



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

In response to the actions of la Fédération des médecins résidents du Québec (FMRQ)

Ottawa, July 13, 2011 – The Canadian Federation of Medical Students (CFMS) stands in solidarity with la Fédération médicale étudiante du Québec (FMEQ) in condemning the current actions of la Fédération des médecins résidents du Québec (FMRQ).

The FMRQ has recently announced that they will be ceasing all medical student teaching activities for an indefinite period of time. This action has come out of 14 months of negotiations between the FMRQ and the government of Québec and the FMEQ's dissatisfaction over issues concerning work hours, compensation, stipends, etc.

The CFMS disagrees with the stance that by refusing to supervise medical students, the FMRQ will not be impacting patient-care. During this suspension of teaching activities, medical students in Québec will be missing out on experiences which will contribute to their medical education, thereby making them more experienced and effective doctors.

While the CFMS sympathizes with the FMRQ, the CFMS disapproves of the cessation of teaching activities for medical students as a pressure tactic. The CFMS recognizes the right of collective bargaining between the FMRQ and the government of Québec and encourages the two sides of the table to continue working together to find an agreement more amenable to residents which does not impact medical students.

**Canadian Federation of Medical Students
Fédération des étudiants et des étudiantes en médecine du Canada**

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The Canadian Federation of Medical Students (CFMS) is a national organization that represents over 7500 medical students at 14 medical schools across Canada.

In Solidarity,

Matthew J. Sheppard,
President, Canadian Federation of Medical Students

For media enquiries and more information, please contact CFMS VP Communications, Robin Clouston at vpcommunications@cfms.org or 506-654-1093.

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