



JULY 2016

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2016 Besrou Conference

We are pleased to invite our Besrou colleagues to join us at the 2016 Besrou Conference in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Attached please find your invitation letter as well as the delegate prospectus outlining the complete details of this event.

This year's conference will focus on Harnessing Family Medicine for Sustainable Development Goal 3. Conference delegates will explore how the Besrou community's efforts to advance family medicine globally align with the targets set by the World Health Organization's Sustainable Development Goals and inform the steps required to achieve these global ambitions.

Please note: An invitation letter has been sent to all Canadian departments of family medicine seeking assistance with funding to support our international partners who wish to attend the conference. International partners will be contacted in the near future with more details regarding funding availability.

Working Group updates

- The **Advocacy, Community Engagement, and Ethics Working Group** has been diligently preparing the Besrou Centre's submission to the Honourable Marie-Claude Bibeau, Minister of International Development and La Francophonie, in response to the recent call from the federal government for ideas on renewing Canada's international assistance policy and funding framework. Recognizing that a number of departments of family medicine at Canadian universities will likely also make submissions, the Besrou Centre has reached out to the departments to recommend cross-referencing our papers to make a greater impact. Our submission will be sent by the July 31st deadline. We thank Dr François Couturier and the advocacy working group for their hard work on this submission.

The Advocacy, Community Engagement, and Ethics Working Group is also preparing a workshop for the 2016 Besrou Conference that will develop a framework to guide the Besrou community in engaging in sustainable and ethical partnerships.

- The **Continuing Medical Education Working Group** is pleased to have had an abstract accepted for the WONCA World Conference of Family Doctors 2016. The title of the abstract is Bridging the gap: A literature review of continuing education for generalist physicians in low- and middle-income countries. This will be presented as a poster at the WONCA World Conference in Rio in November.
- The **Narratives and Family Medicine Papers Working Group** is preparing an engaging and creative "story booth" to harness the experiences of global family physicians in attendance at the WONCA World Conference 2016. Working group members will use stimulating questions to interview family physicians and capture their narratives at the story booth.

- The **Besrouer Papers and Research Working Group** has had an article accepted for publication in *Canadian Family Physician*, titled The Besrouer papers: Approaching a global definition of family medicine. The group is also exploring ways to harness the richness of the Besrouer community to advance the inclusion of family medicine indicators in global primary health care indicator frameworks.
- The **Faculty Development Resources Working Group** has had a paper accepted for publication in the journal *Education for Primary Care*, titled Lessons learned in global family medicine education from a Besrouer Centre capacity-building workshop. The group is also working on a practical faculty development workshop to be held at the 2016 Besrouer Conference.

External conferences

WONCA Europe 2016 conference

The WONCA Europe 2016 conference took place in Copenhagen, Denmark, from June 15–18, 2016. Dr Katherine Rouleau, Director of the Besrouer Centre, presented a keynote address, titled “From individual to collective efforts towards health equity: What family medicine could learn from Canada geese.” Feedback from WONCA Europe participants was very positive, reflecting the high esteem in which Canadian family medicine is held internationally. Please see the link below to view Dr Rouleau’s keynote address:

<http://www.woncaeurope2016.com/videos-from-keynote-sessions>.

Women Deliver 2016 Global Conference

For an interesting interview with Dr Atul Gawande and Suzanne Ehlers at the Women Deliver 2016 Global Conference in Copenhagen, May 16–19, 2016, check out this link: [The Next Big Idea: Primary Health Care for UHC](#).