a small family practice for many years.

In 2017 Dr. Salah co-developed Dalhousie University's Cape Breton Longitudinal Integrated Curriculum (LIC) program, in which students benefit from working with family physicians and other specialists in one location over 48 weeks. The program is designed to foster an interest in working in rural areas, a choice Dr. Salah says was always her first.

Dr. Salah has an opportunity to supervise a new resident every two years. This year's resident is a graduate from the first LIC class—a full-circle moment for Dr. Salah. In addition to providing leadership in medical education, she is a former vice-president of the local medical association and is the regional co-head of family medicine for Nova Scotia Health.

After graduating from Dalhousie's Faculty of Medicine in 2001, Dr. Salah completed her family medicine residency in 2003. This year she was presented with Dalhousie's Ted Atkinson Award for Postgraduate Preceptor of the Year. While grateful for the formal recognition, Dr. Salah says the appreciation she gets from her patients and community is the best reward.

Dr. Salah was nominated for this award by Dr. David Gass, who, sadly, passed away a month before she was notified of the nomination. "I'm immensely sad that I didn't get a chance to thank him for the honour. The idea that he would hold me in anywhere near the esteem that I've held him was incredible to me, and very emotional. He was truly a titan of family medicine in Nova Scotia."



**"In today's climate of stretched health care resources, patients really appreciate the continuity of care their family physicians can provide. I am proud to be able to support my patients and their families, and to be able to make a difference in my community."**

**Dr. Bernard Holland**  
Prince Edward Island

For the past 26 years Dr. Bernard (Bernie) Holland has been a full-time rural family physician at Kings County Memorial Hospital and Montague Health Centre in Montague, Prince Edward Island.

His colleagues say he is embedded in the fabric of the town. During his career, Dr. Holland has cared for many children who have now grown up and have children of their own. He regularly stops on the street to chat with his patients and is sometimes asked to serve as a pallbearer for patients who have died.

It is this continuity of care and the diversity of the care required that Dr. Holland enjoys most. While he can refer patients to other services, as the central hub for patients' health care needs he has their overall care in his hands. The trusting relationship he has established ensures patients return to him for follow-up care and whenever new issues arise.

In addition to working in his clinical practice, Dr. Holland is a part-time clinical medical educator affiliated with Dalhousie University and Memorial University of Newfoundland. He is also a member of the provincial physician support group in Prince Edward Island. He received his medical degree from Dalhousie University in 1991 and completed his internship in 1992.

Early in his career Dr. Holland served as a medical officer in Operation CAVALIER, part of the United Nations Protection Force in Croatia and in Bosnia and Herzegovina. His time in the military is something Dr. Holland still holds dear. He says serving as a peacekeeper is an important part of who he is and has helped shape the kind of doctor he has become.



**"Family medicine is one of the most difficult things I have ever done. Family medicine is also one of the most rewarding things I have ever done. ... It is always an honour and a privilege to make a real difference in the lives of your patients. It's been the most rewarding career!"**

**Dr. Wendy Graham**  
Newfoundland and Labrador

Dr. Wendy Graham has been a family physician for 22 years. In that time she has had a tremendous impact on her community, including through the promotion of rural medicine and distributed medical education.

A family physician in Channel-Port aux Basques, Newfoundland and Labrador, Dr. Graham epitomizes the rural general practitioner, working closely with her local community. She practises a broad scope of family medicine, which includes providing chemotherapy, hospitalist, palliative, and end-of-life care for her patients. Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic she has routinely made house calls because many patients have been hesitant to venture out from their homes for care. Dr. Graham provides acute and long-term care at the Dr. Charles L. LeGrow Health Centre.

Dr. Graham is an associate professor in the Discipline of Family Medicine at Memorial University of Newfoundland, a position she has held since 2000. Recognizing the importance of hands-on learning, she has helped actualize a stream concept of family medicine training within the community and position Channel-Port aux Basques as a vibrant teaching hub for medical students and residents.

After completing her medical training at Memorial University of Newfoundland, Dr. Graham also did her family medicine residency training there. Her research and faculty development team teach research skills to physicians practising in rural and remote areas. She has spent much of her career in leadership positions supporting health policy, governance, and system reform.



