



THE ONTARIO COLLEGE OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS
Tel: 416.867.9646 ❖ Fax: 416.867.9990 ❖ Website: www.ocfp.on.ca

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Dr. Renée Arnold, CCFP, FCFP
President

The Ontario College of Family Physicians
How is our Home doing?

A pilgrim was passing by and saw three stone masons at work. He asked them what they were doing.

The first said matter of fact “I am cutting a stone for this wall”

The second said with grump satisfaction “I am putting bread on the table”

The third said with beaming pride “I am building a cathedral”

The OCFP is the home to close to 8,800 members where stories abound, past and present, of excellence in achievement in Family Medicine. Our Mission is to build and maintain the highest standards of practice in Family Medicine. To achieve our Mission, the OCFP elevates itself on four pillars: education, research, leadership and advocacy. May I depict an image of our organization as it stands today?

Pillar of Education

Through strong partnerships with educational bodies and government funding, the OCFP is transforming medical education in Ontario. Together, we are developing and delivering innovative, continuing professional development programs for students, residents and practicing family physicians, as well as, the health care professionals that work with us in our practices. There are so many programs available in areas such as child health, mental health, chronic disease, women’s health, etc....We are particularly proud of the Collaborative Care Network model we have developed that is anchored in shared care and mentorship. The Emergency Medicine Primer and the Collaborative Mental Healthcare Network are solid examples of the OCFP coming forward with constructive ideas to improve the healthcare system in time of crisis and great need. These programs are also accessible through our CME-on-the-Road (www.ocfp.on.ca/CPD). Also, don’t forget our FMF/ASA at the end of November, one of the largest scientific assemblies of family doctors in Canada.

Pillar of Research

Family physicians provide the majority of healthcare for patients in Ontario. However, much of the clinical research which guides our practices comes from tertiary centers where findings differ significantly, possibly leading to inaccurate interpretation of results at huge costs to the system and the patients. The OCFP is a hub of collaboration for research in primary care between our five academic departments of FM and NOSM. Together, they have initiated great strides in primary care research capacity, including training front line professionals and building towards a family practice based research network. It is research that helps policy makers and providers make decisions about resource allocation and best practices. Our education and research activities are coordinated through the excellent leadership of, Eilyn Rodriguez with only 3.5 FTE staff...amazing but doable because family [physicians from all over the province are also donating their time and energy to developing and providing these programs!

Pillar of Leadership

The OCFP is recognized as the voice of Family Medicine in Ontario. Our opinion is sought by government, peer health organizations and the public. This year, we asked your opinion on an orphan patient registry. Your support and your ideas were brought forward to government and you were heard. In April, the College released a paper on climate change. We are the first known health organization in the world to lead this cause. We reached out to a total audience of 38 million through TV, radio, newspapers and web media. The OCFP hosts an annual Leadership Connect conference around system issues in primary care – this year’s topic was the Health Care of the Elderly.

Pillar of Advocacy

We represent our members and the public. Through our Decima Survey, Ontarians are telling us they are more concerned than five years ago about family doctor shortages. They want their own personal family doctor. We are conveying this message to government, working together to improve our health care system for our people. We reach out to you members with our *Inside-Outs*, our *Newsbriefs*, our *Annual Regional Meetings*, our *CME-on-the-Road* program and our *Linking with the LHINs* with tremendous engagement from our members. I am proud to be part of such a magnificent organization. Together we are building our cathedral for Family Medicine in the 21st Century. Thank You! For comments, please contact me at president_ocfp@cfpc.ca.

Your President,

Renée Arnold, MD, CCFP, FCFP