



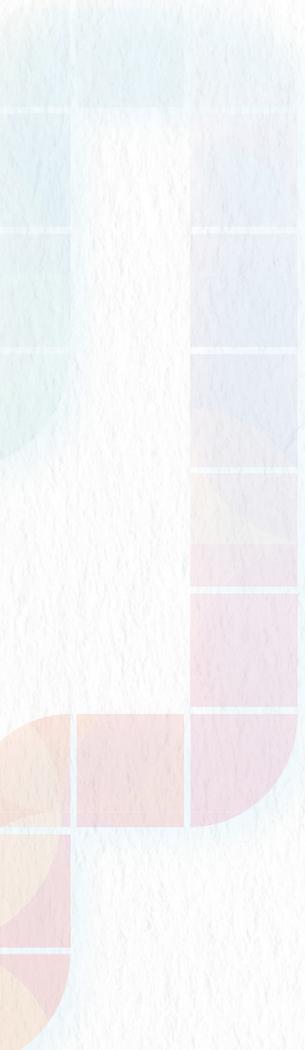
# Member Interest Groups Section

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**Strategic Plan 2020–2025**

October 2020





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# The Member Interest Groups Section

The Member Interest Groups Section (MIGS), formerly the Section of Communities of Practice in Family Medicine, was created to support the College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC)'s dedication to providing a professional home for all family physicians across diverse clinical and non-clinical interests, settings, and practice types.

Established by family physicians for family physicians, the Section's individual member interest groups link members with similar practice interests so they can share information, connect, and collaborate on projects relevant to the practice of family medicine in Canada. This includes providing thought leadership, developing practice supports, enhancing education and training, and contributing to advocacy initiatives.

The CFPC's strategic plan guides the work of MIGS. The MIGS strategic plan was created utilizing Section members' feedback. The plan describes four focus areas that define who we are and what we can achieve together. It will be used to prioritize existing programs and services and to establish new funding opportunities.

## MIGS Council

The MIGS Council is accountable to the CFPC Board and provides oversight, thought leadership, and governance to the Section.

**Frank Martino** (Chair, 2017–2020),  
MD, CCFP (EM), FCFP

**Benjamin Schiff** (Chair, 2020–2023),  
MD CM, CCFP, FCFP

**William Ehman**,  
MD, MCFP

**Jamil Hirji**,  
MD, CCFP

**Vaibhav A. Kamble**,  
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**Naila Kassam**,  
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**Lori Montgomery**,  
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**Katherine Stringer**,  
MBChB, CCFP, FCFP,  
MCISc (FM)



# The MIGS model

The MIGS and the individual member interest groups that compose it aim to strengthen the role of family physicians and the CFPC as the national voice of family medicine. There are 19 member interest groups as of September 2020, three of which have conjoint committees through long-term partnerships with external organizations. The member interest groups with conjoint committees are Child and Adolescent Health, Family Practice Anesthesia, and Mental Health. In general, the member interest groups are self-determining and will pursue their own focus and activities in a flexible fashion within the broad parameters of the MIGS strategic plan. Each member interest group is led by a chair and a vice chair. New member interest groups will be created based on calls for interest and on the CFPC's own priorities. Opportunities will be sought to align certain member interest groups with provincially based networks created by provincial Chapters and other medical organizations. Under the guidance of the MIGS Council, the activities of individual member interest groups and ad-hoc project working groups are designed to address key practice challenges



# Current member interest groups



Addiction  
Medicine



Cancer Care



Child and  
Adolescent Health



Chronic Pain



Dermatology



Developmental  
Disabilities



Emergency  
Medicine



Enhanced Surgical  
Skills



Family Practice  
Anesthesia



Global Health



Health Care of  
the Elderly



Hospital Medicine



Maternity and  
Newborn Care



Mental Health



Occupational  
Medicine



Palliative Care



Prison Health



Respiratory  
Medicine



Sport and Exercise  
Medicine

# Our new strategic framework

This MIGS strategic plan outlines our vision for the future and the priority areas of focus for the Section and our member interest groups as we look to advance the practice of family medicine in Canada together.