# Honours and Awards Program 2021 Recipients

## Awards of Excellence

### British Columbia

Dr. Birinder Narang, Burnaby

### Alberta

Dr. Aquaeno Ekanem, Edmonton

Dr. Divya Garg, Calgary

Dr. Ernst Greyvenstein, Calgary

Dr. Mike Spady, Calgary

### Saskatchewan

Dr. Sarah McLaughlin, Regina

Dr. Kendra Morrow, Saskatoon

### Manitoba

Dr. Kelby Cleverley, Winnipeg

Dr. Amanda Condon, Winnipeg

Dr. Jacqueline Gougeon, Winnipeg

Dr. Chaitasi Intwala, Winnipeg

Dr. Katherine Kearns, Winnipeg

Dr. Sandra Lee, Winnipeg

Dr. Gabrielle Leung, Winnipeg

Dr. Ming Munikar, Winnipeg

Dr. David Willems, Winnipeg

### Ontario

Dr. Josée Adam, Rockland

Dr. Sharon Bal, Cambridge

Dr. Andrea Chittle, Guelph

Dr. Ali Damji, Mississauga

Dr. Shoshanah Deaton, Rockland

Dr. Sohal Goyal, Mississauga

Dr. Allan Grill, Markham

Dr. Jennifer Jing Wah Kwan, Burlington

Dr. Elaine Ma, Kingston

Dr. Louisa Marion-Bellemare, Timmins

Dr. Kristianna Martiniuk Kingdon, Oakville

Dr. Vanessa Redditt, Toronto

Dr. Julie Samson, Timmins

Dr. Karim Vellani, Toronto

### Quebec

Dr. Pascale Breault, Montreal

Dr. François Goulet, Montreal

Dr. Guylène Thériault, Gatineau

Dr. Keith J. Todd, Montreal

### New Brunswick

Dr. Jean-Pierre Arseneau, Bathurst

### Nova Scotia

Dr. Leah Genge, Halifax

Dr. Janneke Gradstein, Amherst

### Prince Edward Island

Dr. Megan Miller, Stratford

Dr. John Morash, Summerside

### Newfoundland and Labrador

Dr. Gena Bugden, St. John's

Dr. Bruce Hollett, Conception Bay South

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## Calvin L. Gutkin Family Medicine Ambassador Award

Dr. Darlene Kitty, Chisasibi, Quebec

## Canada's Family Physicians of the Year/ Reg L. Perkin Awards

Dr. Joshua Greggain, British Columbia  
 Dr. Kerri Treherne, Alberta  
 Dr. Meredith McKague, Saskatchewan  
 Dr. Christine Buchel, Manitoba  
 Dr. Barbara Zelek, Ontario  
 Dr. Mario Dubuc, Quebec  
 Dr. Gordon J. Hollway, New Brunswick  
 Dr. Joan Salah, Nova Scotia  
 Dr. Bernard Holland, Prince Edward Island  
 Dr. Wendy Graham, Newfoundland and Labrador

## Canadian Family Physician Best Original Research Article

Dr. Anita Srivastava, Toronto, Ontario

## CFPC/CPA Collaborative Mental Health Care Award

Dr. Trish Snozyk, Victoria, British Columbia

## CFPC CPD Program Award

CASTED: Emergency  
 University of British Columbia CPD Personal Learning  
 Plans

## CFPC Early Career Development Awards

Dr. Clark Svrcek, Calgary, Alberta  
 Dr. Navid Zahedi Niaki, Montreal, Quebec

## CFPC Environmental Health Award

Dr. Sonja Wicklum, Calgary, Alberta

## CFPC Outstanding Family Medicine Research Article

Dr. Karenn Chan, Edmonton, Alberta

## Family Medicine Researcher of the Year Award

Dr. Kevin Pottie, Ottawa, Ontario

## Hollister King Rural Family Practice CPD Grant

Dr. Heather Ringrose, Waterford, Ontario

## Honorary Membership

Dr. Craig M. Campbell, Ottawa, Ontario  
 Dr. Shelley Ross, Edmonton, Alberta

## Ian McWhinney Family Medicine Education Award

Dr. Helen P. Batty, Toronto, Ontario

## Janus CPD Grants

Dr. Sandeep Aggarwal, Oakville, Ontario  
 Dr. Anna Chavlovski, Kingston, Ontario  
 Dr. Yasir Khan, Whitby, Ontario  
 Dr. Sarah Kim, Toronto, Ontario  
 Dr. Olivia Nguyen, Montreal, Quebec  
 Dr. Michael Sylvester, Kingston, Ontario  
 Dr. Sean Wachtel, Vancouver, British Columbia  
 Dr. Navid Zahedi Niaki, Montreal, Quebec

### **Janus Research Grants**

Dr. Vanessa Brcic, Vancouver, British Columbia

Dr. Catherine Varner, Toronto, Ontario

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### **Jean-Pierre Despins Award**

Dr. David Gass, Halifax, Nova Scotia

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### **Jim Ruderman Academic Family Medicine Leadership Award**

Dr. Olivia Nguyen, Montreal, Quebec

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### **Lifetime Achievement Award in Family Medicine Research**

Dr. Richard Glazier, Toronto, Ontario

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### **Marco Terwiel Rural Family Medicine Innovation Grant**

Dr. Margaret Tromp, Picton, Ontario

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### **Mimi Divinsky Award for History and Narrative in Family Medicine**

Dr. Peter Newman, Toronto, Ontario

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### **Racialized Communities Leadership Grant in Family Medicine**

