

## Aboriginal Health SWG Minutes:

Participants: Riley (U of A), Josh (NOSM), Scott (U of M), Neil (UWO), Sarah (Queen's)

### 1. Aboriginal pre-clerkship electives:

- NOSM – good partnerships
- U of A – not a lot of content outside core curriculum. A pre-clerkship clinical elective would be appreciated. 40% (?) of the patients seen are Aboriginal – good to have experience.
- U of M – The dean has a lot of experience up North. 3 lectures on cultural safety, 1 on Aboriginal health + a rural week at the end of the year.
- AHL survey will hopefully be useful to see what's out there already.
- U of M – Northern elective exists but physicians don't confirm early enough.
- NOSM – v. proactive in getting electives established.
- The global-local exchange idea – feasibility questions
  - Challenges:
    - Funding and logistics → lack of time
    - Placements should be interrelated
    - Issues with having electives in clerkship → difficulty getting CARMS letters.
    - Pre-clerkship → is there value? Ethical issues?
- Tie to pipeline project → bring high-school students down to participate
  - Emphasize this part of project when asking for funding.
- Partner with NOSM?
- Funding for high-school student from CFMS?
- Work with other faculties that have ties/partnerships in Aboriginal communities.

### 2. Aboriginal Health Advocacy:

- Every year, a crisis in Aboriginal health in the news → CFMS response to these events could be good opportunity for advocacy → be proactive
  - Letters, press-statements
  - Lobby day in consultation w/ IPAC → do we have a right to speak?
    - We have a credible voice to add to the voice of IPAC or similar organizations
- \*\*U of A- would like to see AHL highlight non-Aboriginals in Aboriginal communities. How have they built successful partnerships?