## Vision

Family physicians of all professional interests working together to support each other and the practice of family medicine.

## Mission

The Member Interest Groups Section links CFPC members across Canada who have a similar area of practice interest. By fostering professional collaboration and peer connections on practice topics, the Section supports you and your work while advancing the practice of family medicine to meet the health care needs of Canadians.



## Areas of Focus



### Thought Leadership

Connecting family physician members with internal and external stakeholders to support the advancement of family medicine.



### Practice Support

Creating and providing a professional home where members feel supported and nurtured through engagement and access to practice support tools and resources.



### Education and Training

Creating and contributing to education and training that support continuing professional development (CPD).



### Policy and Advocacy

Providing policy and advocacy forums for family physicians to represent the profession and support CFPC advocacy efforts.

## Supports



### Leadership



### Collaboration



### Communication



## Our vision

Family physicians of all professional interests working together to support each other and the discipline of family medicine.

Our vision speaks to our commitment to serve and connect all family physicians. The Section represents all domains related to the practice of family medicine and supports family physicians at all stages of their careers. An important demonstration is how the Section helps family physicians adopt the Patient's Medical Home vision and implement it to support their practice.

## Our mission

MIGS links CFPC members across Canada who have similar practice interests. By fostering professional collaboration and peer connections on practice topics, the Section supports you and your work while advancing the practice of family medicine to meet the health care needs of Canadians.

Expectations of family physicians are increasingly varied and complex. We recognize the diversity to be found in family practices that together create a full tapestry of care for patients. Our mission is to enhance this tapestry through professional collaboration, driven by our community of more than 11,000 MIGS members.



## Our areas of focus

Our areas of focus identify the priorities of our individual member interest groups and the Section for the five-year period covered by this strategic plan. These areas of focus reflect what members have told us are the most valuable functions that member interest groups can fulfill in family medicine in Canada: supporting family physicians in their day-to-day practices and working on behalf of all family physicians to advance the profession and its interests.

These areas will help guide MIGS efforts and resources in supporting the work of individual member interest groups themselves. In practice, this means that each of our individual member interest groups will focus on one or more of these areas in their domain of interest.



### Thought leadership

Connecting family physician members with internal and external stakeholders to support the advancement of family medicine.



### Practice support

Creating and providing practice supports to assist family physicians in providing the best care.



### Education and training

Creating and contributing to education that supports CPD.



### Policy and advocacy

Providing policy and advocacy opportunities for family physicians to represent the profession and support CFPC advocacy efforts.



## Thought leadership

While the first three areas of focus directly support family physicians in their practices, providing thought leadership can mean supporting external entities in areas relevant to family physicians. This in turn can include supporting other professional colleges or partner organizations or being available to the media so that family physicians' perspectives on a range of issues are shared broadly.

Providing thought leadership means our Section is:

- Connecting family physician CFPC members with internal and external stakeholders to gather unique perspectives and assist the CFPC in representing and advancing family medicine
- Identifying key areas and topics for thought leadership and building a roster of related thought leaders
- Supporting members in acting as family medicine thought leaders

