

Emerging Issues

- The protection of the term **family medicine** and its use by other allied health professional was discussed. The Section of Residents (SoR) felt that the term should be legally protected and used only by graduates of the College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC). The American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) resident representative shared how they were advocating for this in Washington, DC.
- The CFPC has launched a campaign promoting [family medicine as a career](#) for medical students.
- The CFPC is also engaged in a branding strategy targeted at medical students to improve the representation of the role of family physicians and the value of family medicine.

Exam Fees, Simulated Office Orals (SOO) Sites

- An extensive discussion regarding the cost for the certification exam happened at this meeting. The SoR evaluated new information received, following their letter to the CFPC CEO and Board of Directors. An [infographic](#) explaining the cost of the exam has been released.
- The decision to eliminate St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador, Kingston, Ontario, and Victoria, British Columbia, from the SOO sites was also discussed. The argument presented was about consistency and viability of the examination. The decision to eliminate these sites is final and will not be re-evaluated. It was acknowledged that better communication with residents is needed, and there will be regular meetings set up with SoR and CFPC leadership.
- The certification process for 2020 will be affected by the COVID-19 pandemic; more information about this will follow.

Resident Wellness

- Mental health and resiliency were discussed extensively. The Council brainstormed about ways to move forward with provincial residents' associations, postgraduate programs, and individual schools, and what the role the Section should play.
- It was decided that this is a very important topic for the Section and that it should be tackled.
- A proposal was made for the Residents' Relation Working Group to be given the task of creating wellness initiatives.
- Accreditation and advocacy from provincial residents' associations were identified as the strongest ways to advocate for better cultural changes and services for residents.
- An [infographic about moving toward pro-wellness language](#), created by the Resident Doctors of Canada (RDoC), was presented.
- Other RDoC wellness resources can be found at <https://residentdoctors.ca/areas-of-focus/wellness/>.

Update about Guide for Improvement of Family Medicine Training (GIFT) Tools

GIFT 2019 on Opioids

- The project is under way; it will consist of a list of resources along with a field note—deemed the most convenient way to share the message—and a deprescribing tool.
- The project will wrap up and be published by the end of the current academic year so it can be released by FMF 2020 in Winnipeg.

GIFT 2020 on Climate Change

- The literature review is finished. There are four tentative pillars:
 - Climate and health advocacy
 - Environmental health literacy
 - Patient education
 - Sustainable practice
- A survey of current practices is almost ready, and under way to be issued to program directors and residents across the country.

Be sure to check out our library of previous [GIFT one pagers](#).

Updates from Key Non-CFPC Committees

AAFP

- Many updates about the strong work done by the AAFP was shared with the SoR. This included their work supporting and sustaining comprehensive family medicine practices, advocating for models of payment reform, reducing the administrative complexity of modern medical practice, creating a rural health initiative policy, promoting lifelong learning and continuing medical education, and lengthening training from three years to four.

Fédération des médecins résidents du Québec (FMRQ)

- The PREM permit season application was anxiety-provoking for family medicine residents in Quebec. However, most people—new graduates and people who entered the process a few years ago—are happy with the issue of the matching.
- It seems like the process was adequate this year and better than last year. It will be reviewed again for next year.
- The [FMRQ is suing the government](#) for unfair practices regarding the interview process for jobs—mostly regarding female-identifying candidates being asked questions about future family planning.

Joint Meeting of the Section of Medical Students (SOMS), Section of Residents (SoR), and First Five Years in Family Practice (FFYFP)

Every two years the SOMS, SoR, and FFYFP meet to strengthen collaboration and mentorship among the groups, provide feedback to College leadership about how the College can offer support, and identify priorities to guide committee work. The following hot topics were discussed at the recent joint meeting:

- The Outcomes of Training project—Expert Panel Consultation:
 - Members engaged in an affinity mapping exercise to help inform and provide advice regarding an increased length of training in family medicine.
 - Attendees were asked to provide feedback on three possible scenarios: Status quo (two years), time variability (up to three years, with extra time to address core competencies/customized), fixed time increase (three years).
- Preparing for Your Practice—a new practice management tool launched:
 - Practice management has been identified as a gap in programs across the country.

- Using the format of an [online self-reflection tool](#), the Practice Management Prep program targets residents to prepare them for the business management side of practice.
- The SoR Council was asked to promote the program to their faculty, program directors, and residents.
- Leadership in primary care—presentation by Dr. Allan Grill; highlights include:
 - Leadership can be taught; there are many courses and activities that will help you to develop leadership skills and also give you an additional lens to view your practice.
 - Mentorship is another important way to learn leadership skills in primary care. Mentors can provide support and career advice, and provide connections to other roles, opportunities, and contacts.
 - It is important to select the right opportunities, do not just pursue a title or status. Determine your purpose and what you are passionate about and let that lead you to what you want to do.

David Galiano, CFPC SoR Council, Executive Lead Internal

Further questions or concerns should be directed to your SoR Council representative, the names of whom can be found on the [SoR website](#).