Dr. Mukarram Ali Zaidi, Calgary, Alberta

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### **Scholarly Work in Family Medicine Education Grant**

Dr. Navsheer Gill, Toronto, Ontario

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### **W. Victor Johnston Award**

Dr. Jane Philpott, Kingston, Ontario

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### **Nadine St-Pierre Award**

Dr. Geneviève Arsenault, Montreal, Quebec

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### **Research Awards for Family Medicine Residents**

Dr. Bridget McDonald, North Bay, Ontario

Dr. John Thomson, Halifax, Nova Scotia

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### **Val Rachlis Leadership in Family Medicine Award**

Dr. Kate Elliott, Victoria, British Columbia

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### **Indigenous Family Medicine Resident Scholarship**

Dr. Kate Elliott, University of British Columbia

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### **Family Medicine Resident Scholarships**

Dr. Maheen Mujtaba, University of British Columbia

Dr. Monique Jarrett, University of Alberta

Dr. Alexis Katzell, University of Calgary

Dr. Sarah Tsoi, University of Saskatchewan

Dr. Mindle Eklove, University of Manitoba

Dr. Obaidullah Khan, Western University

Dr. Claire Bodkin, McMaster University

Dr. Nicholas Roscoe, Northern Ontario  
School of Medicine

Dr. Vivian Tam, University of Toronto

Dr. Benjamin Moreau, Queen's University

Dr. Julia Buthmann, University of Ottawa

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Dr. Ségolène Chagnon-Monarque,  
University of Sherbrooke

Dr. Camille Couture, University of Montreal

Dr. Aiselin Weng, McGill University

Dr. Philippe Simon, Laval University

Dr. Jillian Jung, Dalhousie University

Dr. Robert McCarthy,  
Memorial University of Newfoundland

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### **Family Medicine Resident Awards for Scholarly Achievement**

Dr. Kate Elliott and Dr. Irfan Rajani,  
University of British Columbia

Dr. Avery Wynick, University of Alberta

Dr. Anastasia Bosc, University of Calgary

Dr. Sarah Penney and Dr. Alexandra Pistore,  
University of Saskatchewan

Dr. Aaron MacAulay, University of Manitoba

Dr. Daniela Keren, Western University

Dr. Serena Arora, Dr. Jennifer McAlister,  
Dr. Tony Li, and Peter Zhang, McMaster University

Dr. Alana Rawana Baron,  
Northern Ontario School of Medicine

Dr. Sejal Doshi, University of Toronto

Dr. Andrew Dawson, Queen's University

Dr. Evan Batten, University of Ottawa

Dr. Geneviève Arsenault, University of Montreal

Dr. Annie-Pier Duguay, Dr. Inna Ermeichouk,  
and Dr. Sarina Lalla, McGill University

Dr. Maude Boucher, Dr. Xiao Ying Yang, Dr. Marianne  
Lemire, and Dr. Laurence Laliberté, Laval University

Dr. Jonathan Craig, Dalhousie University

Dr. Laurence Rioux, Memorial University of  
Newfoundland

### **CFPC Indigenous Medical Student Scholarship**

Sarah Douglas, University of British Columbia

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### **CFPC Medical Student Scholarships**

Hanna Ellis, University of British Columbia

Catherine Palme, University of Alberta

Kathryn Sutherland, University of Calgary

Jessica Froehlich, University of Saskatchewan

Katrina Leong, University of Manitoba

Julia Petta, Western University

Roya Akbary, McMaster University

Felicia Lotsios, Northern Ontario School of Medicine

Yousuf Ahmed, University of Toronto

Julia Robson, Queen's University

Adam Chubbs-Payne, University of Ottawa

Jessica Vandenborre, University of Sherbrooke

Émilie Labbé, University of Montreal

Nickoo Merati, McGill University

Léa Dancause-Lavoie, Laval University

Jeana MacLeod, Dalhousie University

Iqshvaku Mishra, Memorial University of Newfoundland

THE COLLEGE OF  
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OF CANADA



LE COLLÈGE DES  
MÉDECINS DE FAMILLE  
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Foundation for  
Advancing  
Family Medicine



Fondation pour  
l'avancement de la  
médecine familiale

## About the Foundation for Advancing Family Medicine

The Honours and Awards Program is made possible by the FAFM with your support.

The FAFM is committed to supporting a vital and vibrant future for family medicine by providing funding for research projects, educational initiatives, and the Honours and Awards Program. The FAFM's programs support CFPC members with research grants, scholarships, and funding to attend the CFPC's annual Family Medicine Forum and they celebrate the achievements of clinicians, educators, researchers, family medicine residents, and students.

Join the family medicine donor community and help advance family medicine with your generosity. Your donation to the FAFM matters!

To donate to the FAFM, please follow the links shared during the event or visit

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