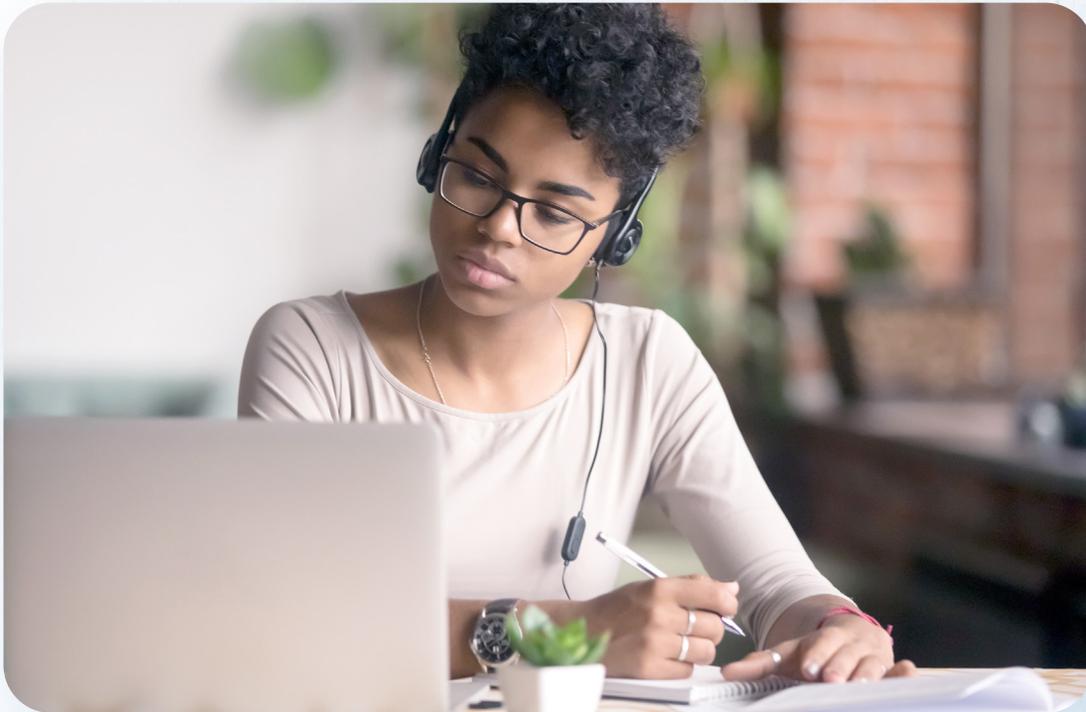


## Practice support

The role of the family physician is evolving and increasingly complex. Individual member interest groups seek to support family physicians across the full scope of practice by creating and providing practice support tools covering clinical and non-clinical topics. Practice support tools are designed to ensure family physicians are equipped to address both emerging and evolving areas of practice as well as traditional topics.

Providing practice supports means our Section:

- Supports individual member interest groups in developing and disseminating practice supports including tools and other resources
- Offers a platform for family physicians to interact and collaborate
- Maintains relevant and evidence-based resources for family physicians



## Education and training

The Section, with the support of individual member interest groups, assists with identifying emerging topics and advising the CFPC on educational initiatives that may benefit members. This includes creating and contributing to education and training that primarily support CPD. Whether a member is an experienced family physician seeking information about a new area of practice or an emerging topic, or if they are a new family physician wanting to connect with and learn from others, our member interest groups are here to support them.

Supporting education and training means our Section:

- Supports the member interest groups in providing learning opportunities
- Fosters mentorship opportunities through member interest group membership and participation
- Identifies organizations that member interest groups could collaborate with in the design and delivery of education



## Policy and advocacy

Member interest groups consist of thousands of practising family physicians who have unique perspectives on the health care needs of communities across Canada. MIGS seeks to represent these members' perspectives within the CFPC, provide policy and advocacy forums for every member interest group, and support and reinforce the CFPC's advocacy efforts. The Section's expanded focus on policy and advocacy issues in the clinical practice of family medicine involves partnering with the Health Policy and Government Relations Department and other leaders in the CFPC.

Pursuing policy and advocacy efforts means our Section:

- Conducts broad engagement to identify topics for policy and advocacy
- Supports member interest groups in formulating and communicating policy positions, in partnership with the CFPC's Health Policy and Government Relations Department
- Advocates on behalf of family physicians and individual member interest groups internally within the CFPC



## Supports

The CFPC and MIGS provide critically important support to member interest groups to assist their work related to the areas of focus and to help them achieve their objectives.



### Leadership

We must ensure that each member interest group has strong leadership through its chair and vice-chair and that each member interest group receives support from the CFPC as required to advance its work.



### Collaboration

We must enable collaboration both internally and externally, whether among or between individual member interest groups or with other CFPC Sections, departments of the CFPC, and/or partner organizations. This includes providing an online platform, MiGroups, through which the member interest groups and their members can freely interact and work together.



### Communication

We must improve communication efforts to increase member engagement, raise awareness of the member interest groups, and promote the value of joining one or more member interest groups to members.



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