CFMS National Officer of Indigenous Health (NOIH) Terms of Reference

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Prepared by: Joshua Nash, CFMS National Officer of Indigenous Health (2018-2019)
Reviewed by: Michelle Quaye, CFMS Director of Global Health (2018-2019)

Background

The Canadian Federation of Medical Students (CFMS) is the representative voice of Canadian medical students to the national medical organizations, to the federal government, to the public, and to other external bodies. The CFMS represents over 8000 medical students at 15 Canadian medical schools from coast to coast. It is the mission of the CFMS to represent, support, and connect its members. The CFMS aims to communicate within its membership, as well as from its membership to the world at large. As an ever-expanding organization, the CFMS continually strives to meet the consistent and changing needs of Canadian medical students.

Introduction

The CFMS is committed to engaging with Canada's Indigenous peoples and advocating for their cultural and health-related rights on both a local and national level. The CFMS also recognizes the inequities that exist in the health status of Indigenous people and how the history of colonialism in Canada has continued to contribute to these inequities. Further, the CFMS recognizes the necessity for an organized mobilization of Canadian medical students to help reverse these inequities through collaborative initiatives both locally and nationally. In alignment with these values, the National Officer of Indigenous Health (NOIH) assists the Director of Global Health (Dir. GH) in overseeing and promoting the work of the CFMS Indigenous Health Portfolio.

Term

1. The position of NOIH is a one-year position. The NOIH is recruited through the Spring Nominations Committee process granting a transition period until they assume office immediately following the Annual General Meeting of the same year.

Accountability

2. This position reports to the Dir. GH.
3. Positions/committees that report to this position:
    3.1. CFMS Indigenous Health Committee.
    3.2. Task-forces, working groups and sub-committees within the CFMS Indigenous Health framework.

Responsibilities

4. Connect: The NOIH will
    4.1. serve as chair of the CFMS Indigenous Health Committee.

4.2. liaise directly with the Dir. GH on an ongoing basis to advance the strategic direction of the Global Health portfolio.

5. Support: The NOIH will
   5.1. promote the adoption of Core Competencies in Indigenous health in both medical education and pre-departure training for placement in Indigenous communities.
   5.2. disseminate opportunities or resources with regards to Indigenous health to Local Officers of Indigenous Health (LOIHs).
   5.3. promote the use of the Indigenous Health Advocacy Toolkit at all schools.
   5.4. actively seek new external partnerships and maintain current partnerships as they relate to Indigenous Health in collaboration with the National Officer of Partnerships (NOP).
   5.5. ensure collaboration with existing partnerships including:
        5.5.1. San'yas Indigenous Cultural Safety Program;
        5.5.2. The Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada (AFMC) – Network for Indigenous Health.
   5.6. assist the Dir. GH on other portfolio tasks related to Indigenous Health.
   5.7. attend bi-monthly Global Health National Officer teleconferences.
   5.8. ensure adequate transition with the incoming NOIH upon completion of their term.

6. Represent: The NOIH will
   6.1. participate in relevant activities of the International Federation of Medical Students (IFMSA) and other international organizations with which the IFMSA has Memoranda of Understanding, as needed.
   6.2. serve on other external committees as delegated by the Dir. GH.
   6.3. serve as a spokesperson for the CFMS on matters related to Indigenous Health as delegated by the Dir GH.

Terms of References are subject to annual review by the CFMS Governance Committee prior to submission to the CFMS Board of Directors for adoption and publication.